**LIBRARY & LITERACY RESOURCES**

* The mission of the library media program is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information. This mission is accomplished by:
  + Providing intellectual and physical access to materials in all formats
  + Providing instruction to foster competence and stimulate interest in reading, viewing, and using information and idea
  + Working with other educators to design learning strategies to meet the needs of individual students.
* Controversial Subjects

The media center strives to provide materials presenting all points of view. In the area of controversial subjects, the intent of the author and the internal values (content) are considered in the selection process. In relation to religious materials, the collection will maintain a balance of books on general religions. Regarding the issue of sex and morality, judgement is based on the total effect of the piece of material and not on the presence of words, phrases, or situations which in themselves might be objectional. In every instance, the greater good or the greater whole of the work is evaluated, not a possible connotative or interpretative passage taken out of context from the whole.

Philosophy

The library media center exists to provide a wide variety of materials and resources necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of Sugg Middle School and its many programs within the curriculum. The goals of the media center focus upon work with students and teachers and the school’s overall goals of which the library is a part. The media center philosophy acknowledges the uniqueness of each student and that materials shall be made available at various levels of learning. The media center shall strive to provide materials to support the curriculum and provide for the independent study and personal reading of the students. We support the principles of intellectual freedom inherent in the Constitution of the United States and expressed in the Library Bill of Rights of the American Library Association, as well as the Students’ Right to Read Statement of the National Council of Teachers of English.

Objectives

* 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 lives
* To provide materials on various sides of controversial issues so that students may develop, under guidance, the practice of critical thinking and analysis of all media available
* To provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to the United States and our heritage as a people
* Provide a variety of materials of interest to students for recreational reading
* To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate for the users of the media center.

# OBJECTIVES

* 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 lives
* To provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues so that students may develop under guidance the practice of critical thinking and analysis of all media

available

* To provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to the United States and our heritage as a people
* To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate

for the users of the media center

Responsibility

The School District of Manatee County is the governing body of all school functions and is legally responsible for the selection of all material. The authority for each school’s procedures is delegated to the individual school principals by the school board. The school principal delegates the responsibility for selection of materials to the professionally trained media specialist. The media specialist, working with the administration and the faculty, considers the needs and wants of the students, selects the materials, and has the final decision in selection based on the following criteria.

Criteria

* Needs of the school based on knowledge of the curriculum and of existing collection
* Be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, ability level, learning styles, and the social, emotional, and intellectual development of the students for whom the materials are selected
* Timeliness or permanence
* Readability and popular appeal
* Incorporate accurate and authentic factual content from authoritative sources
* Provide a global perspective and promote diversity by including materials by authors and illustrators of all cultures
* Reputation and significance of the author/artist/composer/producer, and/or the publisher
* Format, appearance, and expected durability suitable for their intended use
* Balance cost with need

# CRITERIA

* Needs of the school based on knowledge of the curriculum and of existing collection
* Overall purpose
* Timeliness or permanence
* Importance of the subject matter
* Quality of the writing/production
* Readability and popular appeal
* Authoritativeness
* Reputation of the publisher/producer
* Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer, etc.
* Format and price
* Surveys of faculty and students to measure responsiveness of the collection to the curriculum and the desires of the patrons

Procedure

In selecting materials for purchase, the media specialist evaluates the existing collection and consults:

1. Reputable, unbiased, professionally prepared selection aids
2. The library committee appointed by the principal to serve in an advisory capacity in selection of materials. The committee consists of the media specialist, teachers, and administration, with the media specialist making the final decision when a choice must be made.
3. Faculty and students’ requests made informally each year.

* Books- Book selection will be made with a view toward a balanced collection. An evaluation of the existing collection will be made periodically to ensure that the needs of all curriculum areas are being met.
* Magazines- Although magazines can be a source of current information and can be selected based on their contribution to the media collection, the media center may or may not carry titles depending on student and faculty request and use. Professional magazines can be purchased for professional growth and development. Titles may be recommended by faculty, students, and parents for consideration.
* Newspapers- The media center may or may not subscribe to a local newspaper, depending on student and faculty request and use.
* Paperbacks- Paperback books are to be included in the media center collection in light of demand, need, durability, cost, popular appeal, and in the ability to obtain needed books which are available only in paper bound form.
* Software and information/Picture file- Materials are selected to meet the demand for materials not always found in books and to provide adequate quantity and variety of materials on subjects of special interest. Materials are selected because they relate to the curriculum and meet the recreational and informational needs of the students.