



A School Library in Need

TitleWish

Every year school libraries perform a collection analysis in order to determine the current needs for the school. School libraries must focus on staying current and updated in order to meet the needs of the student population. The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction created standards for school library/media centers to help facilitate this development. The main category used to judge the quality of a library is the average age of the books in the collection. The age of the collection is indicative of the relevance and usefulness of a library to the student population. This is where Hickory High School is in desperate need. The minimum goal for a school library is to have an average collection age of 1996. To have what is considered an outstanding library the average age goal is 2002. At this point the average age of the collection at Hickory High School is 1983. This is unacceptable for any school, but especially one with the history and pride of Hickory High School. To give a comparison, the average age of the collection for the 5 high schools in Catawba County is 2001. Our goal is to move HHS to that same level. At this time the approximate cost to get our collection just up to the minimal DPI standard of 1996 is an astounding \$89,000+. Obviously this can not be done overnight. Our first step in the process is our fundraiser called TitleWish which is a free online donation program that allows HHS to use 100% of the donated funds to purchase new library materials. Our goal is to raise \$20,000 with this campaign. We have a custom URL just for HHS where people can go online to make donations. Simply log onto www.titlewish.com and type Hickory High School in the FIND YOUR SCHOOL bar and click the “donate here” button.

