

SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT
Salem, Connecticut

INSTRUCTION

TEXTBOOKS AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

General:

The Salem Board of Education shall provide educational materials and equipment that support and enrich the curriculum and further the achievement of the School District's instructional goals, with the following exceptions:

1. Individual project materials to be used in the industrial arts, homemaking and art courses.
2. Materials to be used for special projects not required for credit in a course.
3. Personal clothing items worn for physical education and other in-school athletic activities.

Selection:

Primary learning materials will be continuously reviewed to keep up with the expansion of knowledge and rapid changes in the world and to present balanced views on international, national and local issues and problems of the past, present and future. Primary learning materials should further:

1. provide materials to stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literacy appreciation, aesthetic and ethical value;
2. provide materials to help students develop abilities in critical reading and thinking;
3. provide materials to help develop and foster an appreciation of cultural diversity and development in the United States and throughout the world;
4. provide for all students an effective basic education that does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or disabilities;
5. allow sufficient flexibility for meeting the special needs of individual students and groups of students.

Primary learning materials are textbooks, paperback books, audiovisual kits, or other instructional materials which are:

- used for the duration of a course or school year; the majority of assignments are derived from such material.
- Used by all students in a class, course or learning group within a class.

The District will develop and maintain subject specific curriculum committees that provide opportunities for professional staff to analyze, evaluate and recommend primary learning materials to the District Administration for adoption. The District Administration will forward

that recommendation to the Curriculum Subcommittee of the Board of Education and the subcommittee will forward their recommendation to the full Board of Education for adoption.

Adoption of new textbooks or primary learning materials shall require a two-thirds vote of all of the members of the Salem Board of Education, notice of such intended change having been previously given at a meeting at least one week prior to the vote during which time they will be available for community review.

The disposition of old and obsolete textbooks shall be accomplished under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools in accordance with state and federal regulations.

(cf. 1312 – Public Complaints)

(cf. 3260 – Sales and Disposal of Equipment, Books and Supplies)

(cf. 6144 – Controversial Issues)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes: 10-221 Boards of Education to prescribe rules. 10-222a Boards to have use of funds derived from repayment for school materials. 10-228 Free textbooks, supplies, materials and equipment. 10-229 Change of textbooks. *President's Council, District 25 v. Community School Board no. 25*, 457 F.2d289 (1972), cert. Denied 409 U.S.C. 998 (Nov. 1972). *Minarcini v. Strongsville City School District*, 541 F.2d 577 (6th Cir. 1976). *Island Trees Union Free School District Board of Education v. Pico*, 457 US 853 (1982). Academic Freedom Policy (adopted by CT State Board of Education, 9/9/81).

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Revised Policy 1st Reading: October 6, 2010

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