

PRINCIPLES OF LEARNING RESOURCES SELECTION

Learning Resources are defined as any material or digital resource utilized for instructional purposes. It is the responsibility of River East Transcona School Division to provide learning resources in all forms to promote students' emotional, cultural, moral, social, physical and intellectual development.

Learning resources should align with curricular expectations, divisional priorities, and divisional policies ACF-Respect for Human Diversity, AC-Human Rights, and the divisional digital literacy guidelines. Learning resources should contribute to a knowledge base upon which informed decisions can be made and encourage the development of critical and reflective thinking.

(A) RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility for the selection of learning resources for use in the River East Transcona School Division rests with educators in different capacities.

- (1) The Provincial Department of Education: The provincial department of education approves textbooks and other primary learning materials for use with all programs and courses developed by the department.
- (2) The Division: According to the Public Schools Act, the responsibility for the selection of learning resources within the school division is vested in the school board and delegated to the Superintendent of Education.
- (3) The School: The authority and responsibility for selection at the school level rests with the principal of the school. Learning resources at the school level should align with the priorities of the school division.
- (4) The School library learning commons: The acquisition of learning resources for the school library learning commons is one of the duties of a teacher-librarian and/or other school library learning commons personnel.

Resources are selected with due diligence following the guidelines below:

- (a) contribution toward the effective support of curricular expectations;
- (b) represent varied interests, experiences, abilities, backgrounds, language, and maturity levels of the students;
- (c) accessibility to a wider range of students;
- (d) reputation and significance of the author, producer and/or publisher;
- (e) priority on Canadian authorship or production;
- (f) validity, timeliness or permanence of the material;
- (g) importance of the subject matter in contributing to:

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- (i) the school's resource collection;
 - (ii) the interests of students;
 - (iii) broadening representative viewpoints on issues.
- (h) absence of stereotyping and prejudice, unless learning resources containing a particular bias are considered in order to meet specific curricular outcomes;
- (i) accuracy, quality and variety of format;
 - (j) suitability of physical format and appearance for intended users;
 - (k) artistic quality and/or literary style;
 - (l) favorable reviews in recognized reviewing tools;
 - (m) value commensurate with cost and/or need;
 - (n) frequency of request for this or similar materials.
 - (o) Compliance with licenses and copyright laws

All forms of print, non-print and electronic media should be considered for use in the schools.

(B) GIFT BOOKS AND MATERIALS

Gift materials shall be accepted or rejected on the basis of the established criteria set out in this policy. Donated items, once accepted, become the property of the River East Transcona School Division.

(C) REPLACEMENT OF LOST OR DAMAGED MATERIAL

The selection criteria will apply in determining if the lost or damaged material is to be replaced.

(D) WEEDING

Weeding is an integral part of collection development and its main purpose is to improve the overall quality of the collection. Systematic withdrawals will be conducted of outdated, damaged, worn and/or no longer useful materials. Weeding is a systematic process with defined criteria. It cannot be used as a process for censorship.

In making this decision, the following should be considered as criteria for weeding:

- (1) relevance to the curriculum,
- (2) copyright date,
- (3) condition of the material,

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- (4) date last circulated,
- (5) enduring value (classics, rare books, etc.),
- (6) authoritative writing,
- (7) bias/stereotypes,
- (8) recommended in recognized review sources,
- (9) local interest/community needs,
- (10) currency and accuracy of information.

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Legal/Cross Reference: