

SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Puget Sound Educational Service District is committed to becoming an Anti-Racist Multicultural Organization and through its work seeks to proactively use racial equity best practices. These practices include ensuring that the selection of instructional materials for programs operated by PSESD are free of bias, stereotypes, distortions, and prejudices. Instructional materials selected will include, but are not limited to, those which:

- A. Enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied instructional needs, abilities, interests, and maturity levels of the students served;
- B. Stimulate student growth in conceptual thinking, factual knowledge, physical fitness and literary and ethical standards;
- C. Provide sufficient variety so as to present opposing views of controversial issues in order that students may develop the skills of critical analysis and informed decision making;
- D. Contribute to the development of an understanding of the ethnic, cultural, and occupational diversity;
- E. Present objectively the concerns of and build upon the contributions, current and historical, of both sexes, and members of religious, ethnic and cultural groups. The district recognizes that under certain conditions biased materials may represent appropriate resources in presenting contrasting and differing points of view; or
- F. Provide models which may be used as a vehicle for the development of self-respect, ethnic pride and appreciation of cultural differences, based on respect for the worth, dignity, and personal values of every individual.

As PSESD staff select instructional materials they should be aware of their own biases and experiences which may influence their choice of instructional materials and examples. PSESD also recognizes the importance of practicing cultural competency while working collaboratively with diverse groups. The selection of instructional materials should, therefore, be an inclusive process wherever possible.

Instructional materials will be defined as all printed, filmed, recorded or online materials furnished or accessed by PSESD program staff for student use.

Questioned or Challenged Material

Anyone wishing to request reconsideration of the use of specific instructional materials used by direct service programs operated by PSESD shall follow the process described in Operating Procedure 2020P.

Adopted: December, 1977
Revised: March, 1979
Revised: September, 1980
Revised: June, 2013

Previous Policy: #8000 and #8010, Questioned and Challenged Material

Relevant PSESD Board Governance Policy: EL 3, Treatment of Stakeholders

Legal References:	RCW 28A.150.230	Basic Education Act — District school directors responsibilities
	RCW 28A.320.230	Instructional materials — Instructional materials committee
	RCW 28A.405.060	Course of study and regulations — Enforcement — Withholding salary warrant for failure
	Chapter 28A.640 RCW	Sexual Equality
	WAC 180-44-010	Responsibilities related to instruction
	WAC 392-190-055	Textbooks and instructional materials—Scope Elimination of sex bias—compliance timetable