

Policy Code: 3310 Selection and Procurement of Instructional Media

An instructional resource in this policy is defined as any material, print or non-print, used in the classroom and library media center to implement and enhance the instructional program in grades K-12. These instructional resources may be used in a wide range of formats including the following: supplementary textbooks, library books, periodicals, software, pamphlets, video, audio, electronic resources, and other materials needed for instructional purposes in the school system.

Objectives for Selecting Media

The primary objective of each school's library media program is to enrich and support the instructional program of the school. The media program makes available through the school's collection, a wide range of print, non-print, and technology resources on varying levels of difficulty with a diversity of appeal compatible with the different needs and interests of students and teachers.

To this end, the Johnston County Board of Education, in keeping with the ideas expressed in the American Library Association Bill of Rights, the American Association of School Librarians Interpretation of that Bill, and in Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks: an Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights, asserts that the responsibility of the media program is:

1. To provide resources that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration individual needs and the varied interests, abilities, socioeconomic back grounds, learning styles, developmental levels, maturity levels and linguistic pluralism of the students served.
2. To provide resources that stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards.
3. To provide a background of information enabling students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives.
4. To provide resources on opposing sides of controversial issues so that students may develop, under guidance, the practice of critical thinking and of critical analysis of information.
5. To provide resources representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups in our nation and the contributions of these groups to our American heritage.
6. To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in selecting resources of the highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate for all users of the media center.

Criteria for Selecting Resources

Individual teaching and learning styles, the curriculum, and the existing collection are given consideration in determining the needs for media resources in individual schools.

After a careful needs assessment, resources considered for purchase are judged on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Purpose: Direct correlation to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study
2. Reliability: Accurate, authentic, current, authoritative
3. Treatment: Clear, skillful, well-organized, unbiased, comprehensive, well-balanced
4. Technical Quality: Relevant to content, consistent with state-of-the-art technical capabilities
5. Format: Clear, skillful, convincing, well organized, unbiased, durable, manageable and attractive
6. Utilization: Individual, small group, large group, introduction, in-depth study remediation, enrichment

Procedures for Selecting and Maintaining the Media Collection

The Media and Technology Advisory Committee in each school is appointed annually by the principal and co- chaired by the media coordinator and technology leader. In coordinating the selection of resources, the media professional is assisted by the Media and Technology Advisory Committee and is expected to:

1. Use reputable, unbiased selection tools prepared by professional educators and arrange, when possible, for firsthand examination of resources to be purchased
2. Judge gift items by standard selection criteria
3. Weed continuously and purchase replacements for worn, damaged, or missing resources basic to the collection. The criteria for the removal of resources include:
 - a. resources that have inaccurate or outdated information
 - b. resources depicting negative role stereotypes
 - c. resources no longer useful for curricular support or recreational reading
 - d. resources that have not circulated for a number of years
 - e. materials in poor physical condition

Legal References: [G.S. 115C-98](#)

Adopted: August 11, 1981

Amended: June 11, 2002; August 8, 2006

JOHNSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS