

Policy IJKAA Community Reconsideration of Instructional Materials

Issued 9/05

- 1 Purpose: To establish the basic structure for the reconsideration of instructional materials by the staff of Charleston County School District.

Teachers, media specialists, guidance counselors and administrators have the responsibility to select materials for the education of all students in the school district.

- 2 Ultimately, the board has final approval of all instructional materials. Occasional objections to instructional materials may arise, however, despite the care taken to select appropriate materials and the qualifications of the professionals selecting the materials.

The right of students to learn and the freedom of teachers to teach shall be respected.

- 3 Every effort shall be made to provide materials that present all points of view concerning international, national and local issues. Materials shall not be excluded from use because of the race, nationality or political or religious views of the author or publisher. Materials of sound factual authority or generally accepted theories shall not be proscribed or removed from classrooms and media centers.

While the board shall not permit anyone to exercise censorship over instructional materials and library collections, provisions shall be made for parents/legal guardians to

- 4 request the reconsideration of material. In the absence of a formal request for reconsideration, the board recognizes the right of an individual parent/legal guardian to ask that particular instructional materials not be made available to his/her child.

A teacher, media specialist, guidance counselor or administrator may also request the reconsideration of material at his/her school believed to be age-inappropriate and for

- 5 which there are no supporting reviews in recognized sources. Additionally, certified central staff personnel may request reconsideration of such material at any school.

~~The superintendent shall establish appropriate regulations to facilitate the reconsideration of any book or educational material in the public schools of Charleston County School District.~~

- 6 **The superintendent or his/her designee will direct any concerns associated with instructional resources and materials to follow board policies IJKAA and KEC.** The final decision for use of controversial books and other educational materials in the schools shall rest with the board after receiving the superintendent's recommendation based upon careful examination and study of the challenged material.

Cf. IJ, IJK, KE, **IJKAA, KEC**

Adopted 8/20/73; Revised 12/13/93, 9/12/05

Charleston County School District

