



# Minnesota State Academies Board

Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 2:00 PM

MSAB Site Council

Electronic Means

615 Olof Hanson Drive

Faribault, MN 55021

Meeting ID: 834 0355 3032

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2. Reports
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    1. Strategic Plan update and feedback
    2. Update about legislature - HF1065
    3. Update about IT and HelpDesk
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INDIVIDUALS WHO REQUIRE ACCOMMODATIONS  
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## **Minutes of MSAB Site Council**

The meeting of the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind Site Council was held on Thursday, February 4, 2021, beginning at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Members Present: Vice Chair Sheila Koenig, Superintendent Terry Wilding, Director John Davis, Jessica McBurnett, Rian Copeland, Jeffrey Peterson, Michele Baldeshwiler, Abby Winters, Jennifer Pelletier, Tim Aune.

Co-Officio Member: Special Ed Director Brittany Thomforde.

Members Absent: Chair David Tanner, Communications Director Kim Barron, Scott Berglund, Ken Trebelhorn, Crystal Bauer, Tori Andres.

### **1. Welcome and Roll Call**

### **2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Motion made by Jeff Peterson, seconded by Rian Copeland to approve the January 7, 2021 MSAB Site Council meeting minutes. Motioned was carried with all in favor.

### **3. Reports**

#### **A. Superintendent's Report**

- Several of our students returned to campus last Monday, some remain in distance learning at this time
- Vaccine – teachers, along with school staff, are on the waiting list. Some staff have received the vaccine as well. The vaccine is not required, but encouraged. We continue to keep a close eye on the numbers in Rice County, numbers of cases continue to decline. The goal is to keep students on campus for the remainder of the school year.
- Strategic Plan – Scott Berglund volunteered to represent the Site Council on the Steering Committee. We are reviewing five of the goal areas in our strategic plan, we will try to identify certain areas that may need more revision, more growth, an increase of a goal or adding more action steps to that goal for the next two years. We continue to also work on sending a survey to different stakeholders to get input. Will continue to set-up a communication plan with our different stakeholders, staff, students, parents, alumni and the outside community. Encouraged to review and complete survey.

## B. MSAB Director

Most of our students are back on campus, staff and students are following the requirements. We are slowly beginning after school activities, such as choir, which started last week. We belong to the North Central Association of Schools for the Blind (NCASB) who have been discussing how we can do some other activities virtually, such as a swimming season, along with spring track. This would involve doing the timing at the school and submitting virtually.

- State testing is coming up. Accommodations have been all set up.
- FACS Room – will be fixing the exhaust fan within the next month.
- This Friday will be our fourth Cultural Competency Training for licensed staff. Our SEPAs and paraprofessionals were able to do some Cultural Competency Training on December 21.
- COVID testing being offered to staff. Good portion of staff are taking that opportunity.
- World's Best workforce report - mostly geared towards the state testing results, there were no state tests last spring, making adjustments. Hoping to have that ready for our next site council meeting, an open forum will follow.

## C. Director of Communication

No report given.

## D. MSA Board Representative from MSAB Site Council

- Discussed Vaccines.
- State testing discussion.
- Discussed a book about case studies and equity.

## E. Student Body Government

No report given.

#### F. Wellness Committee

- Maintenance director shared some of the things they are doing around the campus to ensure that buildings are staying clean.
- Ionization units have been installed to help sanitize the air.
- PPE inventory, still low on clorox wipes.
- Hazard assessment will be done on the school corridor at MSAD, hoping to get done this summer.
- New water fountains will be installed with water bottle fillers, drinking spouts on fountains will not be available for use at this time.
- Walk through on science labs for safety purposes went well.
- Need to catch up on fire drills and lockdowns.
- Discussed having a scavenger hunt for locations of fire extinguishers.
- Reminder to staff to complete health screenings.
- More vaccine opportunities for staff will soon be coming.
- COVID testing available every other Wednesday for staff.

#### G. Site Council Chair

No report given.

#### 4. Old Business

- Continued Homecoming discussion. Possibly piggybacking with MSAD Homecoming. Will discuss at next month's meeting.
- Key areas for the week include:
  1. School spirit, organized by student council.
  2. Historical display.
  3. Alumni event.
  4. Parent group, to help organize some events for the students.
  5. Main event – Thursday evening. Friday lunch for alumni, along with student, staff, parent celebration.

#### 5. New Business

- Policy #211 Criminal or Civil Action
- Policy #450 Volunteer Policy
- Policy #744 MSA Fundraising
- Joint Site Council Interviews of Board Applicants on February 9.

## **6. Committee Work**

- History Committee – The MDL information, which is a senior class photo project, still working on identify students in the pictures.
- Throwback Thursday started last month, video or audio information to share with the group.
- We have someone transferring our VHS tapes into a digital format.
- Working on school spirit exhibit, along with video archive.

## **7. Announcements**

No report given.

## **8. Adjourn**

- A motion by Rian Copeland, seconded by Jenny Pelletier to adjourn the MSAB Site Council meeting. The motion was carried with all in favor.
- The MSAB Site Council will meet on March 4, 2021 at 2:00 pm.

Policy #: <b>751</b>
Title: <b>MSA LIBRARY COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT</b>
Date of Initial Approval: <b>NEW</b>
Revision/Re-authorization Dates:
Reviewers: MSA Superintendent; MSA Campus Directors; MSA Director of Student Support Services; MSA Librarian; MSA Library Committee

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to act as a guide for Minnesota State Academies (MSA) libraries, primarily **the MSAD student library**, to assign responsibilities and develop strategies that foster literacy development at MSA and to ensure school community participation in decisions regarding selection, purchase, and as needed, removal of library books, resources, media, and materials. Other libraries may be added to the scope of this policy as determined by the MSA Library Committee (i.e. curriculum libraries, subject-specific libraries, etc.)

**II. MISSION STATEMENT OF THE MSA LIBRARIES**

The mission of the MSA libraries is to foster language development and growth within a supportive learning environment that includes all aspects of informational resources in multiple formats and accessibility. Through culturally responsive material, the MSA libraries encourage students to become critical thinkers, innovative learners, and lifelong readers.

**III. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

The MSA board recognizes that MSA libraries are a vital component of student success. The MSA board also assigns the responsibility of selection, purchase, and removal of library books, resources, media, and materials to the MSA Library Committee.

The MSA Libraries have five primary roles:

1. Deliver current, accessible materials of high interest in a variety of formats for students of all ages and their families.
2. Maintain collaboration between library staff and educational staff by providing timely, accurate information and instruction.
3. Utilize resources which are technologically advanced to foster language development and growth.
4. Provide access to learning for students by promoting enjoyment of reading, curiosity for information, and space for innovation.
5. Collaborate with the Minnesota Resource Libraries and other agencies to obtain resources for students and staff.

**IV. DEFINITIONS**

**A. MSA Library Committee** - composed of librarian(s), one administrator, and at least one educational staff member. The committee will invite additional participants as needed to reflect the current library needs (i.e. elementary teachers for purchasing elementary level books). The committee will meet once a month. The Library Committee members, other than the librarian, will serve a two-year term for consistency purposes.

- B. Materials** - print and non-print items that are available for teachers, educational staff, and students and their families. This includes materials such as classroom book sets, supplemental resources, and magazine subscriptions (i.e. Scholastic Weekly Reader).
- C. Curriculum and Related Materials** – print and non-print items related to classroom curriculum content (i.e. textbooks, workbooks, supplemental books, videos) This does not pertain to curriculum as that is covered by another department.
- D. Digital Media** – digital files and resources, including DVD, CDs, or any pre-recorded materials available to the public via the Library database and MSA-approved website(s).
- E. Multiple formats** – Resources and activities that the library provides should be available in multiple formats, including but not limited to: print and non- print materials, Braille, digital media, read aloud groups, family activities, and group & independent reading.
- F. Resources** – Resources other than books, printed material, or media which support technology-related skill development, including but not limited to 3-D printing, ASL lab, interactive monitors/panels, interactive tables, video editing programs, projectors, Visio books, Braille readers, eBooks, makerspace, and similar equipment/tools.

**V. SELECTION CRITERIA FOR LIBRARY MATERIALS**

The Library Committee is responsible for the review, evaluation, and selection of materials for the school library collection. Decisions made by the committee will be guided by the philosophy and criteria set forth in this policy. The committee works cooperatively with administrators and educational staff to provide resources that represent diverse points of view, stimulate growth in language and critical thinking skills, and promote the overall educational program. The collection of library materials is developed to meet both curricular and individual needs. To ensure that these needs are met, the committee is responsible for the application of selection criteria and use of recommended selection tools. All purchases, including gifts and donations, should meet the same selection standards.

The selection criteria below reflect the MSA libraries mission statement and supports the principles of intellectual freedom described in the Library Bills of Rights (ALA), Students' Right to Read (NCTE), and other position statements on intellectual freedom from the American Library Association and the American Association of School Libraries. The following is the book selection criteria:

- A. Appropriate for students with diverse needs:** Library materials and media should be provided to meet curricular needs and the individual needs, interests, and learning styles of all students at all levels. Materials will be made accessible as much as possible for students as required by MSA Policy #121.

- B. Appropriate for recommended levels:** Library materials and media should be accessible to students of varied abilities and meet informational and interest needs of all students.
- C. Appropriate format to effectively teach the curriculum:** Library materials and media should be available in a variety of formats, e.g. print, nonprint, electronic, multimedia, to meet the needs and learning styles of a diverse student population.
- D. Accurate in terms of content:** Library materials and media should present facts in an objective manner. Authority of the author, organization, publisher/producer should be a consideration in selection.
- E. Cost effective in terms of use:** Library materials and media should be evaluated for cost effectiveness in terms of accessibility, projected use, and durability.
- F. Free of bias and stereotypes:** Library materials and media should reflect the basic humanity of all people and be free of stereotypes, caricatures, distorted dialect, sexual bias, and other offensive characteristics. Library materials and media concerning religious, social, and political content should inform rather than indoctrinate.
- G. Pertinent to the curriculum and the objectives of the instructional program:** Library materials and media should reflect the curriculum utilized by MSA and support the objectives of MSA's instructional programs. Materials and media should be purchased to support learning that is happening within MSA classrooms.
- H. Recent copyright date as appropriate to the subject:** Library materials and media should be assessed for currency and relevance of the information as it relates to the content and purpose of the item.
- I. Reflective of the pluralistic nature of a global society:** Library materials and media should provide a global perspective and promote diversity as a positive attribute of our society. It is important to include materials by authors and illustrators of all cultures.
- J. Representative of differing viewpoints on controversial subjects:** Students have the right to information on both sides of a controversial issue. By having access to a variety of resources, students will have the knowledge base to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. The school library must provide free and equitable access to all information.

## VI. SELECTION TOOLS

The Library Committee will consider recommendations from teachers, students, and parents. Communication with teachers to assess curriculum needs and recommendations for purchase is an important part of the selection process. Suggestions from students and parents are crucial to the selection process as well. The following professional resources are available to assist the Library Committee in the selection process; however, selection is not limited to the use of these tools.

- Booklist
- School Library Journal

- Horn Book
- Book Wire
- Caldecott Medal Home Page
- Coretta Scott King Award Home
- Junior Library Guild
- Newbery Medal Home Page
- Pura Belpre Award Homepage
- Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA)
- MultiCultural Review
- Publishers Weekly
- Children's Literature Review
- Library Media Connection

## VII. PURCHASE PROCESS

The Library Committee will follow MSA policies and procedures for all purchases. The librarian will work with our business office to determine the best vendors and costs to acquire materials and media that are selected by the committee.

## VIII. GIFTS AND DONATIONS\

Aligned with MMB Statewide Operating Procedure 602-12 (Gift Acceptance), members of the school community are encouraged to support the mission of the MSA libraries through gifts in the form of materials or financial support. Monetary gifts are welcome and will be used to enhance programs and services. Items not added to the collection are recycled or donated to other organizations. The MSA librarian will ensure that all gifts and donations are acknowledged and approved by the MSA board, following established procedures.

NON-CASH GIFTS AND DONATIONS: Gifts of books and/or other materials are gratefully accepted with the understanding that the Library Committee has the final authority to approve materials that will be added to the library collection. The MSA libraries will not accept the following items:

- Magazines or newspapers
- Textbooks
- Condensed books (e.g., Reader's Digest)
- VHS tapes
- Unauthorized Digital Copies of materials/media
- Encyclopedias

### HOW TO DONATE

All donations must be arranged in advance with the MSA librarian. Donations must be in good condition and delivered in boxes. Donations that are not accepted by the MSA library will not be returned to the donor and will be donated or recycled.

Checks for monetary gifts to the library should be made out to the Minnesota State Academies with the memo listing the MSA Libraries.

## IX. INVENTORY PROCEDURE

## **1. Reviewing Library Materials**

The Minnesota State Academies Libraries recognize the importance of maintaining a collection of relevant, accurate, and useful materials. A good collection development plan must include reviewing inventory and determining items to be removed. This process is a key part of assessing the collection. The following guidelines have been developed to help in the review/removal process; however, the final decision concerning the removal or replacement of materials rests with the Library Committee.

### **B. Guidelines**

The Library Committee will attempt to re-introduce unused/unpopular books that have not been checked out for a long time into a special exhibit to try to garner interest. If certain books have not been checked out for a lengthy period of time, the librarian will remove the books from circulation and go through the review/removal process. To determine which library materials should be removed, the Library Committee will make decisions based on the following guidelines:

- Are they in poor physical condition?
- Are they outdated in content, use, or accuracy?
- Are they poor in quality?
- Are they biased or portray stereotypes?
- Are they inappropriate in reading level?
- Do they duplicate information no longer in heavy demand?
- Are they not compatible with general selection criteria?

### **C. Removing Library Materials**

Withdrawn materials may be distributed to classrooms (only if appropriate), recycled, donated, or discarded.

## **V. RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS**

The MSA Libraries abide by the philosophy expressed in the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights and the American Association of School Librarians' School Library Bill of Rights for School Library Media Programs.

If a requested purchase is declined by the librarian's supervisor for reasons other than financial constraints, the Library Committee may review the reasons given, and if appropriate/desired, appeal the decision to the superintendent's office. This appeal should be in written form and include reasons for the appeal. A copy of the reasons given for the declined purchase should also accompany this request. The superintendent's office will respond within 5 working days.

Declined purchases will be kept on record in the library for future reference and utilized in response to future requests for the same item.

The Library Committee also recognizes that materials or media selected for the MSA Libraries may be challenged or questioned, despite the care taken in selecting them. Complaints about materials or media purchased by the MSA libraries should be made to the librarian and brought to the MSA Library Committee for review and response.

**Legal References:**

*Minn. Stat. § 121A.03, Subd. 2 (Sexual, Religious, and Racial Harassment and Violence Policy)*  
*Minn. Stat. Ch. 363A (Minnesota Human Rights Act)*  
*42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq. (Americans with Disabilities Act)*

**Cross References:**

*TSD Model Policy (Library Collection Development Procedures)*  
*American Library Association. (October 2008). Workbook for selection policy writing.*  
<http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=dealing&Template/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=11173> (Accessed May 12, 2020)  
*Berkeley Public Library. (May 2017). Donations Policy.* <http://www.berkeleypl.org/policies/donations> (Accessed May 12, 2020)  
*Terrebonne Parish Library. (August 19, 1999). Library policies.* <http://mytpl.org/library-policies/> (Accessed May 12, 2020).  
*University Laboratory High School Library. (2014). Collection development.*  
<https://www.library.illinois.edu/uni/policies/collectiondevelopment/> (Accessed May 12, 2020).