

SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The Governor Wentworth Regional School District recognizes that knowledge is basic to the survival of a democratic society and that the professional staff has both the right as well as the responsibility to select instructional materials that are of the highest quality. The district shall provide a wide range of instructional materials that are at varying levels of difficulty, appeal to a diverse audience, and present differing points of view in order to ensure a comprehensive program that meets the needs of students as expressed in the GWRSD Strategic Plan, Commencement Goals, and Curriculum Guides. Curriculum materials presented to the students must be evaluated and modified in line with the unique needs of our communities and children. The Board shall be informed, through its Academic Affairs Subcommittee, of textbook and other instructional materials that have been approved by the respective Task Forces, Building Principals, Administrative Team and Superintendent. The Board reserves the right to formally accept or reject instructional materials.

Instructional materials, both print and non-print, should provide quality learning experiences for students and:

- Enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration varied interests, abilities, maturity levels, and learning styles;
- Stimulate growth in knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards;
- Provide background information to enable students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives;
- Present opposing sides of controversial issues so that young citizens may have the opportunity to develop, under the guidance of the staff, the practice of critical analysis;
- Reflect a range of views that are representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups that have made a contribution to our American heritage and pluralistic society.
- Be reviewed at regular intervals; and
- Be sequential and compatible with previous and future offerings.

DEFINITION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Instructional materials, both print and non-print media, whether commercially acquired or locally produced, include but are not limited to: textbooks, library books, supplemental reading, informational materials, filmstrips, flash cards, games, globes, kits, maps, microfiche, models, movies, videos, musical scores, pamphlets, periodicals, pictures, slides, audio recordings, transparencies, compact disks, computer software, and hypertext for personal computers.

RESPONSIBILITY AND CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

The Governor Wentworth Regional School Board is legally responsible for all matters relating to the operation of the schools. The responsibility for the selection of instructional materials is delegated to the professionally trained personnel employed by

the school district in accordance with the objectives listed above and based on the following criteria:

- Contribution to the curriculum and interests of the students
- Educational relevance and significance
- Favorable reviews found in a variety of selection sources;
- Favorable recommendations based on preview, examination and/or piloting of materials by professional personnel;
- Reputation and significance of the author, artist, composer, producer, or publisher;
- Accuracy, authoritativeness, and age-appropriateness of the materials;
- Contribution of the material to the breadth of representative viewpoints on controversial issues;
- Readability, viewability, and degree of student appeal;
- Artistic, scientific, and/or literary quality;
- Reflective of the pluralistic character and culture of people in both the United States and the global community;
- Timeliness and permanence;
- Technical quality and durable format; and
- Cost-effectiveness.

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