

Here's what I think ...

By Ty Ankrom

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When I was a teacher in the Circleville City Schools – and I won't say how long ago that was – I would take advantage of checking out materials from the Pickaway County Area Media Center.

The Media Center has served hundreds of educators in Fairfield, Fayette, Madison, Pickaway and Ross counties for more than 30 years but with new technology and greater bandwidth, videotapes and DVDs aren't in as much demand as they once were.

To that end, we've decided to eliminate the materials in the Media Center by providing them to county educators on "permanent loan," a fancy way of saying "take it, it's yours."



This is just one shelf of several in the Media Center filled with materials.

For the past few months, the materials have been up for grabs to all Educational Service Center employees.

On April 1, educators in all Pickaway County schools will be invited to help themselves to materials that they feel will be helpful to them in the classroom or for their own education.

Educators interested in seeing what's available can go to www.pickawayesc.org/DownloadsLinks.aspx, scroll down to the Media Center section and click on the "Media Center Catalog Index" link.

"The material might be a little old, but the information is still good," said Lydia Rittinger, ESC secretary and media center technician.

Lydia started working in the media center in 1985 and has seen the formats change with technology.

"We thought we were big time when we got VHS tapes," she said.

In addition to VHS tapes – yes, a little old but not unusable – the center also has CDs, laser discs and DVDs.

Alas, the 16mm films I borrowed as a teacher are not available any more.

If you have any questions about the distribution of materials, contact Lydia at lydia.rittinger@pickawayesc.org or (740) 474-7529.

Ty Ankrom is the superintendent of the Pickaway County Educational Service Center.

