COL-1 Materials Selection Policy

The Board of Trustees of the Camas Public Library recognizes that the library’s mission is to serve all people within its service area regardless of the diverse interests, backgrounds, cultural heritages, social values, and needs.

The Board of Trustees determines the policy for the selection and acquisition of library materials. Final responsibility for the selection of materials in accordance with the policy rests with the Library Director.

Materials shall be selected in accordance with the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement (copies of both are appended). The library shall attempt, within the limits of budget and space, to provide a balanced collection of materials to meet the information, education, and recreation needs and interests of the people in its service area.

Recognizing that our resources do not allow for a collection which provides the depth or breadth on all topics which an individual may desire, the library will attempt to make these materials available through borrowing them from other libraries.

The collection will be weeded periodically by the Library Director or designated staff members. Materials will be discarded when they no longer meet the criteria above, or when they have physically deteriorated.

The library will attempt to supplement the schools in the area, but textbooks and other specific curriculum related materials will be purchased only if they are appropriate for the general collection.

The library attempts to provide a wide range of materials for its public. Acquisition does not constitute endorsement of the material or its point of view. Individuals may take exception to specific items, and may register their thoughts by discussing the material with the Library Director and/or by completing the form “Request for Reconsideration of a Book” (copy appended). The material in question shall not be removed from public use while it is being reconsidered. The library director will examine the material in questions and let the individual know the final decision.

No individual may restrict the freedom of access of others, with the exception that the responsibility for what the child reads rests with its parents or legal guardians, rather than the staff.

The library accepts all gifts of materials with the understanding that they will be used or disposed of according to the library’s needs as outlined above.