



Subject: Opposition to [HSB 636](#) - Critical Impact on Student Library Access

We are writing on behalf of Ballard Community School District to express our strong opposition to HSB 636, which would prohibit our students from accessing library services through our existing 28E agreement with our public library.

Our 28E agreement with Huxley Public Library is not supplemental—it is our middle school students' primary means of accessing books and educational materials. HSB 636 would eliminate library access for our middle school students entirely.

Compliance would require us to build and maintain a school library collection. For a district of our size, this represents an unfunded mandate we cannot absorb without cutting other educational programs or raising taxes.

Many of our families rely on students using the public library because it is the most practical option. Eliminating this partnership doesn't protect parental rights—it removes access for families who have chosen to participate, while parents already retain full opt-out authority under current library policies.

While this bill affects only a small number of Iowa districts, the impact on those communities is severe. Our locally elected school board entered into this agreement specifically because it serves our students well and maximizes taxpayer resources. HSB 636 removes local control and forces a one-size-fits-all solution that doesn't reflect our community's needs or fiscal reality.

We respectfully urge you to oppose HSB 636 and preserve our district's ability to provide library access to our students through locally determined partnerships.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Dr. Dani Trimble
Superintendent
Ballard Community School District
dtrimble@ballard.k12.ia.us
515-597-2811 x1007

Katie Claeys
Director of Teaching and Learning
Ballard Community School District
kclaeys@ballard.k12.ia.us
515-597-2811 x1011