

# POLICY

## BOARD OF EDUCATION MOUNT OLIVE TOWNSHIP

### PROGRAM 2510/Page 1 of 2 SELECTION OF TEXTBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

#### 2510 SELECTION OF TEXTBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The Board of Education, by law, reserves the right to make the final textbook selection decision. However, the professional staff under the direction of the Superintendent shall present a preliminary selection with recommendations.

Instructional materials shall be selected in accordance with the following principles:

1. Instructional materials (print and non-print) shall be chosen for values of interest and enlightenment of all students in the community.
2. Every effort shall be made to provide material that presents the various points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times, international, national and local. Books or other reading matter of sound factual authority shall not be prescribed or removed from library shelves or classrooms because of partisan doctrinal approval or disapproval.
3. Censorship of instructional materials shall be challenged in order to maintain the school's responsibility to provide information and enlightenment. A procedure for processing and responding to criticism of approved materials shall be established and followed. This procedure shall include a formal signed complaint of standard format and an appointed committee to re-evaluate the material in question.
4. The Board believes that teachers and librarians should play a key role, in cooperation with district administrative personnel, in the selection of the materials of instruction. The Board gives to the professional staff the responsibility for scholarly appraisal of materials to be placed in classrooms and libraries.
5. Teaching materials which will stimulate students to active inquiry and intelligent criticism of political, economic, and social institutions are to be sought out.
6. Supplemental instructional materials do not require the Board's acceptance prior to use in a school when such materials are appropriate to the overall purpose of



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instruction previously approved by that Board. The Board delegates to the staff the authority to select and use such materials.

7. No student will be required to read any supplementary instructional material that is held objectionable by a parent/guardian.

N.J.S.A. 18A:34-1  
N.J.A.C. 6:8-4.5(b)  
N.J.A.C. 6:4-1.3(e)(f)

Adopted: 29 June 1998

