

# **Sir Robert Borden School Library: Acquisition Criteria**

## ***Rationale:***

In order to serve our school community, support curriculum expectations, and create a positive, inclusive, and challenging learning environment, it is necessary to formulate a set of criteria that guides our acquisition of new library resources. New purchases should meet several of the following criteria in order to be considered.

### **1. Demand**

- student demand and anticipated demand (is it something that students want to read?)

### **2. Quality**

- Attention of critics and reviewers, award winners, inclusion in authoritative sources;
- Literary merit and contribution to the field of knowledge;
- Reputation or authority of the author, creator, or publisher;
- Quality of writing, production, and illustration.

### **3. Subject matter**

- Significance, timeliness, or permanence of subject matter;
- Representation of diverse points of view;
- Culturally relevant and inclusive;
- Relationship to the existing collection (continuing series, etc);
- Importance of subject matter in relation to community needs;

### **4. Audience**

- Relevance to literacy goals, promotion of critical thinking, and curriculum expectations;
- Responsive to age (Intermediate as well as High School students) and interest;
- Reflective of student voice;
- Suitability of subject and style.

## **5. Price**

- Purchase price and other budgetary considerations;
- Comparison of content and cost with other available formats.

## **6. Availability and access**

- Availability of content in other libraries, for free through the internet, or from other easily and freely accessible resources;
- Suitability of format for library use; Ease of use and remote access potential;
- Copyright issues and the availability of public performance rights;
- Licensing requirements;
- Long term availability and perpetual access rights.

Adapted from Ottawa Public Library's Materials Selection Criteria  
<https://bibliooottawalibrary.ca/en/content-services-framework> (accessed Feb 22, 2023)

and

Learning Network #10 - Equity (2022-23)