

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND MATERIALS SELECTION POLICY

I. Philosophy

The Vicksburg District Library Board endorses the basic policies and principles as expressed in the American Library Association's LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS, FREEDOM TO READ, FREEDOM TO VIEW, FREE ACCESS TO LIBRARIES FOR MINORS AND ACCESS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO VIDEOTAPES AND OTHER NONPRINT FORMATS.

II. Responsibility

The ultimate responsibility of book selection shall be with the discretion of the Librarian. The Librarian operates within the framework of policies determined by the Library Board as stated below.

III. Book and Audiobook Selection Policies

- A. Book Selection. Points considered in book selection are literary, educational, informational and recreational value; authority and effectiveness of presentation; and available funds and space. In the case of controversial questions, variety and balance of opinion in materials purchased are sought whenever available.
- B. Journals. This library reads several professional journals to base selection of materials on positive reviews. These journals may include Booklist, Wilson Library Bulletin, Library Journal, School Library Journal and Publisher's Weekly. Other sources that may be consulted for listing of materials that may be included in the collection are Children's Catalog, Public Library Catalog, Fiction Catalog and other journals or bibliographies.
- C. Exclusions. If a book is not chosen for the library collection, it has been excluded because it does not measure up to the library's standards, because the library already has adequate coverage in the subject or because of budget limitations.
- D. Textbooks. It is not the purpose of the collection to serve as an elementary or high school or college supplementary library, although many of its books and materials may be used.
- E. Duplications. Titles are admitted only if they meet the standards of selection and will be duplicated if the demand increases, subject to budget limitation and to the timely or permanent value of the material.
- F. Replacements. Materials withdrawn from the collection because of wear, damage or loss are not automatically replaced. The decision for replacement is made with regard to several factors: the demand for the particular title or subject, the importance of the author and the significance the particular title holds among the author's works, the possible availability of later and better material either already in the collection or on the book market.
- G. Weeding. Weeding is a systematic process of removing those books that are no longer of use to the library. Books pulled may be out-of-date, beyond repair or no longer circulated.
- H. Gifts. The Library accepts gifts without commitment as to the final disposition.

- I. Non-book Material. The selection of non-book material follows the same general policy outlines for the selection of books.
- J. Religion. In the literature of religion, library selection attempts to be broad and tolerant without partisanship or propaganda.

IV. Video Games

Vicksburg District Library currently offers video games for multiple gaming consoles.

As some consoles are becoming obsolete/no longer in production and companies are no longer producing games for their format, the Library is currently only purchasing for the newest consoles. Other gaming systems may be added in the future as they emerge and become relevant to the Library's collection.

Selection Policy

Games are selected based on reviews from popular gaming magazines. Since console games can be quite expensive, the Library may wait six months to purchase a recently released game when prices drop to a more affordable cost. VDL reserves the right to make the final decision whether a game will be a good fit within the collection.

V. DVD and CD Selection Policy

Selection of DVDs and CDs will focus on a broad scope of popular and entertainment movies, TV series, artists, and soundtracks. Content, age, and reviews from standard accepted sources will be factors in the selection process.

STATEMENT OF CONCERN AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

Since opinions may differ in a democracy, the following procedures will be observed in recognizing those differences in an impartial and factual manner. Patrons of the Vicksburg District Library, which we serve, may register their criticism with the Librarian, who will direct it to the Library Board. The Library Board will handle all requests for review. The questioned material will be read and re-evaluated with specific objections and book selection policy in mind. The decision of the Library Board shall be final and shall be sent in writing to the complainant. The book or other material shall be available to the public pending final decision.

The form STATEMENT OF CONCERN AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS may be obtained from the Librarian by request.