

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

TITLE: SELECTION OF LEARNING RESOURCES

CATEGORY: EDUCATION

NUMBER: 1270

I. Rationale:

There is a wide range of potential materials available to our educational staff. In order to ensure an excellent educational experience for our students, teachers and principals shall select learning materials based on the guidelines below.

II. Objectives of Selection

A. "Learning Resources" is a term, which can refer to any person(s) or any material (whether acquired or locally produced), with instructional content or function that is used for formal or informal teaching/learning purposes. Learning resources include textbooks, other books, supplementary reading and informational materials, charts, community resource people, agencies and organizations, dioramas, filmstrips, flash cards, games, globes, kits, machine-readable data files, maps, microfilms, models, motion pictures, periodicals, pictures, regalia, slides, sound recordings, transparencies, video recordings and all online resources.

B. The primary objective of learning resources is to support, enrich and help to implement the educational programs of the school. It is the duty of professional staff to provide students with a wide range of materials at varying levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal and the presentation of different points of view.

C. It is the responsibility of professional staff:

1. To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, learning styles and maturity levels of the students served;
2. To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and societal standards;
3. To provide materials on various sides of controversial issues so that young citizens may have an opportunity to develop, under guidance, the practice of critical analysis and to make informed judgments in their daily lives;
4. To provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our national heritage and the world community;
5. To place 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 to the school community.

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III. Criteria for Selection of Learning Resources

A. Learning resources shall:

1. support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the province and district and the aims and objectives of individual schools and teachers.
2. meet high standards of quality in factual content and presentation.
3. be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles and social development of the students for whom the materials are selected.
4. have aesthetic, literary and/or social values.
5. have a physical format and appearance that is suitable for their intended use.
6. be developed by competent authors and producers.
7. be chosen to foster respect for and an understanding of the contributions made to our civilization by minority and ethnic groups.
8. not reflect negative stereotypes unless to demonstrate the issue itself.
9. shall provide a stimulus for creativity.
10. be designed to motivate students and staff to examine their own attitudes and behaviours and to comprehend their own duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges as participating citizens in our society.
11. represent differing points of view on controversial subjects with the goal of providing a balanced collection or argument.
12. clarify historical and contemporary forces by presenting and analyzing intergroup tension and conflict objectively, placing emphasis on recognizing and understanding social and economic problems.
13. be placed on the selection of Canadian learning resources (i.e. book and non-book learning materials by or about a Canadian person, about a region or event, and/or published or produced in Canada).

IV. Procedures for Selection of Learning Resources

- A. Professional staff shall evaluate the existing collection, assess curricular and

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recreational needs, and use reputable professionally-prepared selection tools and other appropriate sources.

B. Principals, teachers, students, district personnel and community persons shall be involved as appropriate.

C. In the case of learning material dealing with sensitive and controversial matters, staff shall exercise good professional judgment.

D. Gifts shall be judged by the same criteria outlined for the selection of regular resources and will be accepted or rejected on that basis.

E. Materials that are no longer appropriate or accurate shall be discarded.

F. Locally developed texts shall be presented to the Superintendent for approval.

G. Objections to the use of a particular text or other learning resource shall be handled in accordance with the Regulation 1250 - Review of Educational Materials.

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References:

