

INSTRUCTION

Instructional Materials P 6-47**A. Supplemental Books and Other Publications**

Publications to be used in the classrooms or to be made available through school libraries shall be selected in accordance with the following:

1. The professional staff, representing the various age groups of students and the disciplines in the curriculum, shall have a primary voice in the selection process.
2. Books and other publications shall be selected for the enlightenment and interest of all students. A book shall not be excluded solely for reasons of the race, nationality or political or religious views of the writer.
3. Materials selected should be balanced to present many points of view concerning problems and issues on local, state, national and international levels.
4. Standard evaluation aids such as catalogs and book reviews shall be used where applicable.
5. The factual accuracy, authoritativeness, balance and integrity of the material shall be considered along with the presentation of both the material and ideas therein.

B. Audiovisual Aids

The criteria for the selection of supplemental books and other publications shall be the criteria for the purchase of audio-visual materials with the addition of the following:

1. Videos rated PG-13 may not be selected for use at the elementary or middle school levels unless a division committee of teachers, administrators, and parents makes a formal recommendation in writing to the superintendent or his designee that the video be shown due to its content and its correlation to specific instructional goals. The superintendent or his designee shall render the decision about the purchase and use of the video. In any case, PG-13 videos may not be viewed by elementary and middle school students without parental permission.
2. Videos rated PG-13 may be selected for use at the high school level with the principal's approval. However, parental permission is required prior to students' viewing the video.
3. Videos rated R may not be selected for use at elementary and middle school

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levels. At the high school level, videos rated R must be referred to a division committee of teachers, administrators, and parents makes a formal recommendation in writing to the superintendent that the video be shown due to its content and its correlation to specific instructional goals. The superintendent or his designee shall render the decision about the purchase and use of the video. In any case, R-rated videos may not be shown to students without parental permission.

Legal Reference

Code of Va., §22.1-253.13:7. Standard 7. Policy manual.--. . . D. Each local school board shall ensure that the policy manual include the following policies, which shall be developed giving consideration to the views of teachers, parents and other concerned citizens. . . .

2. A policy for the selection and evaluation of all instructional materials purchased by the school division, with clear procedures for handling challenged controversial materials; . . ."(1992)

Virginia Board of Education Regulations, "Governing Selection and Use of Instructional Materials by Local School Boards." (September 1997)

Adopted by School Board: June 19, 1973
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