

Library Collection Weeding Report — Picture Books

School: Pipestone Area Schools

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Surplus

At a Glance

This letter summarizes a routine weeding of the Pipestone Area Schools library picture book collection, in which 126 titles were removed as part of ongoing, professional collection maintenance. Weeding is a standard library practice used to keep collections current, accurate, and useful — and is guided by established standards such as the CREW Method. Books were selected for removal due to outdated content, low circulation, poor condition, space considerations, and a shift toward intentional hand-selection of titles rather than automated subscription curation. All removed materials will be handled responsibly through board approved methods such as sale for library credit through an online site we already use to purchase, student giveaway, donation, or recycling. This is routine work and this letter is simply meant to keep the board informed.

1. Introduction: What Is Weeding and Why Does It Matter?

Weeding is a standard, accepted library practice guided by established professional standards such as the CREW Method (Continuous Review, Evaluation, and Weeding), developed by the Texas State Library. A healthy library collection is not measured by size alone, but by relevance, accuracy, usability, and condition. Weeding is a proactive, ongoing part of collection development—the same kind of professional judgment that guides purchasing decisions. Most school libraries maintain a collection development policy that includes regular weeding as a core component.

2. Collection Review: Picture Books

During a recent review of the picture book collection, **126 picture books were identified for removal**. The materials were selected for removal for the following reasons:

- **Outdated content** — Books containing information, themes, or representations that are no longer current, accurate, or appropriate for today's students.
- **Low or no circulation** — Books that have seen little to no checkout activity, indicating they are not meeting student or instructional needs.
- **Poor physical condition** — Books that are worn, damaged, or otherwise no longer suitable for circulation.
- **Space needs** — Removing older, unused materials frees valuable shelf space for new, relevant titles that better serve students.