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LHCS Statement of Purpose

We believe it is our responsibility as Christians to raise children in the light of God's Word. The education of children must be Christ-centered, equipping them to become responsive disciples of Christ who seek the will of the Lord in all aspects of life.

LHCS Mission Statement

Kitchener-Waterloo Christian School Society advances dynamic, excellent Christ-centered education through unconstrained facilities, exceptional programs, and extensive resources that cultivate responsive disciples of Christ.

LHCS Vision Statement

As a diverse community, Kitchener Waterloo Christian School Society intentionally engages God's world, locally and globally, through distinctive educational programming, strategic partnerships and sustainable growth.

Effective Date:	<i>June, 2000</i>	Review Date:	<i>April, 2014</i>
Revision Date(s):	<i>April, 2009</i>	Committee:	<i>Program Committee</i>

Policy 704 – Library Policy

Preamble:

God created people in his own image, and this image includes the capacity for love and worship, to live in community and the amazing capacity to re-create, to be imaginative, playful and inventive. All humans, believers and non-believers alike, have this wonderful gift. It is therefore appropriate to study, to read, original, inventive and artistic literature from all cultures and backgrounds, ranging from the classics of the ancient world to the novels, stories and poetry of our own time.

Books will be selected on the basis of suitability to the educational environment of our school with sensitivity to the values and tastes of our community. At the same time, we will be sure that we do not exclude works that challenge us in a healthy way to rethink our personal prejudices and preconceptions about what is good or wholesome or beautiful.

Policy Statements:

1. A library aids in the development of a discerning Christian mind and spirit, reflecting the educational principles of the Christian school.
2. The library will provide materials that promote the curiosity and development of each individual student.
3. The library will encourage reading as a recreational activity; that is, it will promote a love of literature, books and leisure reading.

4. The library will enlarge the child's experience by providing a wide range of encounters with God's creation. It will allow the student to meet other people in other places and times going beyond the possibilities of his own life.
5. The library will support the teaching of language arts and literary awareness.
6. The library will be broad in its scope to meet the needs of the whole child as well as the needs of a great range of students.
7. The library will provide a wide range of resource materials so that reference skills can be taught in a meaningful context.
8. The library will be an excellent teacher resource.

Criteria for Selection of Materials

Non-Fiction

- Is it useful as part of the school's curriculum?
- Is the content accurate and up-to-date?
- Is the style of writing appropriate for the intended age level?
- Is the scope and depth coverage adequate for all levels of instruction for which the material is intended?

Fiction

- Does it increase the student's understanding of a particular age or culture, its way and view of life?
- Does it acquaint the reader with non-Christian concepts which have significantly influenced society?
- Does the work have the potential of engaging and exercising the reader's powers of imagination?
- Does the work have the potential of providing the reader with a significant and/or enjoyable experience?
- Are efforts being made to include quality Christian literature?
- Is the style of writing appropriate for the intended age level?

Selection Aids

In making selection of books, the library committee will use such aids as the Ontario Library Association, award winners, curriculum based non-fiction books, book reviews in professional and/or Christian publications, and requests by staff and students.

Library Committee:

- The library committee is an ad hoc committee of the program committee.
- The library committee shall be made up of two parents and two staff members.
- This committee will have the authority and responsibility for selection of all print and non-print materials. Administration, faculty, students and parents may be involved in the selection process.
- The committee will find volunteers to work in the library and maintain the data base of the library inventory.

Procedures:

1. Teachers are asked to return books the day before the scheduled library day.
2. Each class will have a time scheduled for taking out new books.
3. Students will be attended by their teacher when they are in the library.
4. Students are to behave in an orderly fashion.
5. The number of books taken out will be left to the discretion of the classroom teacher.

6. Teachers will receive a list of overdue books, and then they are responsible for encouraging students to return these books.
7. Students will pay the replacement cost of lost or damaged books.
8. Final report cards will not be issued in June until all books are returned or fines paid.
9. If parental concerns do arise concerning a specific book, a form is available upon request from the library committee. Definite questions will be answered about the book in question and submitted to the committee for further evaluation. If the parent and the committee can not come to an agreement, the program committee can be consulted to make the ultimate decision. (See attached form). A list will be kept of all books not deemed suitable for the LHCS library.

Library Policy – Request for Review of a Book Form

Author _____ Hardcover _____

Paperback _____

Title _____

Publisher (if known) _____

Request initiated by _____

1. From a Christian perspective to what in the book do you object? (Please be specific; cite pages.)

2. What do you feel might be the result of reading this book?

3. For what age group would you recommend this book? _____

4. Is there anything good about this book?

5. Did you read the entire book? _____ What parts? _____

6. Have you read any reviews of this book by literary critics?

7. What do you believe is the theme of this book? _____

8. What would you suggest the library committee do about this book?

_____ do not assign it to my child

_____ send it back to the committee for re-evaluation

9. In its place, what book of equal literary quality would you recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of our civilization?
