

Policy IJJ Textbook Selection and Adoption

Issued ~~5/15~~

Purpose: To establish the board's vision and basic structure for the selection, adoption and management of textbooks to be used by the district.

In adopting textbooks for use in the school system, the board must carefully consider the rights, freedoms, and responsibilities of students, parents/legal guardians, and teachers.

The board's first commitment in the selection and adoption of textbooks will be the preservation of the student's right to learn in an atmosphere of academic freedom. The board supports the rights of teachers to exercise professional judgment in selecting textbooks and other instructional materials that most appropriately support state standards; but, at the same time, will require teachers to balance this right with an awareness of their responsibility to meet the district's educational goals and objectives.

The board recognizes the rights of parents/legal guardians to influence the education of their children. The board will not, however, allow the wishes of any individual to infringe upon the rights of the majority of the students or compromise the commitment of the district to teach content aligned to state standards.

Adoption Process

The superintendent will be responsible for selecting and recommending to the board for adoption all basic textbooks to be used in the district's program of education.

Selection Process

The superintendent will recommend textbooks in specific curriculum areas based upon the recommendation of textbook committees composed of the following individuals:

- teachers,
- department chairs,
- supervisors,
- directors,
- principals,
- coaches, and/or
- specialists.

The committee may seek comments from interested parents/legal guardians, community members, and students. The committee will select texts from those on the approved list of the State Department of Education.

The district may request that the State Board of Education add a textbook or series to the approved list under the following circumstances: