

Instruction

SUBJECT: OBJECTION TO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

Any criticism of instructional materials that are in the schools should be submitted in writing to the Superintendent and the Board will be informed. A committee, including the librarian and building principal, will be designated by the Superintendent to investigate and judge the challenged material according to the principles and qualitative standards stated in Policy #8320 -- Selection of Library and Multimedia Materials.

Study of Specific Materials/Conflict with Religious Beliefs

In accordance with applicable law and regulation, a student may be excused from the study of specific materials relating to health and hygiene if these materials are in conflict with the religion of his or her parents or guardians. Alternatives may be provided that are of comparable instructional value.

Controversial Issues

Controversial issues may be studied as part of the curriculum and teachers will present these issues in their classrooms in an impartial and objective manner.

Teachers wishing to call upon outside speakers in the presentation of controversial issues are required to obtain the approval of the principal who will keep in mind the obligation for presenting opposing views as well, and who will inform the Superintendent prior to the presentation.

It is recognized that parents and citizens of the community have a right to protest to the school administration when convinced that unfair and biased presentations are being made by the teacher. In considering such protests, the Superintendent will provide for a hearing so that both parties may fairly express their views. If requested, the Superintendent's decision may be appealed to the Board.

Education Law § 3204(5)
8 NYCRR § 135.3

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #8320 -- Selection of Library and Multimedia Materials
#8360 -- Religious Expression in the Instructional Program

Adoption Date: June 13, 2019