

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE CURRICULUM OR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The Board recognizes the need and right of students to free access to many different types of books and materials. It also recognizes the right of the professional staff to select books and other materials supportive of the District's educational philosophy and goals.

Criticism of a book or other materials used in the school may be expected from time to time. In such instances:

1. If a parent requests that his own child not read a given book, the teacher and/or school administrator should resolve the problem, perhaps by arranging for use of alternative material meeting essentially the same instructional purpose.
2. The Board will not permit any individual or group to exercise censorship over instructional materials and library collections but recognizes that at times a re-evaluation of certain material may be desirable. Should an individual or group ask to have any book or other material withdrawn from school use:
 - A. The person who objects to the book or other material will be asked to sign a complaint on a standard form documenting his criticism.
 - B. Following receipt of the formal complaint, the Superintendent will provide for a re-evaluation of the material in question. He will arrange for the appointment of a review committee from among the faculty and community to consider the complaint.
 - C. The Superintendent will review the complaint and the committee's re-evaluation and will render a decision in the matter. Should the decision be unsatisfactory to the complainant, it may be appealed to the Board.

The Board assumes final responsibility for all books and instructional materials which it makes available to students, and it holds its professional staff accountable for their proper selections. The Board also recognizes rights of individual parents with respect to controversial materials used by their own children and will provide for the re-evaluation of materials in library collections upon formal request.

[Adoption date: August 6, 1991]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3329.07; 3329.08; 3329.09

CROSS REFS.: IIA, Instructional Materials
IIAA, Textbook Selection and Adoption
IIAC, Library Materials Selection and Adoption
INB, Teaching About Controversial Issues
KL, Public Complaints
KLD, Public Complaints About School Personnel