

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Background

All students and staff in the Good Spirit School Division will have access to library services. School libraries provide environments rich in information, literature, and technology with professional and paraprofessional personnel to support inquiry-based approaches to learning that help students build the skills to become effective thinkers and life-long learners. School library programs are developed to support the Broad Areas of Learning identified in Saskatchewan curricula designed to achieve Saskatchewan's goals of education.

The Division believes that school libraries are an integral part of the educational program. The purposes of school libraries are:

To realize the achievement of curriculum learning outcomes – The school library provides access to a wide range of high quality learning resources in both physical and digital formats. The school library enriches the content of courses and supports the development of literacy skills. Students are capable and knowledgeable learners and communicators.

To prepare students for the future – School libraries equip students to live in a constantly changing world by fostering the attitudes, knowledge, and skills that enable lifelong learning. Students develop the ability to access, use, and evaluate information; to create new knowledge; and to apply their learning to a range of educational, career, and personal purposes. Students are information literate and technologically literate, and use information in a respectful and responsible manner.

To broaden students' horizons – School libraries engage students in the wide world beyond their school by presenting the cultural, literary, and artistic heritages of societies, past and present; by sparking the imagination; by introducing new ideas; and by stimulating curiosity. Students are able to understand the interdependent nature of physical and social environments, and to build an appreciation of the diversity of worldviews.

**Adapted from Connections, 2008*

Procedures

1. The principal, in consultation with staff and/or literacy lead teacher, shall develop a school library program that achieves curriculum outcomes and utilizes fully the print, non-print, and digital resources in a manner that is consistent with the school's Learning Improvement Plan.
2. The principal and staff will refer to the Appendix for Administrative Procedure 271 for the guidelines and procedures to develop the school library program.

Legal Reference: Section 85, 87, 109, 175 Education Act
Section 48, The Education Regulations, 2015
Connections: policy and guidelines for school libraries in Saskatchewan, 2008