

SPECIAL INTEREST INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Free teaching materials offered by commercial organizations and special interest groups may be accepted and used in the classroom. The responsibility for accepting or rejecting free materials shall be the joint responsibility of the principal and the teachers. The following criteria are recommended as a guide in making such decisions:

1. The materials should be of a type that teachers seek, not materials that are thrust upon them to promote the interests of an outside agency. Ordinarily, the initiative for securing the materials should come from the school.
2. Materials should be of such content and quality that they help the teacher do a better job.
3. Although the materials may contain advertising, this feature should be inconspicuous and the commercial purposes of the sponsor should not be dominant in the material.
4. The source of all materials should be clearly identifiable.
5. Teachers and principals must be aware of their responsibility for preventing any outside agency from using the public schools for purposes that are opposed to our form of government or our democratic way of life. This responsibility includes, however, helping students learn how to deal with hostile propaganda (i.e., that which promotes thought and/or activity contrary to our democratic principles). For that reason, some materials that are clearly in the nature of propaganda may be used to teach about propaganda at the discretion of the principal and under careful teacher supervision.

Adopted June 7, 1995

Cross ref: IJJ, Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption