

Instruction

Educational Resources and Materials

Consistent with the encouragement from the State Board of Education, the Stafford Board of Education recognizes the importance of the pursuit of knowledge, personal student development, and the teaching of personal responsibility.

To the degree that resources permit, the Stafford Board of Education affirms that it is the policy of the school system to provide a wide range of instructional materials and resources on varied levels of difficulty and appeal, to present different points of view and to provide procedures for reviewing instructional materials. Instructional materials should be free of bias in the following areas: gender, race, religion, age, color, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, and disability.

Instructional materials include books, other printed materials, software technology and educational media to meet the curricular demands of the system. The final responsibility for providing for educational instructional materials rests with the Board of Education, with the selection of core textbook adoptions related to curriculum revision and supplemental instructional programs that span several years. In all other cases the Board normally delegates the responsibility for selection of instructional materials to the administration and professional staff of the Stafford Schools.

To provide complete education, materials presenting differing values, attitudes, and positions on issues should be made available to students in the schools. The maturity of the student and the guidance of the professional staff serve as the basis for the selection of materials.

The use of instructional materials or literary works for legitimate educational reasons does not constitute an endorsement of specific ideas or ideologies. Classics are available and used as a source of cultural knowledge and value. Contemporary materials are selected for their literary or artistic merit and/or in terms of their ability to portray situations of concern to today's students.

The availability of particular materials in the schools does not imply their approval for all students. The Board recognizes the right of individual students and parents to request an alternate assignment. Granting an alternate assignment for that student does not exclude other students from participating in the assignment or activity.

In the interest of serving the community and individuals, the Superintendent shall ensure that a system of review and action relative to any materials alleged to be inappropriate for educational use will be implemented, as needed.

Challenged material will remain in use in the school pending decisions and conclusions at any level.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-221](#) Boards of education to prescribe rules.

[10-228](#) Free textbooks, supplies, materials and equipment.

[10-229](#) Change of textbooks.

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