

Archdiocese of Philadelphia Secondary School System Library Standards

The Catholic school community strives to make its faith commitment a complement to academic excellence by developing a curriculum that leads all students to Christ as it prepares them a successful life in the twenty-first century. It is a curriculum that recognizes the sanctity of each human life while affirming the dignity of each person as a unique creation of God. It is a curriculum that is intended to offer all students the opportunity to study the world at many levels of complexity, through a variety of courses.

Schools of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia shall teach, challenge, and support every student to realize his/her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skill to achieve the general standards in information literacy. These standards are written to reflect the integration of classroom content and library research.

Vision Statement

Library services enhance the quality of instruction to improve student achievement. The secondary school libraries of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia are committed to teach information literacy, provide curriculum consultation and encourage life long learning. It is also part of our mission to foster an appreciation of reading.

General Standards

- Accesses information efficiently and effectively
- Evaluates information critically and competently
- Uses information effectively, accurately and creatively
- Pursues information independently for personal interest
- Practices ethical usage of information and information sources

General Standard: Accesses information

Content Standard

- Students will demonstrate the ability to locate materials

Competency standards

The student who is information literate:

- Formulates questions based on information needs
- Identifies a variety of potential information sources
- Develops and uses successful strategies for locating information

General Standard: Evaluates information

Content standard

- Demonstrates the ability to review and evaluate select media for an identified information need

Competency standards

The student who is information literate:

- Determines accuracy, relevance and comprehensiveness
- Distinguishes among fact, point of view, and opinion
- Identifies inaccurate and misleading information
- Selects information appropriate to the problem or question at hand

General Standard: Uses information accurately, creatively

Content standard

- Demonstrates the ability to retrieve and manage information in a variety of formats

Competency standards:

The student who is information literate:

- Organizes information for practical application
- Produces and communicates information and ideas in appropriate formats

General Standard: Pursues information for personal interest

Content standard

- Demonstrates an appreciation of books and other media as sources of information and recreation

Competency standards

The student who is information literate and an independent learner:

- Seeks information related to various dimensions of personal well being
- Is a self motivated reader

General Standard: Ethical usage

Content standard:

- Demonstrates a knowledge of standard forms of bibliographic citation, copyright issues and plagiarism

Competency standards:

The student who is information literate and an independent learner:

- Respects the principles of intellectual freedom
- Respects intellectual property rights
- Uses information technology responsibly