

**BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



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## **INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Dr. Thomas Kingston, Superintendent of Schools

**FROM:** Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance, Business and Operations

**DATE:** September 19, 2013

**RE:** Surplus Property

We have been notified by Lindsey Rinder, Director of English, that there are a number of trade paperback books and library bound books that are no longer of instructional value for one or more of the following reasons:

- The condition of the books is that they are tattered and deteriorating;
- Some of the books are young adult literature titles that were published at least 20 years ago and therefore, are not relevant and will be of no interest to students;
- Many of the books are historical fiction which contain factual inaccuracies and/or show bias against certain ethnic groups, as some of the titles were written from a WWII perspective.

There are 20 boxes of books, each containing roughly 45 books. The total is approximately 900 books. Teachers have already had the opportunity to take those books that are still usable and relevant for their classrooms. If a publisher were to offer a credit to the district for the books, we would pursue that option. However, such a scenario is unlikely. We expect that the books will need to be discarded.

I am recommending that the School Committee vote to declare the books as surplus property, so that the School Department may dispose of the items.

cc: Lindsey Rinder, Director of English, Reading, and ELL