

LIMA PUBLIC LIBRARY COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT & WEEDING POLICY

General Statement

It is the policy of the Library to select materials that assist its patrons to cope with day-to-day problems of living in a society that is socially, politically, and economically complex. It also serves to provide materials for recreational reading and viewing. Materials will be selected with the intent of helping patrons enhance and enrich their lives in their own way and on their own terms. Such materials will include a variety of formats.

It is understood that patrons are of all ages, interests, abilities, educational levels and priorities. The Library therefore seeks to establish priorities in line with those demonstrated by the community. The needs of the community will be met to a reasonable degree while staying within budgetary limitations.

Objectives of Materials Selection

1. To offer knowledge
2. To reflect the interests of the community
3. To satisfy reasonably the individual requirements of patrons
4. To serve as the informational hub of the community, for recreational and educational purposes

Responsibility for Materials Selection: The Library Manager has overall responsibility for collection development. The Library Manager will work with the Children's Librarian to make suggested YA and Children's purchases. Other staff may also be assigned responsibilities in suggested purchases. Patron requests will be considered on an individual basis.

Selection Criteria: To qualify for purchase, an item need not have all the following qualities. Professional judgment will be exercised. Every effort will be made to present multiple viewpoints on controversial topics.

1. Timeliness
2. Accuracy
3. Enhancement of existing collection
4. Public Interest

Weeding: Materials already present in the collection that appear to no longer meet the Selection Criteria will be removed from the collection. Physical condition, frequency of use, and space constraints may also affect the decision to retain or discard.

Reviewed and approved by Lima Library Board of Trustees
09/21/2022