



## **MSBSD Library FAQ 2023**

### **1. How can I see what books are in MSBSD libraries?**

The District Online Library Catalog is available to students, parents, and the public.  
<https://tinyurl.com/4eym7f3p>

### **2. How do I see what books my student has checked out?**

Students and parents can log in to a student's account using the link above.  
Library Account Login Directions

### **3. How are books selected for MSBSD libraries?**

The librarian at each school shall select materials in consultation with the principal, department chairpersons, and teachers. Materials should support and enrich the curriculum; growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards; and present opposing sides of controversial issues.

### **4. How do I proceed if I am concerned about a book(s) in a school library?**

If the concern can not be resolved at the school level, the principal will bring the matter forward to their supervisor. The district library committee will evaluate the book's educational or literary value using Alaska Statute 11.61.128 as the criteria.

### **5. Who can challenge books in MSBSD libraries?**

Any parent/guardian, student, an employee of the MSBSD, or community member residing within the Mat-Su Borough can challenge a book in a school library.

### **6. Who is on the MSBSD district library committee?**

The district library committee should include an odd number of members. Members include parents, community members, certified librarians, board members, and certified staff.

### **7. How often will the district library committee meet?**

The district library committee will meet as needed.

### **8. How can I apply to be on the district library committee?**

The MSBSD requires interested participants to fill out an application to participate in the district library committee process.

**9. What criteria will the district library committee use to evaluate the educational or literary value of books?**

The district library committee will use AK Statute 11.61.128 as the criteria when deciding on the educational or literary value of the book(s) being questioned.

**10. Can parents be given approval and notification rights regarding books checked out of school libraries?**

The MSBSD is currently looking into the process to provide parents with approval and notification rights regarding books checked out of school libraries.

**11. Why do schools host book fairs?**

Book fairs encourage literacy and empower students to choose books for their personal library. Moreover, many school libraries rely on book fairs as their primary source of funding, which enables them to purchase library books.

**12. Will parents receive advance notification of book fairs?**

Schools will notify parents two weeks before any book fairs are held.

**13. Will parents be able to view the books being displayed at book fairs?**

Parents will be notified two weeks before book fairs and provided with the list of books to be displayed.

**14. Can parents opt their student(s) out of the school's book fair?**

Yes. Parents have discretion to opt their student/s out of book fair participation.

**15. Does the MSBSD mandate book fairs?**

Book fairs are held at a school's discretion.

