

Handling Questions Concerning Instructional Resources

The Board, though it is ultimately responsible for all curriculum and instructional resources, including library books, recognizes the need and right of students to free access to many different types of books and resources. It also recognizes the right of the professional staff to select books and other resources supportive of the district's educational philosophy and goals.

The Board has approved principles governing the selection of all instructional resources including library books, and has established policies pertaining to the selection process. However, since opinions concerning the usefulness and merits of books and audio-visual resources which have been selected may differ, the following procedures are observed in recognizing those differences in an impartial and factual manner.

1. Questions concerning books, audio-visual resources and request for reevaluation must be presented in writing on Form L-430-18 to a Committee for Review of Instructional Resources. This form may be obtained from the Librarian, Principal's Office or the Office of the Superintendent.
2. Superintendent shall establish committees for the review of Instructional Resources broadly representative of 1) Teacher(s) competent in, and teaching in the area of content covered by the book or audio-visual resource, 2) library/media specialist(s), 3) administrator(s) including a principal, director of curriculum, and the assistant superintendent, and 4) representative citizen(s).
3. Initial action on a written request on the proper form shall be taken as quickly as possible after receipt of the request, but not to exceed 30 working days.
4. A written report from the review committee shall be submitted to the Superintendent for transmittal to the person who has requested the reevaluation. The results of the committee and superintendent's evaluation may be appealed to the Board of Education.
5. Textbooks approved by the Board of Education shall not be subject to reevaluation for a period of one year following their purchase and use.
6. Once an instructional resource has been adopted and reevaluated, the resource cannot be subject to further review without special approval by the Board of Education.
7. The Board of Education may request that an instructional resource be evaluated by a committee or recognized scholars. Such a committee shall be selected by the Superintendent in consultation with representatives of appropriate institutions.
8. Questioned resources shall remain in use in the schools pending final decision.

The Board recognizes the right of an individual parent to request that his own child not read a given book. When such a request is presented, the teacher and/or school administrator should resolve the situation, perhaps by arranging for use of an alternative resource meeting essentially the same instructional purpose. This does not apply, however, to basic program texts and resources that the Board has adopted.

The Board shall not permit any individual or group to exercise censorship over instructional resources and library collections.

L-430-18
Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Resources

Date _____

Type of Resources: _____

Author (if applicable): _____

Title: _____

Publisher or Producer: _____

Name of Requestor: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Complainant Represents (check one):

- Self
- A student
- Community or Group Interest

1. To what in the resource do you object? (Please be specific; cite pages or location).

2. Is there anything good about this resource?

3. For what age groups would you recommend this resource?

4. What do you feel might be the result of exposing students to this resource?

5. Did you read/view/hear the entire resource? Yes No
What parts?

6. What do you believe is the theme of this resource?

7. Are you aware of the judgment of this resource by professional critics?

8. What would you like your school to do about this resource?

- Do not assign it to my child.
 Withdraw it from all students as well as from my child.
 Have it reevaluated by the professional staff responsible for resources selection.
 Other: _____

9. In its place, what resource of equal quality would you recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of the subject?

10. Please attach another page for additional comments or if you need more space for answering questions.

Signature of Complainant

Date

File this request with:

Superintendent
Delta County School District 50J
7655 2075 Road
Delta, CO 81416

Delta County School District 50J

Adopted: November 20, 2014