

**PORT EDWARDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS****Board of Education Policy**

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**INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM**

It is the policy of this district to encourage exploration of ideas from many points of view. Intellectual freedom is a basic requirement of a democracy and necessary for an informed citizenry. The Port Edwards School District will not censor or restrict access to materials within its collection.

Controversial issues shall be covered from all points of view as fully as possible keeping maturity levels of the student in mind. Materials of sound factual authority shall not be excluded for partisan or doctrinal reasons. Areas of thought that most often come under criticism are:

- Religion – Material on religious subjects should be available and should be factual, unbiased, and broadly representative.
- Political Ideologies – A balance of factual material at appropriate reading and comprehension levels should be available in the collection representing various views.
- Sex and Profanity – In a work of established quality, the inclusion of profanity or frank treatment of sex is not adequate reason to exclude the materials from the District collection.

The Port Edwards School District endorses the American Library Association Library Bill of Rights and the American Association of School Librarians-School Library Bill of Rights for School Library Media Programs.

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CROSS REFERENCE: Policy for Selection of Library Materials

Adopted: April 13, 2004  
Reviewed:  
Revised: