

Instructional Resources/Instructional Materials

The Board believes that proper care and judgment should be exercised in selecting instructional materials. While the Board retains the authority to approve district instructional material adoptions, it authorizes the superintendent to develop and implement administrative procedures governing how selections are determined. Such procedures will provide for administrator, staff, parent, student, and community involvement and employ suitable selection criteria to ensure that the recommended instructional materials will meet the needs of the program, students, teachers, and community.

The superintendent, in collaboration with building principals, will recommend a schedule for review of instructional materials. Such timeline will consider the requirements of the State Board of Education adoption cycle, other state mandates, local district initiatives and fiscal practicalities.

All textbook and instructional materials recommended for adoption shall be approved for use by the Board. Prior to Board approval, students and interested district patrons will have the opportunity to review the recommended instructional materials and be encouraged to provide opinions about them and their use in the classrooms. If state-adopted materials are not selected, an independent adoption will be submitted for Board approval.

All supplementary materials and library/media resources will be selected cooperatively by teachers, principals, library/media teachers, and sometimes with the assistance of students and parents. Board approval is not needed for supplemental materials and resources.

Recommended textbook, supplementary materials, and library/media resources will be inclusive and value diversity in all forms when possible; contain appropriate readability and viewing levels; support the district's adopted curriculum contents; provide for ease of teacher use; be attractive and durable, and be purchased at a reasonable cost.

The district will establish a process and timeline for regularly determining and considering whether the textbooks and other instructional materials are available through online resources that enable students with print disabilities to receive textbooks and instructional materials free of charge.

The Board recognizes that materials containing mature themes and content have a legitimate purpose in a school's educational program. However, the Board wishes to ensure that the use of such instructional and/or supplementary material enhances and supports the curriculum goals of the district and of specific adopted courses, and that the content of the material is appropriate for the developmental level of the student. Therefore, teachers are required to show evidence, through their lesson plans, of the intended use of the material and the standard/benchmark and related curriculum the resource supports.

Prior to using materials containing mature themes, teachers are required to obtain administrative approval, and parental permission specific to the materials and grade level in question may be required. If a parent does not grant permission, an alternative assignment will be available for the student, without penalty.

The Board recognizes the right of individuals and/or groups to present complaints concerning instructional materials and programs in the schools. The superintendent will establish a review process for objections to instructional materials and programs. This process will provide for a timely and fair hearing, assuring that procedures are applied equitably to all expressions of concern.

The Board subscribes in principle and practice to statements of policy as expressed in the Copyright Fair Use Guidelines for Educational Multimedia, the American Library Bill of Rights and related interpretations thereof to include Statement on Intellectual Freedom, Confidentiality of Library Records, and Access to Electronic Information, Services and Networks.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 336.035	OAR 581-011-0050 to -0117
ORS 337.120	OAR 581-021-0045
ORS 337.141	OAR 581-021-0046
ORS 337.150	OAR 581-022-1140
ORS 337.260	OAR 581-022-1520
ORS 339.155	OAR 581-022-1640

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6311-6322 (2006).