

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTERS

The Board of Trustees recognizes that the district's libraries and library program support the educational program by providing access to a variety of informational and supplemental resources that can help raise the academic achievement of all students. The Board desires that school libraries be stocked with up-to-date books, reference materials, and electronic resources that promote literacy, support academic standards, and prepare students to become lifelong learners.

Selection and Evaluation of Library Materials

Library materials shall include print and electronic resources that align with the curriculum and are accessible to students with varying cognitive or language needs.

Library materials shall be evaluated and selected through a process that invites recommendations from administrators, teachers, other staff, parents/guardians, and students as appropriate.

Library materials will be evaluated continually in relation to evolving curricula, new formats of materials, new instructional methods, and the needs of students and teachers. Materials that contain outdated subject matter or are no longer appropriate shall be removed.

All gifts and donations of school library materials shall be subject to the same criteria as materials selected for purchase by the district.

Complaints regarding the appropriateness of library materials shall be addressed using the district's procedures for complaints regarding instructional materials.

The Superintendent or designee may, in consultation with teacher librarians, classroom teachers, administrators, parents/guardians, and students as appropriate, develop and regularly update a plan for school libraries that describes the district's goals for school libraries and how funds will be distributed to school sites to support libraries. As appropriate, the plan may also address staffing, facilities, selection and evaluation of materials, the development and maintenance of classroom libraries, prevention of loss or damage of library materials, prioritization of needs, and other related matters. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the library is aligned with the district's local and accountability plan and other district school plans.

Staffing

To staff school libraries, the district may employ one or more teacher librarians who possess appropriate credentials issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. (Education Code 18120, 44868, 5 CCR 80024.6, 80053)

The Superintendent or designee may assign teacher librarians to perform the following duties in accordance with the authorizations of their credential: (5 CCR 80053, 80053.1)

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BP 6163.1(b)

1. Instruct students in accessing, evaluating, using, and integrating information and resources in the library program and/or provide departmentalized instruction in information literacy, digital literacy, and digital citizenship
2. Plan and coordinate school library programs with the district's instructional programs through collaboration with teachers
3. Select materials for school and district libraries
4. Develop and deliver staff development programs for school library services
5. Coordinate or supervise library programs at the school or district level
6. Plan and conduct a course of instruction for students who assist in the operation of school libraries
7. Supervise classified personnel assigned school library duties
8. Develop procedures for and management of the school and district libraries

The Board also may appoint classified paraprofessionals to serve as library aides or library technicians. Volunteers may assist with school library services in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

Fees

Students shall be allowed to borrow school library materials at no charge for use in the library and classrooms as well as out of school. (5 CCR 16042) No charge shall be assessed for the late return of materials. Fees will be assessed for damaged or lost books at the value of the book.

Library Instruction

Teacher librarians and/or classroom teachers shall provide library instruction to develop students' information literacy skills. Such instruction shall be aligned with state academic standards for library instruction and shall prepare students to:

1. Access information by applying knowledge of the organization of libraries, print materials, digital media, and other sources
2. Evaluate and analyze information to determine appropriateness in addressing the scope of inquiry
3. Organize, synthesize, create, and communicate information
4. Integrate information literacy skills into all areas of learning and pursue information independently to become life-long learners

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Teacher librarians also may provide support to teachers, administrators, and other staff by identifying instructional materials that will aid in the development of curriculum and instructional activities and by providing information about effective and ethical uses of school library services and equipment.

Program Evaluation

The Superintendent or designee shall annually assess and report to the Board regarding the condition and use of school libraries. The assessment shall evaluate, at a minimum:

1. Access of students and staff to school libraries during school hours and, as appropriate, access outside the school day
2. The process and frequency by which students are allowed to check out library materials
3. Staffing levels, qualifications, and number of hours worked
4. The quality of the collection at each library, including, but not limited to, the total number of books in the collection, number of books per student, amount expended during the year for the purchase of new resources, and the number of resources discarded and added during the year
5. Any special programs offered at the school to encourage reading and/or library use
6. The adequacy of the facility space and equipment designated for the school library
7. The source(s) and adequacy of funding for school libraries

The district shall on or before January 31 each year, report to the California Department of Education on the condition of its school libraries for the preceding year ending June 30. (Education Code 18122)