

## PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE CURRICULUM OR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The Board recognizes the need and right of students to free access to many different types of books and materials. It also recognizes the right of the certificated staff to select books and other materials supportive of the District's educational philosophy and goals.

Criticism of a book or other materials used in the school may be expected from time to time. In such instances:

1. If a parent requests that his/her own child not read a given book, the teacher and/or school administrator should resolve the issue, perhaps by arranging for use of alternative material meeting essentially the same instructional purpose.
2. The Board will not permit any individual or group to exercise censorship over instructional materials and library collections, but it recognizes that, at times, a re-evaluation of certain material may be desirable. Should an individual or group ask to have any book or other material withdrawn from school use:
  - A. The person who objects to the book or other material will be asked to sign a complaint on a standard form documenting his/her criticism.
  - B. Following receipt of the formal complaint, the Superintendent will provide for a re-evaluation of the material in question. He/She will arrange for the appointment of a review committee from among the faculty and community to consider the complaint.
  - C. The Superintendent will review the complaint and the committee's re-evaluation and will render a decision in the matter. Should the decision be unsatisfactory to the complainant, it may be appealed to the Board.

The Board assumes final responsibility for all books and instructional materials which it makes available to students, and it holds its certificated staff accountable for their proper selections. The Board also recognizes rights of individual parents with respect to controversial materials used by their own children and will provide for the re-evaluation of materials in library collections upon formal request.

[Adoption date: September 25, 1995]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3329.07; 3329.08; 3329.09

CROSS REFS.: IIA, Instructional Materials

IIAA, Textbook Selection and Adoption

IIAC, Library Materials Selection and Adoption

INB, Teaching About Controversial Issues

KL, Public Complaints

KLD, Public Complaints About School Personnel