



STATEMENT OF CONCERN POLICY

POLICY NO. 290 - Approved & Adopted 12/13/2023

The role of the Warrenville Public Library District (WPLD) is to provide opportunities that will allow individuals to freely examine subjects and make their own decisions. While library users are free to reject for themselves and their own children what they do not approve of, they cannot exercise this right of censorship to restrict the freedom of access to others.

The WPLD Board and Executive Director are aware users may take issue with the inclusion of specific items, programs or practices. Concerns will be dealt with promptly and courteously as detailed in the following process. The WPLD will only consider those concerns brought by District residents or business owners.

Bringing a Concern:

- Concerned residents will be referred to the Public Services Manager:
 - The Public Services Manager will schedule a time to review the concerns with the resident.
 - If appropriate, the Public Services Manager will explain the relevant policy or criteria.
 - Should this discussion prove unfeasible or fail to address the resident's concerns, they may complete and submit a "Statement of Concern about Library Resources," available at the Youth and Adult Services Desks, to the Executive Director.
- After receipt of a "Statement of Concern about Library Resources" form:
 - The Executive Director will appoint a committee of appropriate staff to review the concern and notify the Board.
 - The committee will thoroughly review the item, program or policy in question, consider the resident's statement and send a recommended response to the Executive Director.
 - The Executive Director will make a decision regarding the committee's recommendation and convey that decision in writing to the resident. The Executive Director will also forward this response to the Board for their information.
- If not satisfied by the Executive Director's decision:
 - The resident may appeal to the Library Board of Trustees by making a written request to place the item on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the Board.
 - Please note this board meeting will be conducted in open session and the "Statement of Concern about Library Resources" form will be made public.
 - The Board will determine whether the Statement of Concern has been handled in accordance with the Library's policies and procedures. On the basis of this

determination, the Board may vote to uphold or override the decision of the staff.

- The decision of the Board is final.
 - The Executive Director will respond to the resident in writing to explain the Board's decision.
 - Following a final decision made by the Board of Trustees, similar Statements of Concern for the same library resource will not be reviewed for a period of two years.