

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT CURRICULA
OR
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL

The Board of Education recognizes students' rights of free access to many different types of books and instructional materials and the right of teachers and administrators to recommend books and other materials for selection by the Board in accord with current trends in education, and to make them available in the schools.

The Board's aim is to provide materials that present all points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times: international, national and local. Books and other reading matter shall be chosen for values of interest and enlightenment of all students in the community. A book shall not be excluded because of the race, nationality, political or religious views of its author or its style and language. Books and other reading matter of sound factual authority shall not be precluded from nor removed from the library or classrooms because of partisan or doctrinal approval or disapproval.

Procedures for Handling Challenged Materials

The Superintendent of Schools shall promulgate regulations subject to Board approval establishing a complaint procedure. The Instructional Material Review Committee also shall be established. The members of the committee shall be recommended by the Superintendent and appointed by the Board. All complaints concerning textbooks, library books and other instructional material shall be submitted to the Principal of the building where the material is being challenged. The complaint procedure shall include:

1. an opportunity for an informal conference with the Principal where the material is being challenged;
2. the submission of a formal written complaint on a prescribed form and a copy of the form sent to the Superintendent along with the Principal's recommendations;
3. a review of the complaint and the Principal's recommendations by the Instructional Review Committee, which will make recommendations to the Superintendent concerning the disposition of any complaint;
4. a decision by the Superintendent upon review of the complaint and the recommendations of the principal and the committee; and
5. an appeal to the Board of Education. The decision of the Board shall be final.

Procedures for Handling Complaints Concerning Curricula

All complaints concerning the content of any curriculum in the district shall be referred to the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent shall promulgate regulations subject to Board approval establishing a complaint procedure similar to those established for complaints about instructional material.

Adopted: December 15, 1998