

Instruction

Instructional Materials

All District classrooms, programs, services and learning centers shall be equipped with an evenly-proportioned, wide assortment of instructional materials, including textbooks, workbooks, multi-media materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet). These materials should provide quality learning experiences for students and:

1. Enrich and support the curriculum;
2. Stimulate growth in knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards;
3. Provide background information to enable students to make informed judgments and promote critical reading and thinking;
4. Depict in an accurate and unbiased way the cultural diversity and pluralistic nature of American society; and
5. Contribute to a sense of the worth of all people regardless of sex, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, or any other differences that may exist.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually provide a list or description of textbooks and instructional materials used in the District to the School Board. Anyone may inspect any textbook or instructional material.

Teachers are encouraged to use age-appropriate supplemental material only when it will enhance, or otherwise illustrate, the subjects being taught. No movie or movie excerpt above the “G” rating shall be shown to students unless prior approval is received from the Superintendent or designee, and no movie rated NC-17 (no one 17 and under admitted) shall be shown under any circumstances. These restrictions apply to television programs and other media with equivalent ratings.

A student’s parent/guardian may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child/ward’s educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request. This does not include academic tests or academic assessments. Parents/guardians may request that their child or ward not be required to participate in a particular activity if they find the material to be objectionable. An alternative activity or project will be offered.

Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption

The Superintendent shall approve the selection of all textbooks and instructional materials according to the standards described in this policy. The School Code governs the adoption and purchase of textbooks and instructional materials.

Cable Television

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to manage the operation of a cable television channel to broadcast educational programs, showcase student performance, and otherwise function as a District-sponsored communication instrument in compliance with State and federal laws and in alignment with Board policy.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.8 and 5/28-19.1.

CROSS REF.: 5:170 (Copyright), 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED: October 19, 2017