

Instruction

Equipment, Books and Materials: Provision/Selection

Provision

It is a basic principle that tax-supported public education should be equally available to all students even though family circumstances and family resources vary greatly. In accordance with State law, the Amity Regional Schools shall provide free textbooks and other required learning materials for students. The administration shall set up regulations to assure that all required materials are readily available without cost to students.

Students may purchase textbooks or outside reading books from the school for their permanent possession and use. However, the teacher must ensure that such purchase is not made because of unavailability of the book, social pressure, or teacher pressure, even though unintentional.

Selection

The selection of basic textbooks will be carried on continuously in order to keep up with the great expansion of knowledge and the rapid changes going on in our world today.

Where applicable, all textbooks should present balanced views concerning the international, national, and local issues and problems of the past, present, and future. Textbooks should:

1. Provide materials to stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic, and ethical values;
2. Provide materials that will help students develop abilities in critical reading and thinking;
3. Provide materials that will develop and foster an appreciation of cultural diversity and development in the United States and throughout the world;
4. Provide for all students an effective basic education that does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or physical disabilities; and
5. Allow sufficient flexibility for meeting the special needs of individual students and groups of students.

The administration will develop and review administrative rules outlining a procedure to select textbooks which meets the above criteria. This process shall include:

1. Analysis, evaluation, and recommendation by professional staff; and
2. The opportunity for interested citizens in the school community to review recommended textbooks.

Instruction

Textbook Selection and Adoption

Selection (continued)

The Board of Education, by statute, is responsible for the selection of textbooks for instruction.

The Board of Education shall not change any textbooks used in the schools except by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the Board, notice of such intended change having been previously given at a meeting of the Board held at least one week previous to the vote upon such changes.

(cf. 1312 - Public Complaints)

(cf. 4118.21 - Academic Freedom)

(cf. 5145 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

(cf. 6144 – Controversial Issues)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 10-18a Contents of textbooks and other general instructional materials
 10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules
 10-228 Free Textbooks, supplies, materials and equipment
 10-229 Change of textbooks
 President's Council, District 25 v. Community School Board No. 25, (457
 F. 2d. 289 (1972)
 Minarcini v. Strongsville City School District, [541 F. 2d. 577 (6th Cir.
 1976)]
 Academic Freedom Policy (adopted by Connecticut State Board of
 Education, 9/9/81)

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AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Woodbridge, Connecticut