

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS: PROVISION/SELECTION/CARE

Provision

The Board of Directors shall provide educational materials and equipment that support and enrich the curriculum and further the achievement of LEARN's instructional goals.

Textbooks, instructional materials and equipment shall be furnished by the Board of Directors for all LEARN students. The following exceptions apply:

1. Individual project materials to be used in such subjects as technical education, family and consumer science and art courses.
2. Materials to be used for special projects not required for credit in a course.
3. Personal clothing items worn for physical education and other in-school athletic activities.

Selection

Instructional materials, including textbooks, should be updated as part of the ongoing curriculum development cycle. The following guidelines should be used in order to select the most appropriate instructional materials:

1. Instructional materials, including textbooks, should be aligned with the written curriculum. These materials are used to implement the curriculum, not to replace the curriculum.
2. The curriculum committee for a given subject area should develop criteria for selection of instructional materials and evaluate materials according to the criteria.
3. Instructional materials should provide students with activities designed to foster higher order thinking skills.
4. Instructional materials should foster a respect for cultural and ethnic diversity.
5. Teachers should have in-service training in the use of new curricular materials prior to implementation of the materials.
6. Instructional materials should be developmentally appropriate for students.

The administration will develop a process for the selection of new instructional materials that meets the above criteria. By state statute, the Board will make the final selection decision for new textbooks. Other instructional materials will be selected by the certified staff.

Selection of Reading Assignments and Other Instructional Materials

Pupil reading assignments and other instructional materials shall be selected with regard to a pupil's

maturity and capacity to understand the material.

However, no students shall be required to read material, which their parents/guardians find distasteful for any ethical or religious reason.

Care

A record shall be kept of all LEARN-owned books which are issued to students in LEARN elementary and secondary schools/programs. The record shall include the specific number of the book, the condition of the book at the time it is issued and the name of the student to whom it is issued.

Every book issued shall bear the stamp of LEARN.

Each teacher shall conduct regular book inspections. When a textbook is damaged or lost, the student responsible shall be required to pay an assessment cost of the damaged or lost book in order to replace the book.

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes
10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited. School attendance by five-year-olds. (as amended by PA 80-405)
10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules. (as amended by 81-257; 82-137 Re: sanctions that may be imposed against pupils who damage or fail to return textbooks, library materials or other educational materials)
10-228 Free textbooks, supplies, materials and equipment
10-229 Change of textbooks
President's council, district 25 v. Community School Board No. 25 (457 F.2d. 289 (1972), cert. denied Nov. 1972
Minarcini v Strongsville city School District, (541 F.2d. 577 (6th Cir. 1976))

Academic Freedom Policy (adopted by Connecticut State board of Education 9/9/81).

Policy Adopted: May 10, 2001

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