



LIBRARY MATERIALS SELECTION POLICY NO. 3

This policy is for the selection of all library materials for the use of the public.

The Board of Trustees of the Walla Walla Public Library recognizes that within the Walla Walla area there are groups and individuals with widely separate and diverse interests, backgrounds, cultural heritages, social values, and needs. The Board further recognizes that the Library was created to serve all of the people in the area regardless of age, sex, gender, race, religious creed, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, political or social views. Therefore the selection policy for library materials shall be as follows:

1. Library materials may include both print, electronic format, or any information sources on the internet.
2. Library materials selection is and shall be vested in the Director of the Walla Walla Public Library and delegated to members of the staff who are qualified by reason of education, experience and training. Any library material so selected shall be held to be selected by the Board.
3. Selection of library materials shall be made on the basis of: interest, information, and relevance to and for the people in the service area. Factors to be considered shall include timeliness, effective expression, significance of subject, responsibility of opinions, evaluations in professionally recognized critical guides, overall quality, and public interest. No materials shall be excluded because of the race, sex, gender, national origin, religious creed, sexual orientation, or the political, religious, or social view of the author. Acceptance of gifts for inclusion in the collection, and withdrawal from the collection of materials which are no longer useful, will be based on the criteria listed above.
4. The Board of Trustees of the Walla Walla Public Library believes that censorship is a purely individual matter and declares that, while any person is free to reject for themselves materials of which they do not approve, they cannot exercise this right of censorship to restrict the freedom of others to read, view, listen, or inquire.

5. The Board of Trustees does not endorse every idea or presentation contained in the materials it makes available to the public and believes that it would be in conflict with the public's interest to establish its own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what material the library selects. The Public Library will develop and maintain a balanced materials collection which will represent various points of view on a subject. "A balanced collection reflects a diversity of materials and resources, not an equality of numbers." (ALA Diversity in Collection Development)

6. The Board of Trustees recognizes that a collection representing various points of view may cause one or more persons to take issue with the selection of a specific item. A person questioning materials in the library collection is requested to complete a Statement of Concern About a Library Material provided by the library. Materials subject to complaint will be handled in accordance with the Materials Selection Review procedure. A copy is attached to this policy. Materials will remain in the active collection while being reconsidered.

7. The Board of Trustees recognizes that it is the right and the responsibility of a parent to guide his or her child's reading, viewing, or listening.

8. The Board of Trustees of the Walla Walla Public Library declares that it will support and adhere to these statements below in as far as they are consistent with the selection criteria listed above:

- a. The Library Bill of Rights, American Library Association
- b. The Freedom to Read Statement, American Library Association
- c. Interpretations to the Library Bill of Rights
- d. Washington Library Association Intellectual Freedom Statement

This selection policy is to be periodically reviewed and revised by the Library Director at the direction of the Library Board.

Adopted: December 14, 1977

Revised: May 6, 1986

Revised: July 13, 1994

Revised: August 2, 1995

Revised: July 14, 1999

Revised: July 20, 2005

Revised: September 21, 2011

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