

Regulation 1312.2 Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 12/1990

Last Revised Date: 05/15/2024

Step 1: Informal Complaint

If a staff member, district resident, or parent/guardian of a student enrolled in a district school has a complaint regarding the content or use of any specific instructional material, such individual shall informally discuss the material in question with the principal. (Education Code 35160)

Step 2: Formal Complaint

If the complainant is not satisfied with the principal's initial response, the complainant shall present a written complaint to the principal. Complaints regarding printed material shall name the author, title, and publisher and shall identify the objection by page and item numbers. In the case of nonprinted material, written information specifying the precise nature of the objection and location of such material shall be given. In order for the district to reply appropriately, complainants shall sign all complaints and provide identifying information. Anonymous complaints will not be accepted. Upon receiving a complaint, the principal shall provide the complainant with a written acknowledgement of its receipt and respond to any procedural questions the complainant may have. The principal shall then notify the Superintendent or designee, the teacher(s), and other staff as appropriate. During the investigation of the complaint, the challenged material may remain in use until a final decision has been reached.

Step 3: Review Committee

The Superintendent or designee shall determine whether to convene a review committee to review the complaint. If the Superintendent or designee determines that a review committee is necessary, the Superintendent or designee shall appoint a committee composed of administrators and staff members selected from relevant instructional and administrative areas. The Superintendent or designee may also appoint parents/guardians, students, and community members, as appropriate, to serve on the committee. The Superintendent or designee may provide training to the review committee to ensure that the review committee is informed regarding its responsibilities, the criteria to follow when reviewing instructional materials, and applicable laws, Board policy(ies), and administrative regulation(s). Within 30 days of being convened, the review committee shall summarize its findings in a written report. The Superintendent or designee shall notify the complainant in writing of the committee's decision within 15 days of receiving the committee's report.

Step 4: Superintendent Determination

If the Superintendent or designee determines that a review committee is not necessary, the Superintendent or designee shall, in a timely manner, issue a decision regarding the complaint.

Step 5: Appeal to the Governing Board

If the complainant remains unsatisfied, the complainant may appeal the Superintendent's or review committee's decision to the Board. The Board's decision shall be final.

12/90
08/12/98
03/06
07/12/06

Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
5 CCR 4600-4670	Uniform complaint procedures
Ed. Code 1240	County superintendent of schools; duties
Ed. Code 18111	Exclusion of books by Governing board that are sectarian, partisan, or denominational character
Ed. Code 220	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 242	Access to information about educational laws and policies regarding right to accurate and inclusive curriculum
Ed. Code 243	Unlawful discrimination related to the use or prohibited use of textbooks and instructional materials
Ed. Code 35010	Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules
Ed. Code 35160	Powers and duties of school boards
Ed. Code 35186	Williams uniform complaint procedures
Ed. Code 44805	Teacher enforcement of course of studies; use of textbooks, rules and regulations
Ed. Code 48907	Exercise of free expression; time, place and manner rules and regulations
Ed. Code 48950	Speech and other communication
Ed. Code 51204.5	Social sciences instruction; contributions of specified groups
Ed. Code 51501	Nondiscriminatory subject matter
Ed. Code 51511	Religious matters properly included in courses of study
Ed. Code 51933	Sexual health education and HIV prevention materials
Ed. Code 60000-60005	Instructional materials; legislative intent
Ed. Code 60040-60052	Requirements for instructional materials
Ed. Code 60119	Public hearing on sufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials
Ed. Code 60200-60213	Elementary school materials
Ed. Code 60226	Requirements for publishers and manufacturers
Ed. Code 60400-60411	High school textbooks and instructional materials
Ed. Code 60510-60511	Donation or sale of obsolete instructional materials

Management Resources

California Department of Education
Publication

Description

[Instructional Materials, FAQ](#)

California Department of Education
Publication
Website
Website
Website

[Standards for Evaluating Instructional Materials for Social Content, 2013](#)
[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)
[Department of Justice](#)
[California Department of Education, Curriculum and Instruction Resources](#)
[CSBA](#)
[U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights](#)

Website
Website

Cross References

Code

0410
1100
1250
1250
1312.1
1312.1
1312.3
1312.3
1312.3-E(1)
1312.3-E(2)
1312.4
1312.4-E(1)
1312.4-E(2)
5145.3
5145.3
6000
6141
6141
6142.6
6142.92
6142.94
6143
6143
6144
6161.1
6161.1
6161.1-E(1)
6161.11
6161.2
6163.1
9000
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Description

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