

# Library Materials Evaluation Standards

## North Zulch ISD – Public Transparency Statement

North Zulch ISD is committed to maintaining a school library collection that supports student learning, reflects community values, and complies with all state laws and district policies.

Library materials are selected and reviewed in accordance with:

- Texas Senate Bill 13
  - Texas House Bill 900 (READER Act)
  - Texas Education Code Chapter 33
  - Guidance from the Texas Education Agency
  - North Zulch ISD Board Policy EF (Local) and EF (Legal)
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## How We Evaluate Library Materials

Before a book is purchased, accepted as a donation, or retained in the collection, it is reviewed using the following standards:

### 1. Legal Compliance

All materials must:

- Comply with Texas Education Code Chapter 33
- Meet requirements of HB 900 regarding sexually explicit material
- Be free from prohibited content under state law
- Follow SB 13 requirements regarding library material standards

Materials that do not meet statutory requirements are not added to the collection.

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### 2. Age and Grade-Level Appropriateness

Each item is evaluated to ensure:

- Content is suitable for the intended grade level
  - Themes and language are developmentally appropriate
  - The material supports the maturity level of students
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### **3. Educational Value**

Library materials must:

- Support Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
  - Promote literacy and academic growth
  - Encourage critical thinking and inquiry
  - Provide factual accuracy (for nonfiction materials)
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### **4. Balanced Representation**

In accordance with SB 13:

- Materials must not promote indoctrination
  - Resources may present diverse viewpoints
  - Students are encouraged to think critically and form their own conclusions
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### **5. Professional Review Standards**

Materials are evaluated using:

- Professional library review journals
  - Recognized award lists
  - Publisher credibility
  - Educational relevance
  - Community standards as outlined in Board Policy EF (Local/Legal)
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### **6. Donated Materials**

Donated books are reviewed using the same criteria as purchased materials.  
Acceptance of a donation does not guarantee placement in the library collection.

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## **If a Book Is Challenged**

If a parent or community member submits a formal reconsideration request:

1. The material is pulled from circulation and classrooms during review.

2. A review committee evaluates the material in its entirety.
3. The committee applies state law, TEA guidance, and Board Policy EF (Local/Legal).
4. A written response is issued within the timeline required under Texas Education Code Chapter 33.

Appeals may be made to the North Zulch ISD School Board in accordance with district procedures.

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## **Our Commitment**

North Zulch ISD is committed to:

- Transparency in library selection and review
- Compliance with state law
- Respectful collaboration with families
- Supporting students' academic success and intellectual growth

Questions about library materials may be directed to the campus librarian or principal. Contact information is available in the Campus Directory on the district website.