

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear guidelines for the selection, maintenance, and review of materials in the school's media center. As a classical institution, the school is committed to forming students intellectually and morally through engagement with works that reflect truth, goodness, and beauty. The media center collection shall support this mission.

II. Philosophy

The school affirms that education is not value-neutral. The selection of books and materials will reflect the school's commitment to a classical model of education rooted in the Western intellectual tradition and the cultivation of virtue.

The media center is not intended to serve as a comprehensive repository of all viewpoints, but rather as a curated collection aligned with the school's educational mission and standards.

III. Collection Priorities

The media center shall prioritize the acquisition and retention of the following:

1. **Classical and Canonical Works**
 - Literature from ancient Greece and Rome
 - Foundational texts of Western civilization
 - Great works of philosophy, theology, and history
2. **American Founding and Historical Documents**
 - Founding-era writings and speeches
 - Significant historical texts that shaped the United States
3. **High-Quality Children's and Young Adult Literature**
 - Works that cultivate moral imagination and virtue
 - Literature of enduring literary merit
4. **Curriculum-Supporting Materials**
 - Texts directly aligned with classroom instruction
 - Reference materials that support classical studies

IV. Selection Standards

All materials considered for inclusion must meet the following standards:

1. **Alignment with Mission**

Materials must support the school's classical philosophy and educational goals.
2. **Literary and Intellectual Merit**

Preference shall be given to works of recognized quality, depth, and lasting significance.
3. **Moral and Developmental Appropriateness**

Materials shall be appropriate to the age and maturity of students. The following content is generally excluded, especially for younger students:

 - Explicit sexual content
 - Graphic violence
 - Profanity or vulgar language
4. **Enduring Value**

Works selected should demonstrate lasting relevance rather than reflect transient trends or ideologies.
5. **Accuracy and Integrity**

Materials must be factually sound and intellectually honest.

V. Exclusions

The media center shall not include materials that:

- Undermine or contradict the school's mission and core values
- Promote moral relativism, nihilism, or ideologies inconsistent with the formation of virtue

- Contain content deemed inappropriate for the developmental level of students

VI. Selection Process

1. Authority

The Head of School shall have final authority over all media center selections.

2. Review Committee

A Media Review Committee, consisting of faculty, administration, and other appointed members, shall:

- Evaluate proposed acquisitions
- Ensure alignment with this policy
- Periodically review the collection

3. Recommendations

Faculty and staff may recommend materials for inclusion. All recommendations must undergo formal review prior to acquisition.

VII. Collection Maintenance

The media center collection shall be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure continued alignment with the school's mission. Materials may be removed if they:

- No longer meet selection standards
- Are no longer relevant to the curriculum
- Are deemed inappropriate under this policy

VIII. Parental Rights and Transparency

The school affirms that parents are the primary educators of their children. Accordingly:

- The media center catalog shall be accessible to parents upon request
- Parents may raise concerns regarding specific materials
- The school will maintain transparency in its selection practices

IX. Challenge and Review Procedure

1. Formal Request

A parent or guardian may submit a written request for review of a specific item.

2. Committee Review

The Media Review Committee shall evaluate the material in question and issue a recommendation.

3. Final Determination

The Head of School shall make the final decision regarding retention or removal.

X. Implementation

This policy shall be implemented by the Head of School and Media Center Director and reviewed periodically by the governing board to ensure continued fidelity to the school's mission.