

**MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #53
Burnham – Detroit – Pittsfield**

Selection of Library Materials

MSAD #53 recognizes that it is the primary objective of the library media centers in our schools to implement, enrich, and support the educational programs of the schools. It is the duty of the library media centers to provide a wide range of materials on all levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal and the presentation of different points of view. The responsibility for the selection of instructional materials is delegated to the professionally trained personnel employed by MSAD #53.

To this end, MSAD #53 reaffirms the Bill of Rights for School Library Media Programs and intends:

- To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, and maturity levels of the students served.
- To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards.
- To provide a background of information which will enable students to make intelligent judgments in their daily life.
- To provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues so that young citizens may develop, under guidance, the practice of critical analysis of all media.
- To provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contribution to our American heritage.
- To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in selection of materials of the highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate for the users of the library media center. In addition, MSAD #53 recognizes that the final authority as to what materials an individual student will be exposed rests with that student's parents or guardians. However, at no time will the wishes of one child's parents to restrict his/her reading or viewing of a particular item infringe on another parent's rights to permit his/her child to read or view the same material.

The Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement any administrative procedures necessary to carry out this policy consistent with applicable statutes and regulations.

Legal reference: 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1001 (10-A), 20-A M.S.R.A. §1055 (4)

Adopted: April 6, 1992

Amended: October 6, 2003