

**Book Selection Policy as taken from the Lake Andes Public Library Policy Manual  
Approved 10-29-2024.**

In accordance with the objectives of the Lake Andes Public Library as stated in section I. of this manual the Board of Trustees of the Lake Andes Public Library declares as a matter of book and /or material selection policy that:

- A. Final responsibility for selection of books and library materials is and shall be vested in the librarian. Any books and library materials so selected shall be held to be selected by the Board.
- B. Selection of library material shall be made on the basis of their value for interest, information and enlightenment of all citizens of this area. Evaluative criteria that will be used in establishing such values are: the materials are essential and appropriate for the development of the subject; the materials are factually accurate and objective in presentation; the materials contribute to literary appreciation or have aesthetic values; the authors of the material are competent and qualified in the field; and/or the materials are recommended by recognized authorities or professional bibliographies or lists. No item of library material shall be excluded because of the race, nationality, sex or the political or social views of the author.
- C. The scope of the library's collection shall be that of a general library. The library recognizes its obligation to provide reference and research material for the direct answering of specific questions and for continuing research. It also recognizes the purpose and resources of other libraries, particularly those of the South Dakota State Library and the areas school libraries, and shall not needlessly duplicate functions and materials. This library shall purchase soft cover books whenever possible and practical. The library acknowledges a particular interest in local and state history; therefore it will seek to acquire state and municipal public document, and it will take a broad view of works by and about South Dakota authors as will a general works relating to the State of South Dakota, whether or not such material meet the standards of selection in other respects. However, the library is no under any obligation to add to its collections everything about South Dakota or produced by authors, printers or publishers with South Dakota connections if it does not seem to be in the public interest to do so.
- D. It is the responsibility of the Librarian to withdraw from the collections of the Lake Andes Public Library and library materials that are no longer current, that are no longer usable due to use and wear and that present inaccurate information to the user.
- E. All gifts of money or library material offered to the Lake Andes Public Library shall be accepted but only with the full knowledge of the donor that gifts of library materials may be offered to another library or discarded if the quality of

the gift does not meet the selection criteria above. All gifts of library materials that are added to the collection of the library shall be fully integrated into those collections; at no time will a special area be set aside for the housing of a gift in a separate area. All gifts of money will be spent in the area specified by the donor.

- F. It is the right of any citizen served by this library to recommend library materials for selection consideration by the Lake Andes Public Library and it is the obligation of the Librarian/ Library Director to consider such recommendations with the same evaluative criteria established above. Such recommendations shall be made in writing on forms developed by the Librarian.
- G. It is also the right of any citizen served by this Library to question any library material selected by the Lake Andes Public Library since opinions may differ in our democracy. Such questions shall be presented in writing on forms developed and made available by the Librarian and shall be specific as to title and nature of the material being questioned.
- H. This Board declares itself firmly opposed to the censorship of library materials as a means by which an individual or group may seek to restrict or deny the availability of certain materials to any other individual or group. While it is acknowledged that an individual has the right to impose certain judgmental standards on his own or his children's use of library materials, this is the responsibility of the individual and not of the library; any standards so adopted by an individual will not be recognized as imposing any restrictions on the availability of material in the library, nor can they be imposed on the use of library materials by any other individual or group. The Board, therefore, defends the principles of the freedom to acquire information and declares that whenever censorship is involved no item of library material shall be removed from the library save under the orders of a court of competent jurisdiction.
- The Lake Andes Public Library does not checkout obscene materials to individuals under the age of 18 without parental permission.
- The definition of "obscene material" is defined in South Dakota Codified Law 22-24-27 (11) "obscene material," material: (a) The dominant theme of which, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest; (b) which is patently offensive because it affronts contemporary community standards relating to the description or representation of sado-masochistic abuse or sexual conduct; and (c) lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.
- The Lake Andes Public Library receives E-rate funds to help to fund the internet services of the library. Acceptance of E-rate funding has the requirement, since 2000, that any library receiving federal funding of any kind to have "technological protection measures" referred to in The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) as internet filtering. All public access computers available to children under the age of 18 at the Lake Andes Public Library have a downloaded filtering software which restricts the user from accessing "obscene" materials.

I. This Board adopts and declares that it will adhere to and support the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement, adopted by the American Library Association, both of which are made a part thereof.

J. Attached to this selection policy and a part thereof are:

1. The Library Bill of Rights,
2. The Freedom to Read Statement, adopted by the American Library Association,
3. A form for use by a citizen requesting the addition of library materials to the collection; and
4. A form for use by a citizen questioning the selection of certain library materials (Citizens Request for Reconsideration of Materials)