

Instruction

Guidelines for Selection/Evaluation of Instructional Materials

Selection of Instructional Materials

The Board of Education is legally responsible for all matters relating to the operation of the school system. All instructional materials purchased by the school system for use in the instructional program shall be approved by the Board of Education.

The responsibility for reviewing and selecting instructional materials is delegated to a committee comprised of professionally trained personnel employed by the school system. Selection of materials involves many people including principals, department heads, teachers, supervisors, curriculum director, arts director and media specialists.

The primary objective of the school's instructional materials is to implement, enrich and support the educational program of the school. The school is responsible for providing a wide range of materials on all levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal, and the presentation of different points of view.

The professional staff is responsible for recommending instructional materials that

1. Provide information and experiences that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities and maturity of the pupils served;
2. Provide information and experience that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values and ethical standards;
3. Provide a background of information which will enable pupils to make intelligent judgments in their daily life;
4. Provide information on diverse perspectives concerning controversial issues so that young citizens may develop under guidance the practice of critical analysis of all media;
5. Provide information representative of many religious, ethnic and cultural groups and their contributions; and
6. Place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in order to assure a high quality, comprehensive collection.

Textbooks

The Board shall undertake to provide a sufficient number of prescribed textbooks to insure that each pupil in a classroom has textbooks for his/her own use, except in emergency conditions. Recognizing the statutory responsibility of the Board of Education for the provision of textbooks, and also the professional competence and skills of the staff in relation to textbook selection, the Board shall undertake to see that the determination of textbooks to be used in the schools shall continue to be arrived at through consultation among teachers and administrators, subject to final approval by the Board.

Legal Reference.

Connecticut General Statutes

10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited

10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules

10-228 Free textbooks, supplies, materials and equipment

10-229 Change of textbooks

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NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Norwich, Connecticut