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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** School District Superintendents

**FROM:** Jacob Oliva

**DATE:** December 2, 2022

**SUBJECT:** **New State Board of Education Rule Regarding Elementary School Website Listing of Library Media Materials**

**Contact Information:**

Amber Baumbach  
850-245-9115  
[Amber.Baumbach@fldoe.org](mailto:Amber.Baumbach@fldoe.org)  
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The Commissioner of Education has made parental rights and the assurance of transparency a high priority.

On October 19, 2022, the State Board of Education adopted [Rule 6A-7.0713, Elementary School Website Listing of Library Materials and Reading Lists](#), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). Rule 6A-7.0713, F.A.C., defines and prescribes the format for the statutory requirement under s. 1006.28(2)(d)3., F.S., that requires districts to post on elementary school websites the materials maintained in elementary school library media centers and materials found on required reading lists. The rule became effective November 22, 2022.

The rule defines “library media center” to mean books, ebooks, periodicals, etc., which can be checked-out or used by a student in any elementary school grade level, to include classroom libraries.

In addition, the rule requires that lists posted to the elementary school website be searchable by, at minimum, author and title for books and ebooks, and, at minimum, title, for all other materials.

Below is the entire rule language as adopted:

***6A-7.0713 Elementary School Website Listing of Library Materials and Reading Lists.***

*(1) Purpose. The purpose of this rule is to provide school districts with the requirements for the format districts must use on elementary school websites in order to post, and permit searches of, materials maintained in elementary school library media centers and materials found on a required school or a grade-level reading list in an elementary school.*

*(2) Definitions. In this rule, the following definitions apply:*

*(a) “Elementary school” means a district-run public school that includes one or more grade levels from prekindergarten through grade five or a district-run school that includes any elementary school grade level;*

*(b) “Elementary school grade level” means kindergarten through grade five;*

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*(c) “Library media center” means any collection of books, ebooks, periodicals, and videos maintained and accessible on the site of an elementary school including classrooms;*

*(d) “School or grade-level reading list” means a list of required reading material for a student in an elementary school, or required at one or more elementary school grade levels; and*

*(e) “School District” means the Florida Virtual School under s. 1002.37, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind under s. 1002.36, Developmental research (laboratory) schools under s. 1002.32, and districts set forth in Article IX, Section 4, of the Florida Constitution.*

*(3) Format. The format that must be used by school districts for materials maintained in an elementary school library media center which can be checked-out or used by a student in any elementary school grade level must:*

*(a) Identify the type of material maintained in the library media center by category, such as books, ebooks, periodicals and videos; and*

*(b) List, at a minimum, the following information;*

*1. The title and author for books and ebooks;*

*2. The name or title for periodicals and videos; and*

*3. The title for any other material maintained in the media center.*

*(c) Books and ebooks must be searchable by, at a minimum, author and title. All other materials must be searchable by, at a minimum, title.*

*(4) Reading Lists. A school or grade level reading list must meet the same requirements set forth in subsection (3) of this rule.*

Thank you for your attention and implementation of these important changes to further ensure the rights of parents and students and provide transparency for all.

JO/ab