

FARIBAULT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Faribault, Minnesota

Education Program
Series 100

**POLICY FOR REVIEW OF CURRICULUM CONTENT
AND
ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION**
Policy No. 101.2

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Faribault Public Schools Board of Education believes in the principles of intellectual freedom. Members of the community are welcome to review curriculum and instructional materials. Any parent, guardian, or adult student in District 656 may express concerns about the content of instructional materials in the district's educational program. Whenever a concern is expressed, the district will respond with the procedure described below.

The intent of the procedure is to provide parents, guardians, and adult students the opportunity to review instructional materials, address concerns and propose alternative instruction for the individual student.

The intent is NOT to interfere with the rights of others to receive the instruction in question, nor does it relieve the student from meeting state and district-level essential learner outcomes.

Guidelines

The school district policy shall be based on the 1992 amendment to Minnesota Statutes 1990, Section 126.666, subdivision 1, clause 7, that reads:

A parent, guardian, or an adult student, 18 years old or older, may review the content of the instructional materials to be provided a minor child or to an adult student and, if the parent, guardian, or adult student objects to the content, to make reasonable arrangements with school personnel for alternative instruction. Alternative instruction may be provided by the parent, guardian, or adult student if the alternative instruction, if any, offered by the school board does not meet the concerns of the parent, guardian, or adult student.

School personnel may not impose an academic or other penalty upon a student merely for arranging alternative instruction under clause (7). School personnel may evaluate and assess the quality of the student's work.

The procedures for implementation of this policy are based on the following guidelines:

- 1) The alternative instruction delivered is essentially equivalent to that provided as part of the adopted curriculum.
- 2) Outside speakers, spontaneous classroom discussion, and current events materials are not considered part of the planned content of instruction and are therefore exempt from prior review.
- 3) To the extent possible, when students are removed from certain instruction, the action is done in the way that will cause the least isolation and embarrassment possible.
- 4) This policy relates to the content of instructional materials only and does not include when or where it is provided, nor who provides it.
- 5) The learning expectations in the alternative instruction are clearly stated and that the evaluation is based upon those expectations.
- 6) A parent's, guardian's, or adult student's right to decline certain instruction for themselves or their own child does not interfere with the rights of others to receive that instruction.

6-28-93

Date of Adoption

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES FOR POLICY FOR REVIEW OF CURRICULUM CONTENT AND ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 101.2

When a parent, guardian, or adult student (hereafter referred to as "person") indicates a concern regarding the content of instructional materials, this procedure shall be followed:

- I. Request for review of material
 - A. Each request for review of material shall be directed to the building principal.
 - B. The principal will:
 - 1) treat each concerned person's request with confidentiality.
 - 2) try to resolve the questions of the concerned person(s) during the initial contact.
 - 3) provide and explain the Minnesota state statute and the school district's policy and procedure.
 - 4) inform the concerned person(s) that the student is not required to be exposed to the questioned material but will be required to meet the essential learner outcome.
 - 5) inform the classroom instructor(s), (and the affected department, if appropriate), of the materials in question.

- II. Opportunity to review materials
 - A. School responsibility
All adopted curricular and instructional materials (including adopted learner outcomes, print material and film/video with descriptive narrative) will be available for review by appointment with the principal.
 - B. Parent, guardian, or adult student responsibility

- 1) Review materials during designated times.
- 2) If a concern is identified, fill out Form A, "Statement of Concern Regarding Instructional Content", specifically detailing the portion of instructional content to which objection is made.

III. Alternative Instruction

A. School responsibility

- 1) Upon receipt of a statement of concern, the principal will facilitate a meeting with the parent/guardian/adult student and the teacher to determine alternative instruction. School personnel may propose an alternative form of instruction in place of the material in question.
- 2) The principal will present the school proposal for alternative instruction as described in Form B, "Alternative Instruction Agreement".

B. Parent, guardian, or adult student responsibility

- 1) The person(s) will respond to the school proposal for alternative instruction.
- 2) If the school proposal is rejected, the person(s) will develop an alternative plan at no cost to the district.
- 3) The proposed plan must address the district learner outcomes.

IV. Assessment Procedures

A. School responsibility

- 1) School personnel will determine an appropriate assessment.
- 2) The school will not impose academic or social penalties as a result of alternative assessment.

B. Student responsibility

- 1) The student will complete the appropriate assessment in accordance with the agreed upon alternative instructional agreement.
- 2) When the contract is completed and the specified outcome met, the student will be granted completion credit or a grade for the work.

June 28, 1993
Date of Adoption

Legal Reference MN 126.666, 1992

STATEMENT OF CONCERN REGARDING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Parent/Guardian/Adult/Student _____

Address _____

Telephone (W) _____ (H) _____

Student Name _____ Grade _____

School _____

Course/Subject _____

Teacher _____

1) District learner outcome addressed by the material in question:

2) Specific description of instruction material in question:

3) Have you examined the material in its entirety? Yes _____ No _____

If no, please explain. _____

4) What is your concern(s) about this material? Please be specific.

Signature of Concerned Person(s) _____ Date _____

ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION AGREEMENT

Date _____ Parent proposal
 School proposal

Person initiating request _____

Student name _____

School student is attending _____ Grade _____

Course/subject affected by request _____

Specific content or materials in question: _____

Learner outcome to be addressed: _____

Person providing alternative instruction - Parent, Teacher, Other: _____

Materials to be used: _____

Method of instruction: _____

Method of evaluation and assessment of the quality of the student's work (to be completed by school personnel): _____

Completion date: _____

Agreed to by: Student _____ Date _____

Parent or guardian _____ Date _____

Instructor _____ Date _____

Principal _____ Date _____