

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

As the governing body of the School District, the Board is legally responsible for the selection of instructional materials. Since the Board is a policy-making body, it delegates to professional personnel of the District, the authority for the selection of instructional materials in accordance with this policy. Every effort will be made to ensure that instructional materials are distributed equitably among the district's schools so that a balanced distribution of instructional materials will occur. Free textbooks are provided in grades K-12.

Materials for the school classrooms and school libraries will be selected by the appropriate professional personnel in consultation with administration and faculty. Final decision on purchase will rest with the superintendent, subject to official adoption by the Board in the case of textbooks. When the budget for the year is approved in final form by the Board, the superintendent or designee shall direct the purchase of books, supplies, equipment and other instructional materials required, within the limits of the adopted budget. The superintendent or designee shall audit all claims and submit to the Board for approval and authorization for payment.

It is the responsibility of the professional staff to select instructional materials of the highest quality that will support the educational curriculum of the District. Consideration should be given to all available materials in the content area to provide opportunities for each child to realize his or her greatest potential through education. The district will preferentially procure educational materials, including textbooks and collateral materials, from vendors that make the materials available in either a Braille format or electronic format which is computer-readable in a form approved by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), or both, at no greater cost than for regular materials.

Multicultural, gender fair and disability awareness concepts will be included in the criteria for selection of materials.

The value and impact of any textbook, library or other instructional material will be judged as a whole, taking into account the purpose of the material, rather than individual, isolated expressions or incidents of the work.

Adopted: June 30, 1981
Revised: February 24, 1998
Revised: February 26, 2002

Legal Refs: §170.132