



Resource Guide

Resources for you to learn more and be ready to protect the freedom to access information and read without restrictions. Each of these websites have a wealth of information detailing what is currently happening and action steps you can take to prevent censorship in your community or school.

#BannedBooksWeek

#UniteAgainstBookBans

American Library Association (ALA)

National professional association for all types of libraries; website includes sections on advocacy and public policy, banned books, equity, diversity & inclusion, intellectual freedom, fighting censorship tools, literacy, privacy, and public awareness; includes a division on school libraries
<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks> list of banned books, banned book week

Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE)

Intellectual Freedom Resource Center; multiple pages providing help, information, and position statements

National Coalition Against Censorship (NCAC)

Promotes freedom of thought, inquiry and expression and opposes censorship in all its forms; NCAC is a coalition of over 50 national nonprofits; check out their website and find links to other organizations; provides guidance for school administrators, students, parents, artists, activists responding to challenges to instructional and library materials

PEN America

A literary and free expression advocacy organization provides detailed insights of what is happening at school libraries; a national leader in fighting educational censorship in higher education and K-12

Illinois Library Association (ILA)

<https://www.ila.org/advocacy/ready-set-advocate>

Provides information on advocacy and working with legislators

[Reaching Across Illinois Library System \(RAILS\)](#)

Approximately 1300 academic, public, school, and special library agencies in northern and west-central Illinois providing interlibrary delivery, shared catalog support, continuing education, consulting, shared e-book collections, cooperative purchasing, and more.

[Provides best practices, resources, toolkits on opposing censorship in all forms](#)

[Book Riot](#)

The largest independent editorial book site in North America, and home to a host of media, from podcasts to newsletters to original content, all designed around diverse readers and across all genres.

[Red, Wine and Blue](#)

Suburban Moms fights back - Find out About Us | BOOK RIOT where bans are occurring, learn how to become a "Book Ban Buster" and more

[Freedom to Read Foundation \(FTRF\)](#)

A non-profit legal and educational organization affiliated with the ALA, protects and defends the First Amendment to the Constitution and supports the right of libraries to collect - and individuals to access - information

[Library Journal](#)

Resources for both academic and public libraries

[March 2023 online webinar resisting book bans: a crash course to defend intellectual freedom providing tangible ways to handle censorship, find allies, and ensure library policies are up to date](#)

[School Library Journal](#)

Wealth of information, articles, and links specifically relevant to school libraries

[American Civil Liberties Union \(ACLU\)](#)

A comprehensive "Right to Learn" toolkit to help fight against censorship in schools and communities

[Challenges to Intellectual Freedom: It's Not Just about Book Banning](#)

Power Point presentation by Joyce McIntosh, Office for Intellectual Freedom (ALA) at AAUW IL convention in May 2022

[EveryLibrary Institute](#)

builds voter support for libraries throughout the country

[Spreadsheet database of book bans and challenges in the United States 2021-2022](#)

[GLAAD](#)

serves as a dynamic media force tackling tough issues to shape the narrative and provoke dialogue that leads to cultural change

[Book bannings and school censorship information](#)

[AntiDefamation League \(ADL\)](#)

Book bans and their impact on young people and society includes talking points and suggested action steps

[Sourcebooks](#)

Publisher's perspective about publishing banned books

American Booksellers Association

The American Booksellers Association (ABA) provides education, information dissemination, business services, programming, technology, and advocacy for independent booksellers

Unite Against Book Bans

An action toolkit including talking points and how to organize against challenges

Googling “book bans” or book banning” will provide links to current articles and news reports

Timely article exploring why books are banned

Working with Public School Boards

Learn a proven method to share your concerns and influence decisions about censorship by connecting with school and library board members in your community. Contact AAUW-IL Public Policy Chairs Paula Purdue paulapatchwork@gmail.com or Tracey Sherman-Falcon shermanfalcon@hotmail.com to be added to online training meeting invitations (open to everyone)