

Instruction

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTERS

The Board requires that a districtwide school library plan be developed by the District Library Education Policy Team and approved by the Board under conditions outlined by the California Public School Library Act of 1998. The plan should provide structure and guidance for the selection and procurement of library and technology based materials that support the curriculum, improve teaching strategies, and help implement a standards-based curriculum.

The districtwide school library plan must include input from the administrative staff, including the Superintendent, a representative of the Board of Education, school representatives, District and/or site library media support staff, and library personnel from the community public library and/or from the County Office of Education.

Upon approval of the districtwide plan by the Board, library protection funds may be expended to purchase books, reference materials, periodicals, microforms, AV materials, computer software, CD-ROMs, equipment necessary to provide access to school library resources within the school library and on-line resources. Materials purchased shall be circulated from or used in the school library media center. Materials purchased shall conform to the California curriculum standards and frameworks, and to standards for the use of library media program materials and resources.

The Board encourages staff members at each school to form a site level library implementation team and develop a school level library improvement plan, for Board approval, that meets the requirements of the California Public Schools Library Protection Act. The school level library improvement plan should be modeled after the districtwide school library plan and include recommendations for on-going improvement. The plan should include adequate staffing for each site. Such plans must be developed by the school's teachers, principal and, when possible, a library media teacher employed by the District or County Office of Education.

The Board encourages administrators, classroom teachers and library support personnel from within and outside the District to collaborate in developing resource-based learning activities that promote advanced thinking skills and enable students to become independent learners.

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTERS (continued)

The Board expects school library media centers to nurture intellectual growth by providing:

1. Materials that take into consideration students' varied interests, abilities, maturity levels and learning styles
2. Materials that foster knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values and ethical standards.
3. Information that enables students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives and learn, with guidance, how to analyze and think critically about what they read.
4. Materials that realistically depict our pluralistic society and reflect the conditions of its various religious, ethnic and cultural groups.

The Board encourages students and staff to request materials which they would like added to library media center collections.