
MATERIALS SELECTION POLICY

“Materials selection” is defined as the choice by library staff to add or retain any material for general or specific uses within Rochester Public Library’s collection.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Rochester Public Library affirms the principles set forth in ALA’s Library Bill of Rights (appended).
2. Responsibility for materials selection rests with the Library Director, who operates within the framework of policies determined by the Library Board of Trustees.
3. The patrons of Rochester Public Library District are the primary user group in purchasing considerations.
4. The merits of any selection are weighed against the needs, interests, and demands of the Rochester community, and the budget situation of Rochester Public Library.
5. Rochester Public Library does not promulgate particular beliefs or views, nor is the selection of any given material equivalent to endorsement of the viewpoint of the author.
6. Responsibility for the reading and library use of children rests with their parents or legal guardians.

SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

1. Consideration must be given to the resource pool and resource sharing commitments made with RPLS LLSAP Users Group, Rolling Prairie Library System, and Illinet.
2. Other factors in selection may include:
 - a. contemporary significance
 - b. permanent value
 - c. authority of author
 - d. relation of work to existing collection
 - e. price, format, construction, use
 - f. intended audience
 - g. popular demand
3. Textbooks and curriculum materials are generally considered to be the responsibility of the schools.
4. The basis of materials selection shall be positive in nature.