

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

GENERAL POLICY

The Seekonk Public Library acquires and makes available materials that inform, educate, entertain, and enrich individuals in the community. The Library provides, within financial limitations, a general collection of materials embracing broad areas of knowledge, and timely materials on current issues. Within the framework of broad objectives, selection is based on community demographics and evidence of areas of interest. Ultimate responsibility for materials selection rests with the library director, who operates within the framework of policies approved by the Board of Library Trustees. The Library supports the individual's right to access ideas and information representing all points of view. The Seekonk Board of Library Trustees has adopted the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read and Freedom to View statements.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

The library collection is developed with the following objectives:

- to provide materials that meet the customers' interest and needs in a timely manner;
- to provide materials and programming to pre-school and grade school children to encourage and promote continued use of the library;
- to provide a broadly based and diverse collection that can support the goals of the library;
- to provide a balance of viewpoints on all subjects in its collections;
- to purchase current materials proportionate to levels of demand and use, taking care to anticipate and respond to indications of significant new needs;

- to practice ongoing collection management, using output measures, reports from the automated library system and other data for continuous collection evaluation;
- to keep the collection current by weeding worn, obsolete and dated materials from the collection on a regular basis;
- to keep abreast of technological changes which affect the development of the collection;
- to be aware of the resources available in surrounding libraries and avoid duplication of resources while ensuring wide coverage of subjects;
- to continue participation in cooperative programs concerning shared resources within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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