

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: RESOURCE MATERIALS

ADOPTED: March 10, 1997

REVISED: October 11, 1999

| 109. RESOURCE MATERIALS | |
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| <p>1. Purpose SC 801, 803 Title 22 Sec. 4.13</p> | <p>The Board shall provide instructional and evaluative materials to implement the district and school educational goals and academic standards.</p> |
| <p>2. Definition</p> | <p>Resource materials shall include reference books, other supplementary titles, all audio-visual materials, maps, library books, and all other instructional material.</p> |
| <p>3. Delegation of Responsibility SC 803</p> | <p>The Superintendent, after consultation with the teaching staff shall be responsible for the selection, recommendation, and maintenance of all resource materials. No adoption or change of materials shall be made without his or her recommendation, except by a two-thirds vote of the Board.</p> <p>S/He shall develop selection procedures which:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, aesthetic values, and ethical standards. 2. Provides a background of information which will enable pupils to make intelligent judgments in their daily life. 3. Provides materials on opposing sides of controversial issues so that young citizens may develop under guidance the practice of critical reading and thinking. 4. Provides materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage. 5. Places 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 for the users of the libraries and the various curricula. |

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| <p>4. Guidelines</p> | <p><u>Standards</u></p> <p>The district believes that only those materials which lead toward the development and enrichment of the life of the individual should be included in the libraries. The content should be important for a pupil's life and growth and should contribute to his/her understanding of himself/herself and of his/her relation to his/her community. These materials should be representative of man's human development and assist the student in gaining insight into human values, appreciation of the spiritual and joy in the beautiful. Materials which provide thought about any of the constantly changing concepts, or even arouse opposition to them are selected, providing they do not seek to destroy the principles on which our civilization is based.</p> <p>To this end, and striving to keep a well-balanced collection, the following aids for selection are used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Wilson Standard Catalogs for Libraries.2. A.L.A. Basic Book Collections.3. The Book Report.4. The Booklist & Subscription Books Bulletin.5. School Library Journal.6. Book review sections of newspapers & magazines.7. Recommendations of the members of the teaching staff and student body.8. Annual book previewing of new releases. <p>A listing of all resource materials shall be made available for the information of the parents, for the use of the professional staff, for the information of the members of the Board and the students.</p> <p>Provision for duplication and replacement is made to meet the needs and the demands of the pupils and the curriculum.</p> <p>The Board, though it is finally responsible for all learning material purchases, recognizes the student's right of free access to many different types of learning materials. The Board also recognizes the right of teachers and administrators to</p> |
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select books and other materials in accord with current trends in education and to make them available in the schools. It is, therefore, the policy of the Board to require the materials for the schools be in accord with the following:

1. Books and other learning materials 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 view of the writer.
2. Every effort will be made to provide materials that present all points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times, international, national, and local, and books or other reading matter of sound factual authority shall not be proscribed or removed from library shelves or classrooms because of partisan, doctrinal approval or disapproval.
3. Censorship of books and learning materials shall be challenged in order to maintain the school's responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

In accordance with the above, the Board has adopted the following policy when dealing with the approval for purchase of books or other learning materials:

1. That the final decision for controversial reading matter and other learning materials shall rest with the Board after careful examination and discussion of the material.
2. That no parent or group of parents has the right to determine reading matter for students other than their own children.
3. The Board does, however, recognize the right of an individual parent to request that his/her child does not have to read a given book provided a written request is made to the building principal.
4. Any parent who wishes to make a request for reconsideration of the use of any learning material in the school must make such a request in writing on forms provided by the building principal. Copies of the request will then be forwarded to the Superintendent and the Textbook Reviewing Committee for appropriate action.

Material Reevaluation Procedure

Individuals, organizations, or groups who challenge or criticize instructional materials shall be asked to complete the form "Citizen's Report for Reevaluation of Material".

After completing the above mentioned form, a school committee composed of the teacher in the subject area, the principal, and the supervisor (or the librarian where appropriate) shall review the written criticisms and attempt to reach a decision of the complaint.

The complainant shall receive notification of the committee's decision. A copy shall be kept by school office.

If a decision is not reached which is satisfactory to the complainant, the principal shall request the Assistant Superintendent to delegate a Central Committee to review and make a final decision concerning the disposition of the complaint. This decision will be reported back to the principal by the Assistant Superintendent. This Central Committee shall be composed of an administrator, a supervisor in the subject area under question (or the librarian where appropriate), a classroom teacher in the subject area, and a mature parent. No member of the Central Committee shall have been a member of the local school committee with the exception of the supervisor.

The materials involved shall have been withdrawn from general circulation and use pending a decision in writing by the Central Committee.