

Newberg School District 29J

Code: **INB**
Adopted: 9/12/05
Readopted: 2/26/07
Orig. Code(s): 7700

Studying Controversial Issues

Controversial issues are those issues which may be given to, or which may arouse public controversy. Controversial issues are those that may occasion disagreement or contention among various groups or people holding differing views. This policy applies to those controversial issues outside the scope of the district's curriculum or not included in the district's standards.

Teachers shall present all sides of controversial issues so that students have an opportunity to:

1. Find, collect and assemble factual material on the subject;
2. Interpret data without prejudice;
3. Reconsider assumptions to reach their own conclusions.

By refraining from expressing personal views before and during the period of research and study, the teacher shall encourage students to search for facts and to think for themselves.

Before beginning the study of a controversial topic, a teacher shall discuss the issue with the principal or designee. Before making a decision, the principal shall review and evaluate:

1. The appropriateness of the topic in relation to the course syllabus;
2. The appropriateness of the topic in relation to the students' maturity level; and
3. The appropriateness of the proposed teaching methods and materials.

The superintendent shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 336.067](#)

[OAR 581-022-1020](#)

[OAR 581-022-1910](#)

U.S. CONST. amend. I.

OR. CONST., art. I.

Cross Reference(s):

IB - Freedom of Expression

INC - Community Resource Persons/Controversial Speakers