

## **Materials Selection Policy**

Isley Public Library provides materials in a variety of formats to meet the informational, educational, civic, and recreational needs of all the residents of this community.

The library board of trustees authorizes the library director to select and weed books and other materials to meet these needs within the framework of policies approved by the trustees. These policies include the American Library Association Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read Statement, and this Materials Selection Policy. The director may delegate these responsibilities to appropriate staff members who will use judgment and expertise, a knowledge and understanding of the community's needs and requests, familiarity with authors and publishers, professional reviewing media, bibliographies prepared by subject specialists, and suggestions by the public.

The librarians will evaluate the library's resources and holdings on a continuing basis. Materials are purchased to meet current demand and the collection is assessed periodically to insure that it remains relevant to the needs of this community.

The library recognizes the diversity of interests and needs in the community and will provide materials on a wide range of subjects for children, young adults, and adults. The library does not assume the parental responsibility for children's choices of library materials.

Materials will not be excluded because of race or nationality, or the political or religious views held or expressed by its author, director, or composer. Materials will not be labeled by either prejudicial description or be segregated from the rest of the collection as a means of predisposing patrons against them.

The library provides access to collaborative collections, such as downloadable audiobooks and electronic databases, and has little direct control over the inclusion or exclusion of particular titles in these collections.

The library will be responsive to the educational needs of the community's students but will not purchase textbooks. The library's collection serves as a complement to the resources already available to students and as an enrichment to personal interest, growth, and/or individual projects.

The branch library in East Middlebury, Sarah Partridge, focuses on children and popular adult materials. Due to limited space, only materials that area residents will want to use are collected.

A special effort will be made to include materials dealing with Vermont and by Vermont authors.

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On request, the librarian will provide copies of the Materials Selection Policy and Request for Reconsideration Library Material (appended) to town residents or library members objecting to materials contained in the library. Completed forms will be reviewed by the library director. If the decision of the director is not accepted, the matter will be reviewed by the board of trustees as the final arbiter.

The selection standards that govern purchases also apply to gifts. Gifts will be accepted with the understanding that the librarian may select those items needed for the collection and dispose of unwanted items as deemed best. Collections of materials offered to the library with restrictions, requiring special handling or that prevent integration into the general library collection, may not be accepted.

**Adopted by the Board of Trustees  
Isley Public Library  
April, 1985  
Reviewed and approved, August 7, 1990  
Revised and approved, February 17, 2010**