

Materials Selection Policy

The Board of Trustees of the Robert R. Jones Public Library District accept and endorse the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to read statement. They also accept and endorse the statement on Labeling Library Material of the American Library Association.

Purpose:

The resources of the Library are for all the residents of the district and should include materials of literary, educational, informational and recreational value.

The ultimate responsibility for the evaluation and selection of materials rests with the director who operates within the framework of policies determined by the Board.

Materials are selected on the basis of the following criteria.

- Reputation of the author and his significance as a writer
- Importance of the subject matter to the collection
- Scarcity of materials on the subject
- Timeliness or permanence of the material
- Appearance of the titles in special bibliographies or indices
- Authoritativeness of the work
- Reputation and standing of the publisher
- Availability of the material from other sources, particularly electronic
- Price

Use of Materials:

The use of rare and scholarly items will be controlled to the extent required to keep them from harm.

Procedure for Objection to Library Material:

When a patron objects to a book or other library material the following procedure will be followed:

1. The Director will handle all patrons objecting to any materials in the Library collection and will explain the criteria used in their selection.
2. If the patron wishes to pursue the matter further, a formal complaint should be by filling out a "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form. (See Appendix)
3. The Director will then set up an appointment with the patron and the Library Program and Extension of Services Committee to review the complaint.
4. If the patron wishes to pursue the complaint, he/she may request time at the next Board meeting.
5. Support for the Board's decision on the matter should be sought by local groups and library organizations.