



REGISTER OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

LIBRARY MATERIALS SELECTION

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I. Statement of Philosophy of Library Material Selection

The purpose of education is to investigate ideas and to prepare individuals for creative and productive lives. Access to ideas is essential to the promotion and encouragement of freedom of thought and expression. To this end, the following policy principles will guide the selection of materials in the libraries of the Lester B. Pearson School Board.

The primary objective of the school libraries of the Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB) shall be to implement, enrich and support the educational program of the schools. It shall be the function of a school library to provide a wide range of materials at all levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal, considering the ability and maturity level of the students served, with the presentation of different points of view.

II. Selection and Purchasing Responsibilities

1. Each school librarian or library technician shall be responsible for the selection and purchase of a wide range of print and non-print materials for the library, including:
 - a) Materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests abilities and maturity levels of the students (textbooks shall not be supplied by the library).
 - b) Materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, and to promote the intellectual, cultural, social and ethical development of all students.
 - c) Materials presenting all points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times so that students may develop the practice of critical analysis of all media.
 - d) Materials representing the diversity of racial, religious and cultural groups and their contribution to the Canadian mosaic.
 - e) Materials that will stimulate students to read, to improve their reading skills, to enhance their research skills, and to encourage them to develop a life-long habit of reading for pleasure.
2. Teachers are requested to advise the librarian/library technician of specific curriculum needs and materials that enhance the collection.

In schools where no librarian or library technician is employed, the LBPSB library consultant or her/his delegate shall perform these responsibilities.



In the areas of:

- a) Religion: materials in the library must be broad, tolerant and fair.
- b) Ideologies: source material on an ideology or philosophy, which is an important aspect of society, should be available in the library.
- c) Sex education: this includes materials on pregnancy, birth, contraception, abortion, and sexually transmitted diseases. The attempt in this area is to make available material, which provides clear and factual information.

IV. Procedures for Reconsideration of Materials

Occasional objection to library materials will be made despite the quality of the selection process. The Lester B. Pearson School Board supports the principles of intellectual freedom expressed in the School Library Bill of Rights supported by the Canadian Library Association.

If a complaint is made, the following procedures should be followed:

1. Inform the Principal and the Librarian/Library Technician of the complaint.
2. Inform the complainant of the selection procedures and make no commitments.
3. Request the complainant to complete and submit a "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials form (see Appendix A).
4. Keep challenged materials on the shelves during the reconsideration process.
5. Upon receipt of the completed form, the Principal requests a review of the challenged material by an Ad Hoc committee within fifteen (15) working days. This committee is appointed and chaired by the Principal and includes the Librarian/Library Technician, a teacher representative from the School Council, the Library Consultant, a Board administrator, two parents (designated by the school Governing Board), a commissioner with responsibility for the school and, where thought advisable, a student.



6. The Ad Hoc committee takes the following steps after receiving the challenged material:
 - a) Reads, views or listens to the material in its entirety.
 - b) Checks general acceptance of the material by reading reviews and consulting recommended lists.
 - c) Meet with the challenger.
 - d)





LESTER B. PEARSON SCHOOL BOARD

APPENDIX B

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED BY LIBRARY AD HOC COMMITTEE WHEN
RECONSIDERING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL

NON-FICTION

Title: _____

Author: _____

Publisher or Producer: _____

Date of Publication: _____

Type of Material: _____

A. PURPOSE

1. What is the overall purpose of this material?

2. Is the purpose accomplished?

B. AUTHENTICITY

1. Is the author competent and qualified in the field?

2. What is the reputation and significance of the author and
publisher/producer in the field?





