

Reconsideration of Library Materials Policy

Wabasso Public Library

Purpose

The Wabasso Library adheres to the principles of intellectual freedom outlined in the Library Bill of Rights of the American Library Association, and as such, the Library does not automatically withdraw materials in response to a challenge from an individual or group. This policy lays out procedure for when such situations arise.

General

The resources and materials provided by the Wabasso Library are selected in accordance with the Library's Mission Statement and its Collection Development Policy. Inclusion of a particular resource in the collection does not constitute endorsement or advocacy of the ideas or statements found therein.

The Library's role is to house and provide materials which will allow individuals to freely examine subjects and make their own determinations. The Librarian's role is to build a collection comprehensive enough so that different points of view on those subjects are represented.

The Library recognizes that some materials or content may be considered controversial or offensive. While individuals are free to reject for themselves materials they do not approve of, they may not restrict the freedom of access to others.

Reconsideration Process

If a customer or group is concerned about a particular book or another item in the Wabasso Library's collection, and wants the Library to reconsider its inclusion of that material, a Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials (RRLM) can be made available by request to library staff. This form should be filled out completely, signed, and returned to library staff. Materials owned by other libraries do not apply.

These next steps will then be followed:

1. The RRLM will be sent to the Director for review. During review, the Director may request for a meeting with the customer who submitted the form. Likewise, the customer may also request to speak with the Director to discuss their concern.
2. Within thirty (30) days, if the RRLM is not rescinded, the Director will respond to the concern in writing; both the form and the response will be forwarded to the Library Board.
3. The customer may appeal the Director's decision if dissatisfied with the response; all appeals must be submitted in writing at least one week prior to the Library Board's next regularly scheduled meeting.
4. The Library Board may take action that could include any of the following:
 - o Reading and/or viewing the material for themselves to make a determination.

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- Creating an ad hoc committee to read and/or view the material and make a recommendation to the Board.
 - Consulting with experts in the subject field.
 - Inviting the customer to discuss their concerns.
 - Reclassifying the material to a more appropriate part of the collection.
 - Balancing the collection with the purchase of more materials to represent a variety of viewpoints on the same subject.
 - Removing the material from the collection.
 - Taking no action at all; the Director's response stands.
5. The final decision regarding any action rests with the Library Board. Any material under reconsideration will remain in the collection during the course of the review and appeal process.

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