

Ontario School District 8

Code: **II/IIA**
Adopted: 06/15/95
Readopted: 8/18/10
Orig. Code(s): II/IIA

Instructional Materials Selection

The Board is responsible for the adoption of instructional materials. The district staff shall select instructional materials which will implement and enhance the district's instructional goals, as adopted by the Board.

Selection Objectives

When reviewing and selecting instructional materials, the objectives will be:

1. To select materials that will provide improvements in content, organization, and teaching methods;
2. To ensure accurate and up-to-date content that includes new concepts, insights, and facts;
3. To provide for sequential growth from level to level;
4. To provide a fair representation of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage;
5. To provide recognition of minority groups and women by placing them frequently in positions of leadership and example. There will be no discrimination or bias or prejudice toward sex, race, religion, disability or age.

Instructional materials are an essential part of each school's program and should ensure that every student has an opportunity to meet the goals of the district. Instructional materials selection shall be a cooperative venture in which principals, media specialists, and teachers participate. Formal advisory committees may be established where appropriate. Final decisions on purchase will rest with the superintendent or designee, subject to official adoption by the Board in the case of basal instructional materials.

Selection Criteria

The district has adopted the following guidelines for the selection of instructional materials:

1. To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities and maturity levels of the students served;
2. To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards;
3. To provide a background of information which will enable students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives;

4. To provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues, so that young citizens may develop, under guidance, the practice of critical reading and thinking;
5. To provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage.

Objection Procedures

Any criticism of books or materials that are in a district media center or used in one of its classrooms must be submitted in writing on the form entitled “Request for Reconsideration of Materials” to the principal who will forward a copy to the superintendent. The superintendent will take the matter to the Board. The superintendent will appoint a review committee to be composed of:

1. A secondary or elementary media specialist;
2. Three teachers of the same grade level or department where the material is being used;
3. The principal of the school involved;
4. Three local community members.

The challenged book or material will be judged by the committee as to its conformity to the aforementioned principles.

The material in question will remain on the shelf or in use unless removed through the formal procedure.

Committee Review Procedures

The following committee review procedures will be followed:

1. Committee members will receive copies of the statement questioning the instructional material;
2. Opportunity shall be afforded those persons or groups questioning the materials to meet with the committee and to present their opinions. The media specialist or any other person involved with the selection or use of the questioned material shall also have an opportunity to meet with the committee to present their position in the matter;
3. The committee will review and judge the material according to the aforementioned principles as a whole and not on passages taken out of context.

Appeals of the decisions of the committee may be made through the superintendent to the Board.

Request for Reconsideration of Materials

Author _____

Title _____

Publisher _____

Request initiated by _____

Telephone _____

Address _____

Complainant Represents:

Self _____

Name of Organization _____

Identify Other Group _____

Use Back of sheet if necessary.

1. To what in the material do you object? (Please be specific) _____

2. What do you feel might be the result of reading or viewing this material? _____

3. For what age group would you recommend this material? _____

4. Is there anything good about the material? _____

5. Did you view or read the material in its entirety? (If not, what parts did you examine.) _____

6. Are you aware of the judgment of this material by literary critics? _____

7. What do you believe is the theme of this material? _____

8. What would you like the librarian to do about this material? _____

9. What do you see as the purpose of this material? _____

10. What other material, serving substantially the same purpose, would you recommend in the place of this? _____

Date

Signature of Complainant

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 336.035](#)

[ORS 337.120](#)

[ORS 337.141](#)

[ORS 337.150](#)

[ORS 337.260](#)

[ORS 339.155](#)

[OAR 581-011-0050 to -0119](#)

[OAR 581-021-0045](#)

[OAR 581-021-0046](#)

[OAR 581-022-1140](#)

[OAR 581-022-1520](#)

[OAR 581-022-1640](#)

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