



Westlake Academy Library Collection Development Policy

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Westlake Academy Library Mission



The Westlake Academy library strives to be the heart of the school and supports the Westlake Academy its mission by:

- Providing students and educators access to physical and digital resources that support the IB curriculum across all three Programmes: Primary Years, Middle Years, and Diploma.
- Fostering a culture of academic and personal reading that values texts representing diverse perspectives and respects students' freedom to read.
- Supporting student development of communication, research, and thinking skills for engaging with physical and digital resources.
- Collaborating locally and globally to create meaningful learning experiences.
- Maintaining a learning environment where students and educators can collaborate, inquire, and create while exemplifying the IB learner profile traits: inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective.

Snapshot of the Westlake Academy Bradley Library

PYP Library

- Fixed schedule for K-5 students (45 minute lessons every week for all 18 classes)
- Daily open checkout for all PYP students every morning from 7:30-8:30 and 9:30-10:15 on late start Wednesdays
- Co-facilitating Exhibition, pushing into G5 weekly
- Lessons and learning experiences
 - Culture of reading
 - Approaches to learning, especially research skills
 - Supporting the PYP Exhibition
 - Collaboration with teachers to support units of inquiry
 - Coordinating author visits and guest speakers for PYP students

Secondary Library

- Middle school: Biweekly visits through English class (30 minutes) + on-demand lessons across content areas
- High school: Monthly visits through English class + on-demand lessons across content areas
- Lessons and learning experiences
 - Culture of reading
 - Approaches to learning, especially research skills
 - Supporting the MYP Personal Project and DP Extended Essay
 - Collaboration with teachers

Over 8,000 titles in the collection K-12. Over 15,000 circulations each school year.

HB 900 Highlights

- Prohibits possession, acquisition, and purchase of harmful material, sexually-explicit material, or pervasively vulgar material.
- Prohibits removal of material based solely on the ideas contained in the material or the personal background of the author of the material or characters in the material.
- Recognizes parents as the primary decision makers regarding their student's access to library material.

“School Library Programs: Collection Development Standards.” *Texas Administrative Code*, Title 13, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter A, Rule §4.2.

HB 900: READER Act

(Restricting Explicit and Adult Designated Educational Resources)

- June 13, 2023 Signed by Governor Abbott
- September 1, 2023 Effective date
- January 1, 2024 TSLAC mandatory collection development standards approved by the SBOE
- January 17, 2024/
April 16, 2024 US Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals decision prohibits the TEA from enforcing HB 900 requirements that book vendors rate library materials as sexually explicit or sexually relevant.
- Current status Everything except parts of the law related to the vendor rating system are enforceable.

“HB 900 Implementation.” *Texas Library Association*, www.txla.org.
Accessed 29 September 2024.

Implementing HB 900

- Although there is not a deadline, all districts are required to “approve and institute a collection development policy that describes the processes and standards by which a school library acquires, maintains, and withdraws materials.”
- HB 900 applies to all school libraries, including classroom libraries and online catalogs/ resources.
- The collection development policy is separate from the instructional materials policy.

“School Library Programs: Collection Development Standards.” *Texas Administrative Code*, Title 13, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter A, Rule §4.2.

HB 900 Highlights

- Requires transparency of collection (publically available).
- Requires process for evaluation, selection, deselection and reconsideration of materials.
- Requires school districts should ensure a professional librarian certified by the State Board for Educator Certification or other dedicated professional library staff trained on proper collection development standards is responsible for the selection and acquisition of library materials.

“School Library Programs: Collection Development Standards.” *Texas Administrative Code*, Title 13, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter A, Rule §4.2.

Westlake Academy Collection Development Policy Goals

Create and implement a collection development policy that

- Meets the requirements of the law
- Aligns with the mission of Westlake Academy as an IB World School
- Provides clear and reasonable procedures to guide families, librarians, teachers, administrators, and school board members

Westlake Academy Collection Development Resources

- Texas State Library and Archives Commission
- Texas Education Agency
- Mandatory standards for school library collection development ([**13 TAC §4.2**](#)).

Westlake Academy Collection Development Policy



Selection Objectives

- Enrich and support the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and curriculum established by Education Code, §28.002 (relating to Required Curriculum), while taking into consideration students' varied interests, maturity levels, abilities, and learning styles.
- Support the implementation of the International Baccalaureate curriculum for the Primary Years, Middle Years, and Diploma Years Programmes, including the culminating experiences for each program (PYP Exhibition, MYP Personal Project, and DP Extended Essay).
- Foster growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and societal standards.

Westlake Academy Collection Development Policy



Selection Objectives (continued)

- Encourage the enjoyment of reading, foster high-level thinking skills, support personal learning, and encourage discussion based on rational analysis.
- Foster personal inquiry and reading by selecting materials that appeal to a wide range of interests and perspectives appropriate for all grade levels (K-12).
- Represent the ethnic, religious, and cultural groups of the state and their contribution to Texas, the nation, and the world.
- Facilitate student development of international mindedness by selecting materials representing diverse experiences and perspectives.
- Provide materials in a variety of formats (print and electronic), allowing students experience with locating, accessing, and engaging with a range of sources.

Westlake Academy Collection Development Policy

Evaluation and Selection

- Selection Objectives
- Programme priorities
- Age appropriateness

Methods of Evaluation

- Authoritative reviews from professional library science journals
- Context of the work and fit with the existing collection & curriculum
- Direct review of the item
- Community recommendations
- Teacher recommendations

Proposed Collection Development Policy

Deselection/ Weeding

- Full inventory every two years
- Evaluate for replacement or removal
 - Copyright date
 - Physical condition
 - Space consideration
 - Circulation
 - Relevance to curriculum
 - Collection development objectives and standards

Proposed Collection Development Policy



Reconsideration Process

Step One: Informal Reconsideration Request

- a. The principal or other appropriate staff shall explain to the questioner the school's selection procedure, criteria, and qualifications of those persons selecting the resource.
- b. The principal or other appropriate staff shall explain the particular place the questioned resource occupies in the education program, its intended educational usefulness, and additional information regarding its use, or refer the party to someone who can identify and explain the use of the resource.
- c. If the questioner wishes to file a formal challenge, a copy of the "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form shall be handed or emailed to the party concerned by the principal.

Proposed Collection Development Policy

Reconsideration Process (continued)

Step Two: Formal Reconsideration Request

- a. Formal reconsideration committee
 - i. Librarians, assistant principal, coordinator, teacher
 - ii. All members read the material in its entirety
 - iii. Decision within 60 school days
- b. Written report
- c. Option to appeal

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