

Request for Reconsideration

The Schuyler Public Library (SPL) believes in the freedom of information and will not restrict a user's right to read, listen to, or view library materials. The Library Director and staff follow the library's Collection Development Policy and strive to provide access to a wide range of materials representing varying points of view, without promoting a single perspective. SPL upholds the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read, and the Freedom to View statements.

In the event that a patron feels that specific library materials are offensive or inappropriate, or that an item should be removed or reclassified, the following steps may be taken, though SPL encourages the public to first talk to a librarian about their concerns.

1. The patron should complete a Request for Reconsideration form and turn it in to the Library. Patrons and/or households are limited to five reconsideration requests in any calendar year. The individual submitting the request must be a current patron of the Schuyler Public Library. One form with all entries answered must be completed for each item/program/service for reconsideration. Lists of items will not be accepted for reconsideration. The completed form will go to the Library Director and selecting librarian responsible for the development and selection of the item's area of the collection.

2. The Director will send acknowledgment of receipt of the Request for Reconsideration form to the patron within 10 days of its receipt. Staff will evaluate journal reviews, selection criteria used to purchase the item, and materials submitted by the patron and staff. A written response will be made by the Library Director within 30 days of receiving the formal objection.

3. If the librarian's response does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the patron may request, in writing, that the matter be presented and reviewed by the Library Board. The patron's Request for Reconsideration form and review materials will be forwarded to the Library Board for review. A decision will be made by the Library Board at a regularly-scheduled meeting and, once a decision has been rendered, the patron will receive written notification from the Board within 10 days. The decision of the Library Board is final. An item/program/service will only be evaluated for reconsideration once within a 12-month period.

The Library does not have control over the content of certain electronic collections, including those administered by the Nebraska Library Commission, or over materials that may be available through interlibrary loan from other libraries.

The material in question will remain active in the collection during the review process.

Amended: March 14, 2023, Mel Baumert, President, SPL Board of Trustees