



Updated July 15, 2025

SB 13 Implementation FAQs

DISCLAIMER: The information documented below is intended to convey general information only and not to provide legal advice or opinions. The information shared below should not be construed as or be relied upon as legal advice in any particular circumstance or factual situation. The information may not reflect the most current legal developments. An attorney should be contacted for advice on specific legal questions, issues, and/or interpretation of the law.

This FAQ document outlines our understanding of the broad requirements of the new law and its general implications for school libraries across Texas. Because each of the more than 1200 school districts in Texas operates under its own unique policies, procedures, and legal interpretations, we are unable to address specific scenarios. Librarians should work closely with their campus and district administrators, as well as district legal counsel, to determine how the law will be implemented locally.

This document will be updated as the Texas Library Association receives new information. If you have questions that are not addressed by these FAQs, please submit them via this [online form](#).

[SB 13 full text](#), as passed and signed by Governor Abbott.

Timeline

SB 13 is effective September 1, 2025.

School boards are required to adopt a policy for acquisition of library materials before the first day of the 2025-2026 school year.

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) is required to update and adopt the school library collection development standards by April 1, 2026.

The Texas Education Agency is directed to adopt a model acquisition policy which school districts may choose to use as soon as practicable. The agency is also directed to adopt a form to be used for making written challenges which districts are required to use. According to TEA's [timeline for implementing legislation](#) from the 89th session, SB 13 library policies will be issued in August.

TASB released updated EFB Local policies in July. District administrators are directed to contact their TASB policy consultant to obtain the policies.

Questions Grouped by topic

General Compliance and Implementation	Acquisitions of Library Materials	Challenge or Appeal of Library Materials	Classroom Libraries & Instructional Materials for Curriculum	Definitions
Donations, Subscriptions, External Partnerships, Vendor Relations	Local School Library Advisory Councils	Mandatory Collection Development Standards	Parental Access to Library Catalog	

General Compliance and Implementation

What does my district need to be doing now to comply with SB 13?

Become familiar with SB13. TASB issued updated EFB Local policies in July. District library leadership should meet with district administration to make a district plan and workflow for ordering materials based on your district and school board's interpretation of the bill. New materials will need to proceed through several steps prior to arriving in the district. Libraries without a coordinator should work with their district supervisor directly.

What is my role as a campus librarian in helping my district comply?

Campus librarians should become familiar with the text of SB13. Follow the guidance of your district administration and school board policy. Be aware that you will need to make changes to your current ordering process. Be prepared to submit your book orders in a readable format for others to approve per your district process.

Do the requirements in SB 13 replace those in HB 900 or are they in addition to HB 900 requirements?

SB 13 and HB 900 both add new requirements for school libraries to the Texas Education Code. SB 13 does not replace HB 900.

Can my district place orders now until August 31 without board approval since the law is not effective until September 1?

The law is effective September 1, but districts are required to have an acquisition policy in place at the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year which may be earlier than September 1. Discuss options for purchasing before the start of the school year and September 1 with your district administration and legal counsel.

Will I have to remove materials that were previously purchased that do not meet these guidelines?

No. The law does not require a review or removal of existing library materials purchased following the district's approved collection development policies.

Is there any chance that this will be delayed with court challenges like HB 900?

We are not aware of any legal challenges being filed.

Will TASB have a recommended board policy for acquisition for districts to adopt?

Yes, TASB released updated EFB policies in July 2025. Contact your district administrator for more information about the EFB policies.

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Acquisition of Library Materials (Section 33.026)

Is the acquisition policy required by this section part of the TSLAC mandatory collection development standards? Or is it a separate policy?

The law requires school boards to adopt an acquisition policy before the start of the 2025-2026 school year. The acquisition policy required by Section 33.026 and the collection development standards approved under Section 33.021 are interconnected.

Districts must follow the mandatory collection development standards when selecting books for acquisition. The acquisition policy required by Section 33.026 and the collection development standards approved under Section 33.021 are interconnected.

In essence, the collection development standards (Section 33.021) define *what* content is permissible in school libraries, including classroom libraries. The acquisition policy (Section 33.026) outlines *how* materials are to be obtained and approved, and it is explicitly required to follow the guidelines set forth in those state-approved collection development standards. Therefore, while distinct, the acquisition policy functions as the procedural arm for implementing the content standards.

When will TEA issue its model acquisition policy?

TEA is expected to release its model acquisition policy in August 2025.

Districts are required to have an acquisition policy by the start of the school year. If TEA doesn't issue a model acquisition policy before that, do districts just come up with their own? Will they be required to update/change their policy when TEA issues theirs?

The law does not require districts to adopt the model TEA acquisition policy. TASB released updated EFB policies in July, which include acquisition policies that are in compliance with SB 13. Districts are responsible for creating or adopting a policy that fulfills the requirements of Section 33.026 before the start of the school year. Districts are not required to update or change approved policies when the TEA model policy is released.

Will the acquisition policy be included in TASBs EFB Legal and EFB Local policies?

TASB released updated EFB Local policies in July, which include acquisition policies that are in compliance with SB 13.

What information is required to be included in the list of materials for purchase posted for public comment?

The law does not specify what information to include in the list of materials posted for public comment. Districts will determine what information to provide. While a district would logically include identifying information such as titles and authors for public review, the law does not prescribe these specific data points.

Where do districts have to post the purchase list so it is accessible for public comment? Online or can it be posted in the office of each campus?

The law requires that the list of library materials donated to or proposed for acquisition by the school library be *accessible for review by the public* for at least 30 days before final approval. It does not specify the format of the list, or where or how the list must be made available for public comment. Districts will define how they will ensure this public accessibility in their guidelines and policies.

How do parents comment on the proposed list?

The law requires library materials donated to or proposed for purchase to be accessible for review by the public for at least 30 days before final board approval. It does not specify the methods or procedures for how the public is to "comment" on the proposed list during the 30-day review period.

Districts, when developing guidelines and policies, will need to define procedures for how the public can provide input during this review period, perhaps modeled after other district public comment processes.

What happens if a title receives negative public comments?

The law does not describe a separate, formal "comment resolution" process for individual titles receiving negative public comments during the *acquisition* phase. Public comments would likely be part of the overall input considered by the board of trustees (*and the local school library advisory council if the district establishes one*) when they make their final decision to approve or reject the proposed list in an open meeting. Districts will determine the process to follow if a title receives a negative comment during the public comment period.

What kind of training on library services and collection development will school board members receive? Who will provide it?

The law does not address what, if any, training school board members should receive. Districts will determine what training should be provided and by whom.

Do materials currently in the library collection that need to be replaced (wear/tear/lost/etc.), also need to be posted for 30 days and approved by the board before replacement?

If a book is being replaced because it is worn, torn, or lost, and it has the *exact same ISBN* as the one already in the catalog, the 30-day public posting and board approval is not needed.

However, if the *ISBN is different*, the replacement copy must be posted for public comment and approved for purchase by the school board.

Does the requirement that the school board approve library purchases include all purchases such as supplies and incentives, or just book purchases?

School board approval and 30-day posting requirements for library purchases apply specifically to "library materials" as defined by the law, and not to general library purchases such as supplies or incentives.

Library materials are defined as "any book, record, file, or other instrument or document in a school district's library catalog. The term does not include instructional material, as defined by Section 31.002, or materials procured for the TexShare consortium under Subchapter M, Chapter 441, Government Code.

Can we purchase books for the library from a limited-time event, such as using profits from a book fair to buy books directly from the fair shelves at a discount without going through the 30-day public comment period and board approval process?

Books purchased from book fairs are subject to the 30-day public review and subsequent board approval process unless the books you wish to purchase from a book fair strictly meet one of these narrow exemptions:

- replace a damaged copy with the same ISBN that is currently in the catalog
- additional copies of a title with the same ISBN that is current in the catalog
- has the same ISBN and has been approved for the same grade levels by the school board from a previously proposed list of library materials

This means that selecting books from the fair and then waiting for the required public review period and board meeting to approve them would likely prevent an immediate purchase from the fair shelves, as the fair is a limited-time event.

If a book is already in the district's catalog, and a librarian wants to purchase a new copy of that book next year, does it have to be posted for public comment and approved by the board?

It depends. SB 13 includes the following narrow exemptions from the 30-day public comment and board approval requirements:

- replace a damaged copy with the same ISBN that is currently in the catalog
- additional copies of a title with the same ISBN that is current in the catalog
- has the same ISBN and has been approved for the same grade levels by the school board from a previously proposed list of library materials

If the book to be purchased meets one of those criteria, then it does not require board approval. If it does not (i.e. ISBNs don't match), then the book will have to be posted for 30-day public comment and approved by the board.

Can the purchasing lists be posted before board approval?

Yes. SB 13 requires that the purchasing list be posted for public comment for 30 days prior to board approval, and the board is required to take action on the list at the first board meeting held after that 30-day public comment period. For example, a list posted for public comment from Sept. 1 - Sept. 30 would be approved by the school board at their October meeting.

Can we request a deadline for the school board on book approvals so that we can receive book orders in a timely fashion?

SB 13 requires that the board of trustees approve or reject the list of materials proposed for purchase at the first open meeting of the board held on or after the 30th day after the list was made accessible for public review. This means the earliest the board can vote is after the full 30-day public review period has elapsed, and then it depends on their meeting schedule.

Librarians should work with district administration to establish a process that works with the board meeting schedule and budget/purchasing timeline. By ensuring that purchase lists are ready to post for the 30-day public comment period and subsequent board approval, you maximize the likelihood of receiving new orders in a timely manner.

The librarians in my district have to close out our budgets by mid-February every year. Can we still create open POs (e.g., with Amazon) and seek board approval later before ordering?

To ensure compliance given a mid-February budget close-out, for the 2025-2026 school year and beyond, you would need to ensure that the books you plan to purchase with those funds have already been posted for public comment and approved by the board *before* the budget close-out deadline. An "open PO" would then only be permissible for purchasing from that approved list of specific titles. This requires significant advance planning for library material selection, public comment and board approval process.

The law says "purchased" books must be posted, but what about ones that are donated from the community, vendors, from reading lists, conferences, etc.?

Books donated to the school library must follow the same acquisition procedures. Sec. 33.026 of SB 13 outlines the requirements for acquisition of library materials. These requirements (post for 30 day public comment, board approval) apply to "all library materials that have been **donated** to or that are to be **procured**."

Regardless of whether books are purchased or received as donations from the community, vendors, or elsewhere, if they are new titles (i.e., not exact duplicates or replacements of already approved books with the same ISBN), they are subject to the public review and board approval process.

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Challenge or Appeal of Library Materials (Section 33.027)

Will TSLAC include reconsideration process and procedures that comply with SB 13 in their updated mandated standards?

TSLAC is required to update the mandatory collection development standards, which include reconsideration processes to comply with new SB13 requirements by April 1, 2026.

Will TASB include reconsideration processes that comply with SB 13 in an updated EFB Legal and EFB Local?

TASB released updated EFB Local policies in July, 2025. Contact your district administrator for more information. The updated policies do include reconsideration processes which comply with the new SB 13 requirements.

How should districts manage reconsideration until updated standards are final in April 2026?

TASB released updated EFB Local policies in July, 2025. Contact your district administrator for more information. The updated policies do include reconsideration processes which comply with the new SB 13 requirements.

Does this prohibit districts from having informal reconsideration policies?

SB 13 outlines formal and structured processes for challenging library materials, but it does not explicitly mention or prohibit informal reconsideration policies.

Can districts still establish review committees at the campus level to respond to challenges? Or are all challenges decided by the school board?

SB 13 does not specifically prohibit districts from having campus-level review committees to evaluate challenged materials. However, these committees are part of a formal, mandated process, and the school board retains the ultimate authority to approve or reject the removal or retention of materials.

Are districts required to use the TEA form for making a written challenge?

Districts will be required to use the TEA challenge form. This form must be posted on the district website. The form will require the person submitting the form to identify how the material violates the library standards.

TEA is expected to release materials related to SB 13 in August 2025.

When the TEA form is drafted will it include a way to collect information to verify that the challenge is coming from a parent or community member?

SB 13 defines a person who is eligible to submit a challenge as: "A parent of or person standing in parental relation to a student enrolled in a school district, a person employed by the district, or a person residing in the district".

The law does not explicitly state that the form provided by TEA must include a specific mechanism to collect information for the purpose of determining if the challenger is a parent, district employee, or community member.

What form are districts to use until that form is available?

There is no provision in SB 13 that addresses what form should be used for challenges during the time before the official TEA form is adopted and made available. Districts must determine how they choose to address reconsideration requests in compliance with SB 13 until the TEA form is available

Is the board required to read and consider the challenged material as a whole before making a decision on a reconsideration request?

SB 13 does not explicitly state that the board of trustees is required to read and consider the challenged material "as a whole" before making a decision on a reconsideration request or appeal.

However, SB 13 does specify several factors that the board shall consider when taking action on a written challenge or an appeal:

- If applicable, the advice of the Local School Library Advisory Council
- Suitability for subject and grade level

- Adherence to mandated library standards. including a collection development policy that prohibits certain types of content, such as harmful material, sexually explicit material, pervasively vulgar or educationally unsuitable material, or material containing indecent or profane content. The standards also prohibit the removal of material based solely on the ideas contained in it or the personal background of the author or characters.
- Reviews by academic experts specializing in the subject covered or in the education of students in the relevant subject and grade level

Can individuals file an appeal to the board to reconsider materials that have already been removed from the school library under previous challenges?

The law states that individuals can file “an appeal of an action taken by the district in response to a written challenge.” It does not specify a timeline to appeal a decision to remove material. However, if the initial decision was to retain the material, the board is not required to take action in response to a challenge to that material for two years after the determination to retain was made.

Will the board receive training on how to determine if the library material is suitable for the grade level it is intended for?

There are no requirements for Board training included in SB13. Districts will determine what, if any, training should be provided.

Do materials that are challenged have to be removed from the library catalog until the final decision is made?

Yes. SB 13 mandates that districts prohibit students enrolled in the district from accessing the library material that is being challenged until the district takes action in response to the challenge.

If the decision is to remove the library material, it must be removed from the district’s school library catalog, and teachers must be notified of the decision and remove the material from their classroom libraries if they have it.

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Classroom Libraries & Instructional Materials for Curriculum

How does the new law affect materials in our library and classroom collections that are currently, or have been, included in our English curriculum?

SB 13 defines “library material” as “any book, record, file, or other instrument or document in a school district’s library catalog. ***The term does not include instructional material, as defined by Section 31.002 of the Texas Education Code***, or materials procured for the TexShare consortium under Subchapter M, Chapter 441, Government Code.

SB 13 does not limit the acquisition of instructional materials necessary for teaching of, instruction in, or demonstration of knowledge of the essential knowledge and skills. Most districts should have already adopted separate EFB (library materials) and EFA (instructional materials) policies.

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Definitions (Section 33.020)

Will TEA, TASB, or TSLAC be providing guidance on how to interpret these definitions and apply these broadcast standards to library materials?

The new definitions of profane content and indecent content added by SB 13 will be included in updated policies, but it is unlikely that TEA, TASB, or TSLAC will provide guidance on how to interpret or apply these definitions to library materials. Districts will determine how they will interpret and apply them.

Do these definitions allow for the material to be considered as a whole?

The definitions of profane and indecent content in SB 13 do not prohibit material from being considered as a whole. Districts will determine how these definitions will be interpreted and applied.

[FCC Definitions](#)

Does "profane" content mean that any books that include FCC prohibited words must be removed from the collection? Any books with curse words such as the f-word now must be removed?

The FCC defines "profane content" as "language that is both "so grossly offensive to members of the public who actually hear it as to amount to a nuisance" and is sexual or excretory in nature or derived from such terms. According to the [FCC website](#), factors in determining how FCC rules apply include the specific nature of the content, the time of day it was broadcast and the context in which the broadcast took place.

SB 13 prohibits profane content, the determination of "profane" is tied to its "grossly offensive" and "public nuisance" nature, further guided by local community values and age appropriateness, suggesting that context and overall suitability, rather than the isolated presence of specific words, would lead to removal.

Is there any case law where FCC guidelines have been successfully upheld in book removal policies?

We are not aware of any case law where FCC guidelines have been successfully applied to books or removal of books.

The FCC's regulatory scope is primarily broadcast and telecommunications, while book removal in libraries and schools falls under First Amendment jurisprudence.

What is the definition of "profane content"?

SB 13 defines "profane content" as "content that includes grossly offensive language that is considered a public nuisance."

FCC defines profane content to include language that is both "so grossly offensive to members of the public who actually hear it as to amount to a nuisance" and is sexual or excretory in nature or derived from such terms. Context matters. The FCC evaluates content based on language, timing, audience, and intent. [FCC Definitions](#)

What is the definition of "indecent content"?

SB 13 defines "Indecent content" as "content that portrays sexual or excretory organs or activities in a way that is patently offensive."

The FCC defines indecent speech as material that, in context, depicts or describes sexual or excretory organs or activities in terms patently offensive as measured by contemporary community standards for the broadcast medium.

In assessing whether broadcast material is patently offensive, the FCC considers the full context in which the material appeared. [FCC Definitions](#)

Does the definition of "library materials" refer to books only? Or do "library materials" include other items purchased for the library?

In SB 13, library materials are defined as "any book, record, file, or other instrument or document in a school district's library catalog. The term does not include instructional material, as defined by [Section 31.002 of the Education Code](#), or materials procured for the TexShare consortium under [Subchapter M, Chapter 441, Government Code](#).

How do these definitions from the FCC interact with the First Amendment?

According to the [FCC website](#), "The FCC is careful of First Amendment protections and the prohibitions on censorship and interference with (broadcasters') freedom of speech. Accordingly, the FCC proceeds cautiously and with appropriate restraint when determining whether broadcast material is indecent or not. The FCC has denied complaints in cases ...based on the overall context of the programming."

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Donations, Subscriptions, External Partnerships, Vendor Relations

The law says "purchased" books must be posted, but what about ones that you get donated from the community, vendors, from reading lists, conferences, etc.?

The new acquisition process applies to library materials that have been donated to the school library, as well as those that are to be purchased. SB 13 Sec. 33.026 states that *the board shall adopt a policy for the acquisition of library materials, including procedures for procurement of library materials and the receipt of donated library materials*. That policy includes making the list of items to be purchased, and items that have been donated, available for public comment before final board approval.

NOTE: Items to be purchased or that have been donated that have identical ISBNs to items already in the school library collection do not have to be posted or approved by the board (see Sec. 33.026 (f)).

How will this affect schools that utilize monthly subscription companies like Junior Library Guild? Will subscription services like these have to be canceled?

Materials to be purchased must follow the district's acquisition policy and adhere to SB 13 requirements for acquisition. Districts will need to work with their vendors to determine how their process will support these new requirements.

NOTE: Items to be purchased or that have been donated that have identical ISBNs to items already in the school library collection do not have to be posted or approved by the board (see Sec. 33.026 (f)).

How do we address titles from SORA which may not have ISBNs?

Overdrive does have ISBNs. If Overdrive materials are included in the library collection, they would be required to follow the same acquisition requirements as other library materials. Consult with your vendor and district administration on policies and procedures for working with external, online collections.

SB 13 includes the following narrow exemptions from the 30 day public comment and board approval requirements:

- replace a damaged copy with the same ISBN that is currently in the catalog
- additional copies of a title with the same ISBN that is currently in the catalog
- has the same ISBN and has been approved for the same grade levels by the school board from a previous proposed list of library materials

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Local School Library Advisory Councils (Section 33.025)

Can school employees who have children enrolled in the district serve as members of the Local School Library Advisory Council if the district has one?

The school board may choose to appoint classroom teachers, librarians and counselors, and school administrators employed by the district to the Local School Library Advisory Council as **nonvoting** members. Only parents of children enrolled in the district who are not employed by the district, may serve as **voting** members of the council.

The council must consist of at least five members, with a majority of its voting members being non-employee parents,

What kind of training on library services and collection development will members of the Advisory Council receive? Who will provide it?

The law does not address what, if any, mandatory training the council members should receive, or specify entities responsible for providing training to council members. Districts that establish advisory councils will determine what training should be provided, and by whom.

How will the school board ensure that the entire school community is represented by the members of the Advisory Council?

The law requires each member of the board to appoint an equal number of advisory council members, and the council must have a minimum of five members, the majority of which must be parents of children enrolled in the district.

SB 13 does not specify criteria for the school board to ensure comprehensive representation of the *entire* school community beyond the outlined categories for voting (parents with children in the district) and non-voting members (parents not employed by the district, classroom teachers, librarians, counselors, administrators, business community members, clergy). The decision of *who* within these categories is appointed rests with the board of trustees.

If a petition with 10% of parents in the district, or 50 parents (whichever is less) is presented in a district, how long does the district have to set up the Advisory Council? Can the district continue to purchase books as they have been until that council is operational or do they have to pause all purchasing?

The law does not specify a timeline for establishing an advisory council after a valid petition is presented. Districts would continue to operate under their existing approved acquisition policies until the council was operational.

Is the expectation that individuals who signed and/or led the work to get the Advisory Council established will be appointed to the Advisory Council?

No. The law does not require petitioners to be appointed to the School Library Advisory Council.

Does the school board have to create the School Library Advisory Council before school starts?

The law does not specify a date by which districts choosing to establish a School Library Advisory Council must have the council in place. Districts, regardless of whether or not they elect to have an advisory council, are required to adopt a policy for acquisition of library materials before the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

Does SB 13 allow a Library Advisory Council to override the legal precedent of “community” being the national community?

There are existing legal definitions and standards related to “community values” derived from state and federal court cases and legal precedents. Districts should consult with legal counsel to understand these precedents.

SB 13 does not define “local community values.” The Library Advisory Council is tasked with recommending the acquisition of library materials that meet local community values and adhere to the mandatory library collection development standards adopted by board policy.

If a district does not establish a council, how can it comply with meeting requirements outlined in SB 13?

The board of trustees is ultimately responsible for making final decisions regarding the acquisition and approval of library materials, as well as taking action on challenges to library materials. Therefore, it is the open meetings of the board of trustees where these discussions and decisions occur that must adhere to the specified meeting requirements. The board is explicitly required to approve or reject lists of library materials in an open meeting and to take action on challenges in an open meeting.

If a district decides to establish a local library advisory council, does it have to follow the recommendations of the council, or will librarians also have a voice in the process?

Librarians have input when creating the list of books to purchase. After that, the School Library Advisory Council can make recommendations to the board about material being considered for addition to the school library collection. The school board is required to consider the recommendations of the School Library Advisory Council when making its final decision.

Librarians can be part of this process if the district chooses to appoint them as non-voting members of the council where they would be able to share information and resources to provide members of the Council with information about any materials in question.

If a Local School Library Advisory Council is established, will it be per school or per district?

The School Library Advisory Councils are appointed at the district level, not the campus level.

If a Local School Library Advisory Council is established, will librarians be required or expected to serve on it? How will it be determined when/how often it meets and who the chair of the council would be?

Librarians may be appointed to the Advisory Council as non-voting members if the district chooses to do so. The law requires the Advisory Council to “meet at least two times each year, and at other times as necessary to fulfill their duties.” One of the voting members who are parents (and not employed by the district) shall serve as chair of the council. This means the chair will be a parent member, not a school employee like a librarian, even if a librarian is appointed as a nonvoting member.

Does the district’s EFB local board policy define local community values or can the School Library Advisory Council determine its own local community values standards?

SB 13 does not define “local community values.” Districts may adopt policies to reflect local priorities and values, as long as those modifications do not conflict with the law. The council does not “determine its own local community values policies” independently. Instead, it serves in an advisory role to the board of trustees.

Can a Local School Library Advisory Council override EFB Board Policy language concerning diverse books reflecting our diverse students?

The law prohibits the removal of materials based solely on the ideas they contain or the personal background of authors or characters. Library Advisory Councils **do not** have the authority to override board approved policy. The advisory council can make suggestions of changes to the policy, but the board has the final say and authority to make any changes to district policies.

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Mandatory Collection Development Standards (Section 33.021)

Do districts operate under their existing collection development policies until TSLAC issues the updated rules April 1, 2026?

SB13 is effective September 1, 2025. The law also requires districts to have new acquisition policies in place before the start of the 2025-2026 school year. This new policy must include specific prohibitions on the possession, acquisition, and purchase of various types of library materials, including:

- harmful material.
- library material rated sexually explicit by the vendor (this requirement is non-operational due to pending HB 900 litigation)
- library material that is pervasively vulgar or educationally unsuitable.
- library material containing indecent content or profane content.
- library material that refers to Internet websites containing prohibited content.

TASB released updated EFB policies in July. Contact your district administrator for information on the policies. TSLAC is required to have final, updated collection development standards by April 1, 2026.

When does TASB plan to issue updated EF Legal and EF Local policies?

TASB's updated EF Legal and EF Local policies were emailed to district superintendents and district policy contacts the week of July 7. District administration must contact their TASB policy person to request the policies.

How are we expected to know if a library material includes a URL link or QR code that goes to a website containing prohibited content?

Librarians will rely on professional reviews for guidance and follow district collection development policies and guidelines. SB 13 does not provide a process for identifying URL or QR codes.

Does the prohibition against materials with URL links or QR codes apply to databases and other online resources?

Library material that refers to a website containing content prohibited by the law by use of a link or QR code is prohibited. Library material is defined as anything in the district's library catalog, regardless of format. **TexShare materials are not included in the definition of library materials, so this would not apply to those databases.**

While SB 13 does not explicitly name "databases" as a category, the inclusion of "online catalogs" and the very comprehensive phrase "any other library catalog a student may access" strongly indicates that online resources, including databases outside of TexQuest that students access through the school library's systems or portals, fall under this prohibition. Districts should address this issue with their vendors. Discuss operational issues such as this with your district administration and legal counsel.

How do we apply the collection development standards to library mobile applications and other library catalogs a student may access like Sora, Gale eBooks, Lightbox, etc.?

Library mobile applications must follow collection development standards. Districts should communicate with vendors about compliance. Discuss operational issues such as this with your district administration and legal counsel.

Do we have to review books currently in the collection to make sure they comply with new definitions and standards?

No. The law does not require a review of library materials currently in the district's library collection.

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Parental Access to Library Catalog & Access by the Parent's Child to Certain Library Materials (Section 33.023)

Does this require us to provide check-out history for students? Should we turn that option on in our LMS if it is available?

SB 13 Section 33.024 requires that "each school district and open-enrollment charter school that uses a learning management system or an online learning portal shall, through the system or portal, provide to each parent of a child enrolled in the district or school a record of each time the parent's child checks out or otherwise uses outside the school library a library material."

This record "must include, as applicable, the title, author, genre, and return date of the library material".

If your school district utilizes an LMS or an online learning portal, you are required to use that system to provide parents with a record of the library materials their children check out or use outside the school library.

Does the law require districts to email the parent each time their child checks out a book? Would providing parent access to the student's account in Destiny, Sora etc. be sufficient to comply? OR would the check out information need to be in a parent portal like Skyward or other similar?

SB 13 Section 33.024 states "each school district and open-enrollment charter school that uses a learning management system or an online learning portal shall, through the system or portal, **provide to each parent** of a child enrolled in the district or school a record of each time the parent's child checks out or otherwise uses outside the school library a library material.

The law does not specify the method of provision, or the specific technology to be used. Email notification is not specifically required. The phrasing "provide... a record of each time" suggests that a log or history must be made accessible within the system for parents to view, rather than requiring an active push notification via email for every single check-out.

However, districts will determine how they will comply with this requirement based on their technology and interpretation of the new law.

In regard to providing the record of each time the child checks out a library material, if our LMS emails guardians with titles each time a child checks out, is this sufficient?

While email notification is not required by SB 13, if the district chooses to do so, the information provided must include the title, author, genre, and return date of the library material. If the record includes all of these items, then if a district chooses to do so, emailing guardians through the LMS should be sufficient. Discuss operational issues such as this with your district administration and legal counsel.

If a student's personal Destiny account allows them to view their checkout history, does this configuration comply with the new law?

If the "Destiny account" has a parent portal or similar functionality that allows a parent to independently access this specific log of library material usage, then that functionality would contribute to compliance. Discuss operational issues such as this with your district administration and legal counsel.

If a district chooses to email a notification to parents and guardians each time their child checks out a library material, can parents choose to opt-out of that notification?

SB 13 does not require email notification to parents each time their child checks out a book, therefore it does not contain any language allowing parents to "opt-out" of email notification. Discuss operational issues such as this with your district administration and legal counsel.

Will we need to configure our systems (if even possible) to send parents an email alert every time a student checks out a library book?

SB 13 does not mandate an immediate email alert for each individual transaction. Your LMS or online portal should facilitate parents' ability to access this accumulating information as it is recorded.

Districts must use current systems or may use funds from the district's instructional materials and technology allotment for costs associated with complying. Discuss operational issues such as this with your district administration and legal counsel.

How are we supposed to block individual titles from students? Either in our LMS or with digital titles?

S.B. 13 mandates that school districts block individual library titles for students if requested by a parent, but the law does not provide specific technical instructions on how to implement this blocking within a Learning Management System (LMS) or for digital titles.

Districts will need to establish procedures and ensure systems have the functionality to enforce these parental restrictions.

Some LMS's provide a way for parents to create a prohibited list of titles. For those that do not, districts must create a system for parents to submit a prohibited list (a Google Form, for example) and for librarians to monitor student check-out so that they can ensure students are not checking out library materials on their prohibited list.

Districts may use current systems or may use funds from the district's instructional materials and technology allotment for costs associated with complying.

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