

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Background

The Board Division endorses the provision of a wide range of learning resources which will be of maximum educational benefit to students.

Procedures

1. The primary objective of learning resources is to support, enrich, and to assist in implementing the educational program of the school through the interaction of professional personnel and other members of the school. It is the duty of professional staff to provide students with a wide range of materials at varying levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal as well as presenting materials with varying points of view.
2. The Division delegates the responsibility for the selection of learning resources to the professional staff employed by the school system.
 - 2.1 While selection of learning resources involves many people (administrators, teachers, students, community persons, resource centre personnel), the responsibility for coordinating the selection of school learning resources and making the recommendation for purchase rests with the Principal and professional personnel. These persons will be guided by the list of instructional materials authorized by the Ministry of Education and the Director.
3. It is the responsibility of professional staff to:
 - 3.1 Provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interested, abilities, learning styles and maturity levels of the students served.
 - 3.2 Provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation and aesthetic values.
 - 3.3 Provide materials on various sides of controversial issues so that young citizens may have an opportunity to develop under guidance the practice of critical analysis and to make informed judgments in their daily lives.
 - 3.4 Provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic and cultural groups and their contributions to our national heritage and the world community.
 - 3.5 Place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate to the school.

4. General guidelines for selection

- 4.1 Materials purchased for the school library collection are purchased on the following basis:
 - 4.1.1 They support and are consistent with educational goals of the province, Division, individual school and specific courses.
 - 4.1.2 They meet high standards of quality in content and presentation.
 - 4.1.3 They shall be appropriate for the subject area, as well as age and ability of students for whom they are intended.
 - 4.1.4 They are developed by competent authors and producers.
- 4.2 Non fiction works are truthful, which includes factual accuracy, authenticity, balance and integrity.
- 4.3 Materials containing a significant amount of profanity or which express a debased view of sexual relationships or which advocate the overthrow of the Canadian Government shall not be recommended for purchase.
- 4.4 Emphasis will be placed on the selection of Canadian materials where appropriate.

5. Procedures for selection of learning resources

- 5.1 In selecting learning resources, professional personnel will evaluate available resources and curriculum needs and will consult reputable, professionally prepared aids to selection and other appropriate sources. The actual resource will be examined whenever possible.
- 5.2 Gift materials shall be judged by the criteria outlined and shall be accepted or rejected by those criteria.
- 5.3 Selection is an ongoing process which is to include the removal of materials no longer appropriate and the replacement of lost or worn materials still of educational value.

- 6. Any resident or employee of the Division may formally challenge learning resources used in the Division educational program on the basis of appropriateness. Request for reconsideration of material may be informal or formal. Procedures to follow are outlined in Administrative Procedure 251 – Curriculum and Instruction Challenge.

Reference: Sections 85, 87, 175 Education Act
The School Division Administration Regulations 45
The Education Regulations 37

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