

SB13 | 2025-2026 | 89th Legislature

Relating to a school district's library materials and catalog, the establishment of local school library advisory councils, and parental rights regarding public school library catalogs and access by the parent's child to library materials.

Passed June 20, 2025 Effective September 1, 2025

Purpose and Scope

- 1. Parental Rights and Access
- 2. Library Collection Standards
- 3. Procedures for Library Material Acquisition
- 4. Formalized Challenge and Appeal Processes
- 5. School Library Advisory Council Provision

1. Enhanced Parent Access and Rights

Parents have the right to:

- View all student records, including library checkout records.
- Access the school library catalog.
- Submit a list of materials their child may not check out or use outside the library.

Districts using an LMS or online portal must show parents a **record of each library checkout**.

2. State-Mandated Library Collection Standards

By **April 1, 2026**, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission must adopt new library collection standards. These standards must:

- Prohibit content that is legally defined as harmful, sexually explicit, indecent, profane, or links to inappropriate online content.
- Apply to all library materials (school/classroom libraries, digital catalogs, mobile apps).
- Recognize parents as the primary decision-makers for student access.
- Ensure transparency and protect against removing materials solely for ideas or author background.

3. New Procedures for Library Material Acquisition

Board of Trustees must:

- Approve all new or donated materials, except exact replacements.
- Make proposed materials publicly viewable for 30 days before approval.
- Use a model policy (to be developed by TEA) by the 2025-2026 school year.

4. Formalized Challenge and Appeal Processes

Who can challenge: Parents, district residents, or district employees.

Formal Challenge process:

- Must be submitted in writing using a TEA-developed form.
- Challenged materials are restricted from student access during review.
- The Challenge Committee follows policy designated protocol for review and, must respond by a timeline designated in statute.
- The committee decision may be appealed to the School Board and would follow the procedures and timeline outlined in TEC 33.027(f).

Outcomes:

- If removed, teachers must remove copies from classroom libraries
- If retained, future challenges are barred for 2 years.

5. Provision for School Library Advisory Councils (SLAC)

Districts *may* establish a local advisory council.

Must establish one if:

 Requested by 50 parents or 10% of enrolled families (whichever is fewer).

Council duties include:

- Reviewing acquisitions and removal decisions.
- Recommending policies aligned with community values and state standards.
- Including a majority of parent members.
- Meet at least twice a year with posted agendas and recordings.



1. Enhanced Parent Access and Rights

Library Collections

Classroom Libraries Digital Libraries

Library Information Hub

Library Collections

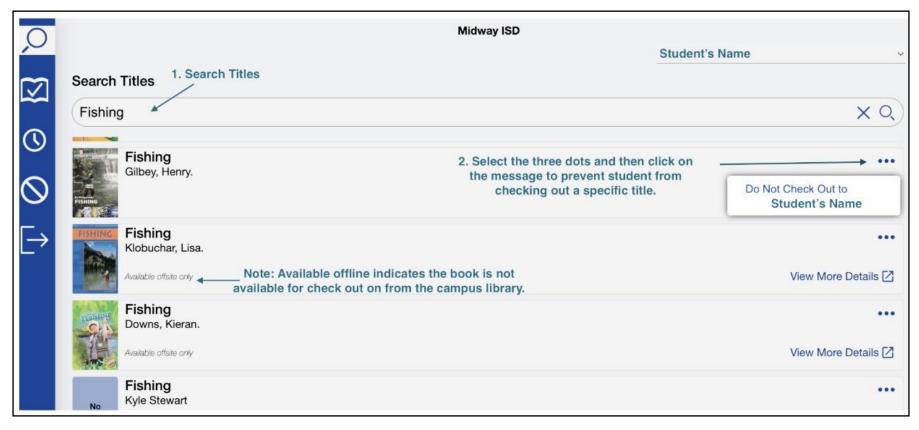
Using our current **Destiny Follett**Library Catalog Platform

Parents/Guardians can:

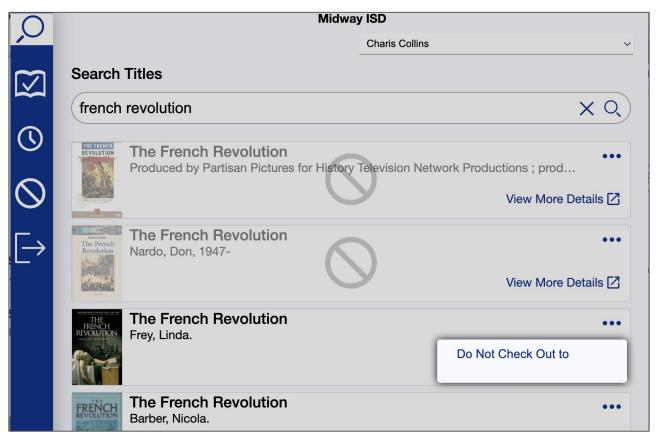
- View all student records, including library checkout records.
- Access the school library catalog.
- Restrict student access to titles.



Library Collections

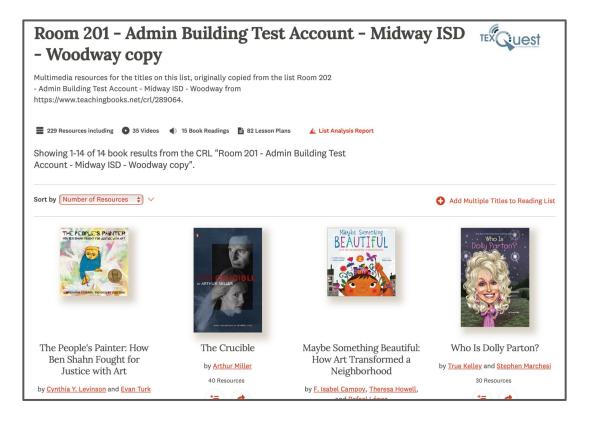


Library Collections



Classroom Libraries





Digital Libraries

Removed access to all digital collections outside of Destiny Follett.



Library Information Hub



Home / Programs & Services / Academics / Library Services

The mission of the Midway ISD Library Program is provide a safe space in which students are empowered to successfully utilize tools that aid them as they become critical thinkers, ethical users of information, and lifelong learners. We believe this can be accomplished through collaborating with parents and teachers in effort to create enthusiastic readers who will use creativity and compassion to contribute productively to society.



2. State-Mandated Library Collection Standards

By **April 1, 2026**, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission must adopt new library collection standards.

MISD RESPONSE

- Recommend adoption of EFB(LOCAL), which includes a comprehensive Collection
 Development Policy and safeguards to protect students from inappropriate material.
- Adopt the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) standard upon its
 official publication.

3. New Procedures for Library Material Acquisition

Board of Trustees must:

- Approve all new or donated materials, except exact replacements.
- Make proposed materials publicly viewable for 30 days before approval.
- Use a model policy (to be developed by TEA) by the 2025-2026 school year.

MISD RESPONSE

 Develop a proposed timeline and process for fall and spring book acquisitions in alignment with the guidelines outlined in EFB(LOCAL).

Example Fall Timeline

Sep-Oct

Review: Library staff thoroughly review and evaluate desired books for campus collections.

Request Finalization: Library staff finalize requests for inclusion on the acquisition list.

October 5

Board Review: The School Board receives a list of proposed library materials for consideration.

Public Transparency: The list of proposed materials is posted on the district website for

public review.

November 19

Board Input: Each Board member may propose changes prior to formal action on the proposed list of materials.

Board Action: The Board votes to approve or reject the final list.

November

Approval Implementation:

Campuses move forward with approved purchases.

4. Formalized Challenge and Appeal Processes

Who can challenge: Parents, district residents, or district employees.

Challenge process:

- Must be submitted in writing using a TEA-developed form.
- Challenged materials are restricted from student access during review.
- Advisory council must respond within 90 days if applicable.
- Board must act at the next open meeting after recommendation or 90 days.

Outcomes:

- If removed, teachers must remove copies from classroom libraries
- If retained, future challenges are barred for 2 years.

MISD RESPONSE

 Once the TEA Challenge form is available it will be added to the District Library Website.

5. Provision for Local School Advisory Councils

Districts **may** establish a local advisory council.

Must establish one if:

 Requested by 50 parents or 10% of enrolled families (whichever is fewer).

Council duties include:

- Reviewing acquisitions and removal decisions.
- Recommending policies aligned with community values and state standards.
- Including a majority of parent members.
- Members appointed by Board
- Meet at least twice a year with posted agendas and recordings.

MISD RESPONSE

- Proactively reviewing the feasibility of establishing a SLAC in advance of a formal community petition.
- Awaiting further guidance from the state to ensure full alignment with requirements.



Reasons For Recommendation

- The two policies side by side have only the SLAC committee that differs.
- The SLAC committee is an option, not a requirement at this time.
- There is some debate as to the agreement of the language of the TASB policy with the law in a few lines of the SLAC version of the policy.
- There is also questions as to whether BDB (Local) or BDF (Local) will need another update. Currently no policy names the SLAC, as it does the SHAC.
- Once we commit to a SLAC committee, we do so for three years.

- The new access available to parents will allow for transparency, and control over individual book selection for their child.
- Any digital resource that we are not able to filter or allow access to parents has been removed.
- Material procurement will go through a multistep process that includes community viewing and comments as well as board approval, before purchase
- Policies and documents are still being developed and we will have better information in the coming months should we choose to take further action.

