

Proposed Revised Policy

File: IJL

**LIBRARY MATERIAL SELECTION AND ADOPTION**

The Dedham School Committee, in accordance with the American Library Association *Library Bill of Rights*, recognizes that the responsibility of the school library media program is

1. To provide learning resources which support and enrich all segments of the curriculum and are consistent with the goals and objectives of the school district.
2. To build a collection of resources that meets the needs of all students, considering their varied abilities, learning styles, interests, developmental stages and maturity levels.
3. To include learning resources which support and promote intellectual growth, analytical and critical thinking skills, recreational needs, personal development, literary appreciation, ethical standards and a broader worldview.
4. To offer learning resources which accommodate and represent all students including but not limited to English Language Learners, religions, ability, sexual and gender identity, and ethnic and cultural groups of the Dedham community.
5. To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of learning resources of the highest quality in order to assure comprehensive collections appropriate to the school communities.

The School Committee, though ultimately responsible for all library resources, recognizes the need and right of students to free access to different types of books and resources. It also recognizes the right of the professional staff to select books and resources supportive of the school system's educational philosophy and goals. It recognizes the rights of individual parents with respect to controversial materials used by their own children; it will provide for the reevaluation of materials in library collections upon formal request. Students' right to learn and the freedom of teachers to teach will be respected.

LEGAL REF: 603 CMR 26:05

CROSS REF: KEC, Public Complaints about the Curriculum or Instructional Materials