

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS/TEXTBOOKS

The School Committee recognizes that knowledge is changing and expanding and that it is imperative that the curriculum and instructional materials continue to evolve with changing times and demands. It is the role of the teachers and administrators, in their professional capacity, to identify those resources (print, electronic, etc.) that can be suitably adopted to enhance the curriculum and support a range of critical thinking skills in our students.

The School Committee believes that materials appropriate to the needs of the school program must be available to each student and teacher. The acquisition of textbooks and other instructional materials should be done with consideration to the wide range of learning needs that exist within our classrooms.

Increasingly, textbooks are serving as only a portion of the instructional material used in a curriculum. The task of selecting textbooks, and other instructional materials and programs will be delegated to the professional staff. The following selection guidelines shall be considered:

1. Instructional materials will present multiple perspectives of international, national, and local issues and problems of the past, present and future.
2. Instructional materials will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, and/or aesthetic and ethical values.
3. Instructional materials will help students develop abilities in critical reading and thinking.
4. Instructional materials will help develop and foster an appreciation of cultural diversity and development in the United States and throughout the world.
5. Instructional materials will not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, homelessness, linguistic differences, disabilities, or sexual orientation.
6. Instructional materials provide accessibility for meeting the needs of individual students and groups of students.

The building principal will identify budget priorities with respect to funding textbooks and other instructional materials. In doing so, the instructional goals of the school and strategic planning priorities will be considered. Input from teachers and administrators will be paramount in prioritizing the purchase of these materials.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 71:48; 71:49; 71:50

CROSS REF.: IJ-R

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