

Austin Elementary Library Purchase Review

Galveston ISD | 2026-2027 school year

Prepared for Dr. Matthew Neighbors and the Board of Trustees | October 8, 2026

Overall assessment

The proposed list contains **44 distinct title/product entries**, including three collections or sets. Picture books, early readers, Spanish editions, graphic novels, and longer fiction support varied reading interests. Content guidance and placement considerations follow.

Prospective grade level uses

Grade bands are advisory primary uses and may overlap. Each product appears once; some titles are abbreviated. Sets contain multiple books.

Grade band	Suggested titles / products	Prospective uses
Grades PK-2	Chicka Chicka Peep Peep; The Humble Pie; It's My Bird-Day!; Bandage Buddies; A Day at Abbott Elementary; Becoming Boba; Danny Go's Volcano Adventure; How NOT to Make a Jelly Sandwich; Overdue (Bob the Book); Penelope Rex and the Problem with Pets; Pig the Star; The Cat in the Hat; This Book Is Dangerous!; Have Yourself a Cheesy Little Christmas; How Do Dinosaurs Go to School?; Maybe Tomorrow?; Millie Fleur's Worst Day Ever; Pete the Cat's Cool New Ride; Pete the Cat and the Cookie Catastrophe; Author vs. Illustrator.	Read alouds and developing readers Support language, imagination, school routines, empathy, identity, and creative storytelling. Include sensitive discussion of sadness and safe choices.
Grades 1-4	Hombre Perro: Juan el Grande, el comienzo; Captain Underpants: The First Epic Manga; Dog Man: Big Jim Believes; Troubling Tonsils!; The Bad Guys: Now in Full Color; The Adventures of Super Diaper Baby; Buzz Boy and Fly Guy; Prince Fly Guy; Pig the Slob; Hombre Perro: Juan el Grande cree.	Illustrated independent reading Humor, early readers, comics, and Spanish-language access encourage reading engagement. Match complexity and scary or gross-out humor to student readiness.
Grades 3-5	City of Dragons: Rise of the Shadowfire; I Survived the California Wildfires, 2018; Donut the Destroyer; City of Dragons: Quest for the True Dragon; Allergic; The Brightest Night: Wings of Fire Graphic Novel; Goosebumps: Monster Blood (graphic novel); Nat a Chance.	Longer graphic novels and discussion Explore friendship, health, courage, identity, and disaster resilience. Provide context for fantasy danger, frightening illustrations, and family challenges.
Grades 4-5	Wings of Fire: The Hybrid Prince; Dork Diaries #1 (full-color edition); Here Lies a Ghost.	Upper elementary use These selections also reach middle school audiences. Consider reading stamina, relationship themes, bullying, and horror intensity; see page 2.
Collections / sets	Dav Pilkey's Hero Collection; Ghost School Set; Adventures of the Powerpuff Girls Set.	Placement by included title Hero Collection: prospective grades 2-4. Confirm component titles and intended grade placement for both Capstone sets before final approval.

Content Considerations

Content Considerations by Title

Here Lies a Ghost | Proposed grades 4-5; older readers may benefit

Description: After a cruel school dare, Jermaine releases a ghost and investigates its history with a friend.

Content considerations: Bullying, hazing, death, revenge, slavery, and colonial history. Publisher ages 8-12; School Library Journal recommends grades 6 and up. Resolve this placement difference before an elementary purchase.

Wings of Fire: The Hybrid Prince | Proposed grades 4-5

Description: Umber seeks island refuge, uncovers hidden dangers, and grows close to Prince Mulberry.

Content considerations: Tragedy, creature attacks, threatened safety, and romantic relationship themes, including Umber falling for a male prince. Consider reading stamina and relationships in context.

The Brightest Night; City of Dragons: Rise of the Shadowfire / Quest for the True Dragon | Proposed grades 3-5

Description: Young heroes confront dragon conflicts and dangerous enemies while trying to protect others.

Content considerations: War or fantasy combat, peril, and intense visual scenes. Quest includes emerging relationship themes. Match content and complexity to reader readiness.

Goosebumps: Monster Blood | Proposed grades 3-5

Description: Evan discovers mysterious green ooze that grows uncontrollably and threatens those around him.

Content considerations: Horror, threatening creatures, and frightening imagery. Consider sensitivity to scary stories and the graphic adaptation.

Troubling Tonsils! | Proposed grades 1-4

Description: Charlie Marmot discovers that his infected tonsils have vanished before surgery, with creepy consequences.

Content considerations: Comic body horror, infected tonsils, surgery anxiety, and gross-out humor. Explain the fantasy and support readers uneasy about medical procedures.

I Survived the California Wildfires, 2018 | Proposed grades 3-5

Description: Josh and his cousin Holly must escape a wildfire amid family upheaval.

Content considerations: Life-threatening fire, disaster imagery, and emotional stress. Support disaster-affected students. The listed edition is a graphic novel.

Dork Diaries (full-color edition) | Proposed grades 4-5

Description: Nikki records middle school friendships, popularity struggles, and growing confidence.

Content considerations: Peer conflict, social pressure, and relationship themes. Publisher grades 4-8; consider the listed full-color edition for elementary placement.

Guidance for other selections

Health and loss: Allergic supports empathy around allergies; Maybe Tomorrow? addresses sadness and loss.

Humor and conduct: Pilkey titles, The Bad Guys, and Pig books use exaggerated misbehavior or gross-out comedy. Distinguish fictional antics from appropriate conduct. Christmas content offers an opportunity for respectful cultural discussion.

Reference links

Publisher descriptions and editorial guidance: [Here Lies a Ghost](#) | [SLJ placement](#) | [Hybrid Prince](#) | [Brightest Night](#) | [City of Dragons](#) | [Monster Blood](#) | [Troubling Tonsils!](#) | [Wildfires](#) | [Dork Diaries](#) | [Hero Collection](#).

Austin Elementary Book Purchasing Order 2026-2027

Book Title / Product	Author	ISBN-13
<i>Chicka Chicka Peep Peep</i>	Julien Chung	9781665990646
<i>The Humble Pie</i>	Jory John	9780063469730
<i>It's My Bird Day!</i>	Mo Willems	9781454999621
<i>Bandage Buddies</i>	Kathryn Rammell	9781546179603
<i>Hombre Perro Juan El Grande, El Comienzo</i>	Dav Pilkey	9781546176541
<i>Wings of Fire: The Hybrid Prince</i>	Tui T. Sutherland	9781546129547
<i>Captain Underpants: The First Epic Manga</i>	Dav Pilkey	9798225016715
<i>Dog Man: Big Jim Believes</i>	Dav Pilkey	9781546176190
<i>City of Dragons: Rise of the Shadowfire</i>	Jaimal Yogis & Vivian Truong	9781338660463
<i>Jasper Rabbit's Creepy Tales: Troubling Tonsils!</i>	Aaron Reynolds	9781665961080
<i>I Survived the California Wildfires, 2018</i>	Lauren Tarshis	9781546137719
<i>The Bad Guys: Now in Full Color</i>	Aaron Blabey	9781546167587
<i>The Donut Destroyer: A Graphic Novel</i>	Sarah Graley & Stef Purenins	9781338541922
<i>City of Dragons: Quest for the True Dragon</i>	Jaimal Yogis & Vivian Truong	9781339033006
<i>A Day at Abbott Elementary</i>	Halcyon Person	9781546130451
<i>Allergic</i>	Megan Wagner Lloyd & Michelle Mee Nutter	9781338568912
<i>Becoming Boba</i>	Joanna Ho	9781339005546
<i>Danny Go's Volcano Adventure</i>	Danny Go	9781419786105

<i>How NOT to Make a Jelly Sandwich</i>	Ross Burach	9781338877090
<i>Overdue: The Misadventure of Bob the Book</i>	Gloria Koster	9781684469208
<i>Penelope Rex and the Problem with Pets</i>	Ryan T. Higgins	9781368089609
<i>Pig the Star</i>	Aaron Blabey	9781338280210
<i>The Adventures of Super Diaper Baby</i>	Dav Pilkey	9781338687859
<i>The Brightest Night: Wings of Fire Graphic Novel</i>	Tui T. Sutherland	9781338730852
<i>The Cat in the Hat</i>	Dr. Seuss	9780394800011
<i>Dav Pilkey's Hero Collection</i>	Dav Pilkey	9781338819939
<i>Buzz Boy and Fly Guy</i>	Tedd Arnold	9780545222747
<i>Prince Fly Guy</i>	Tedd Arnold	9780545662758
<i>This Book Is Dangerous! A Narwhal and Jelly Picture Book</i>	Ben Clanton	9798225093068
<i>Jasper Rabbit's Creepy Tales: Troubling Tonsils!</i>	Aaron Reynolds	9781665961080
<i>Pig the Slob</i>	Aaron Blabey	9781338713718
<i>Dork Diaries: Tales from a Not-So-Fabulous Life: Full-Color Edition</i>	Rachel Renée Russell	9781665988384
<i>Hombre Perro: Juan el Grande cree (Dog Man: Big Jim Believes)</i>	Dav Pilkey	9798225030186
<i>The Big Cheese Presents: Have Yourself a Cheesy Little Christmas</i>	Jory John	9780063468559
<i>How Do Dinosaurs Go to School?</i>	Jane Yolen	9780439020817
<i>It's My Bird-Day!</i>	Mo Willems	9781454999621
<i>Maybe Tomorrow?</i>	Charlotte Agell	9780544872851

<i>Here Lies a Ghost</i>	Shakirah Bourne	9781546116905
<i>Millie Fleur's Worst Day Ever</i>	Christy Mandin	9781546160182
<i>Pete the Cat's Cool New Ride</i>	Kimberly Dean & James Dean	9780063350458
<i>The Humble Pie</i>	Jory John	9780063469730
<i>Goosebumps: The Graphic Novel: Monster Blood</i>	R. L. Stine; adapted by Maddi Gonzalez	9781338879438
<i>Nat a Chance: A Graphic Novel (Nat Enough #6)</i>	Maria Scrivan	9781546104452
<i>Pete the Cat and the Cookie Catastrophe</i>	James Dean & Kimberly Dean Donald B.	9780063350588
<i>Author vs. Illustrator</i>	Lemke; illustrated by Bob Lentz	9781684469970
<i>Ghost School Set</i>		9798875272738
<i>Adventures of the Powerpuff Girls Set</i>		9798875273087