

## Action Item 1: Tape On Books

### Proposed Change to Policy:

Proposed by: Lecia Eubanks, Director of Cherokee Regional Library System

When libraries tape transit slips or notes to books it often causes damage to those books. This problem has been brought up repeatedly on the PINES list-servs, but it has not been written into PINES policy. Lecia proposes that tape on books should officially be banned in PINES policy.

### Survey Results:

The following summary is based on survey results from 34 PINES Subcommittee members and Directors representing 26 library systems. One question was asked:

**Should tape on books be officially banned?**

#### Summary of All Responses:

	Responses	Percentage
Yes	29	85%
No	4	12%
Not Sure	1	3%

#### Responses by Circulation Subcommittee Members Only:

	Responses	Percentage
Yes	4	80%
No	1	20%
Not Sure	0	0%

#### Responses from Other Subcommittee Members and Directors:

	Responses	Percentage
Yes	25	86%
No	3	10%
Not Sure	1	3%

## Comments

### Comments For:

- If instituted, I think it would be helpful to outline a recommended practice for instances where this policy is broken. My library would welcome knowing when we had erred, and accidentally used tape on someone else's book, as it would let us know that more training was needed.
- It doesn't matter so much for books with the mylar or plastic jacket; however, we've felt forced to discard several paperback books due to damage caused by frivolous notes being taped to the front paper cover indicating some minor ink marks or stains within the book. The damage caused by removing the note is far worse than the minor flaw the borrowing library felt a need to point out. This used to not bother me; but, it now ticks me off to no end! If the library feels such an insatiable need to indicate that the book has problems, why not make one of those paper rings that you can slide the front cover into. Use scrap paper, it won't cost a thing except time.

I wish we could all afford to discard a book simply because it is no longer in pristine condition.

I'll be hopping down off my soap box now. : )

- It should not come to this, but it's time to finally lay this to rest. Some people can't see the logic in not putting tape on books, maybe having a policy will stop the holdouts.
- Let's suggest alternatives to taping.
- Please, in the name of all that is holy (or unholy, your choice), do whatever it takes to make this issue go away.

### Comments Against:

- Ban is fine, although I don't know how you "ban" it? Policy is unnecessary. No practical way of enforcing the policy. What is the punishment? I've never had staff show me an item damaged by tape from another library. Never had another library tell me that we damaged one of their items with tape. Too many unnecessary policies create more bureaucracy where people get overwhelmed and ignore other policies.

### Other Comments:

- I believe the proposal should be reworded to include "from other libraries". If I want to use tape on locally-owned books for repair, etc. that should be noted.