

ARTICLE 3: COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

3.01 OBJECTIVES

To meet the library's mission of providing quality resources and information to the Greater Leon Valley area this collection development policy is created with the following objectives:

- a) Meet community interests and needs;
- b) Acquaint the public with the principles of selection and weeding;
- c) The Library Bill of Rights ([Attachment 6](#));
- d) The Freedom to Read Statement ([Attachment 7](#)); and
- e) The Freedom to View Statement ([Attachment 8](#))

3.02 RESPONSIBILITY FOR SELECTION

The final responsibility for material selection rests with the Library Director who operates within the framework of the policies.

3.03 CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Staff should keep the following in mind when recommending titles for selection. However, an item need not meet all considerations to be acceptable.

- a) Consider the identified, expressed or anticipated needs and interests of the community.
- b) Consider the quality of content, such as timeliness, accuracy, literary merit, illustrations, indexes, and bibliographies.
- c) Include different viewpoints, values, philosophies, cultures, and religions whenever possible. Selections will not be based on any assumed approval or disapproval by the community.
- d) Select a broad range of materials in all subject areas.
- e) Attempt to balance the collection with in-demand, current interest titles.

- f) Assess the significance in relation to library resources already available.
- g) Utilize standard selection sources recognized by librarians to identify materials to be purchased.
- h) Utilize specialized knowledge of Library staff.
- i) Consider the reputation and/or significance of author, publisher and/or producer.
- j) Select a variety of reading and comprehension levels based on community needs.
- k) Provide a wide variety of formats to meet the differing needs of the community.
- l) Maximize the effectiveness of the available materials budget.
- m) Consider other community resources, interlibrary loan, etc. to maximize the Library's resources. Out-of-print, used items, or items that require Library staff to go beyond the scope of its normal purchasing procedures are usually not purchased.
- n) Strive to develop a collection that complements the curriculum of area educational institutions but does not duplicate curriculum materials in use by educational institutions or home-schooled students.
- o) Consider member requests within the overarching principles of selection.
- p) Book reviews from professional accepted sources such as Kirkus Reviews, Library Journal, School Library Journal, and Booklist.

3.04 WEEDING

An up-to-date, attractive, and useful collection is maintained through a Continuous Review, Evaluation, and Weeding (CREW) process. The CREW method ([Attachment 9](#)) evaluation for weeding materials includes poor content, poor appearance, and unused materials.

Replacement of materials with a poor appearance is dependent upon current demand, usefulness, more recent acquisitions, and availability of newer editions. This process of weeding is the responsibility of the Library Director.

See Weeding Rotation ([Attachment 10](#)) for an estimated weeding schedule.

Withdrawn materials will be handled in a similar manner and under the same authority as donated materials.

3.05 POTENTIAL PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGED MATERIALS

Although materials are carefully selected, there can arise differences of opinion regarding suitable materials. The Leon Valley Public Library recognizes that some materials are controversial and that any given item may offend some members.

Responsibility for the reading of children rests with their parents or legal guardians. Selection of library materials will not be restricted by the possibility that materials may come into the possession of children.

Library materials will not be marked or identified to show approval or disapproval of their contents, and no library material will be sequestered except to protect it from damage or theft.

Patrons requesting material be withdrawn from or restricted within the collection may complete and turn-in a Request for Reconsideration of Library Resources ([Attachment 11](#)) form. The challenge will be placed on the agenda of the next regular meeting of the Leon Valley Public Library Board of Trustees (LVPLBOT).

After review of the challenge, the LVPLBOT will schedule a public hearing for library patrons to speak either for or against a book challenge. In making their decision, the LVPLBOT and the Library Director will consider public testimony, professional reviews, selection criteria listed in the Collection Development Policy, the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights ([Attachment 6](#)), Freedom to Read Statement ([Attachment 7](#)), the Freedom to View Statement ([Attachment 8](#)), as well as , Article 1, Section 8, Texas Constitution ([Attachment 23](#)), and Amendment 1, U.S. Constitution ([Attachment 12](#)).