SOUTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS

AND INSTRUCIONAL RESOURCE MATERIALS

ADOPTED: June 10, 2002

REVISED: November 24, 2014

108. ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE MATERIALS

1. Authority SC 508, 801, 803 Policy 006 The Board shall, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the full Board, adopt all textbooks used for instruction in the district's educational program. The Board shall establish a planned cycle of textbook review and replacement.

2. Purpose Title 22 Sec. 4.13 SC 801, 803 The school district shall provide instructional and evaluative materials to implement and support the district's and the schools' educational goals and academic standards.

The primary objective of the Southern Lehigh School District textbooks and instructional resource materials program is to implement, enrich, and support the educational program of the district. It is the purpose of the instructional resource materials program to provide a wide range of materials on all levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal, and the presentation of different points of view.

3. Definition

For purposes of this policy, textbooks shall be defined as those books which are to be used as the primary source of any information in any class. Resource materials shall include reference books, supplementary titles, multimedia and digital materials, maps, library books, software and instructional resource materials.

4. Delegation of Responsibility SC 803 Policy 006 The Superintendent shall be responsible for the selection and recommendation of textbooks and instructional resource materials for Board consideration. No adoption or change of textbook or purchase of instructional resource materials shall be made without his/her recommendation, except by a two-thirds vote of the Board.

School library media centers are concerned with generating understanding of American freedoms and with the preservation of these freedoms through the development of informed and responsible citizens. To this end, Southern Lehigh School District supports the School Library Bill of Rights endorsed by the Council of the American Library Association.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a plan for the selection of textbooks and instructional resource materials.

4. Guidelines

Guidelines for selecting textbooks and instructional resource materials include the

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- 1. Professional staff members selected by the Superintendent or designee shall participate in the selection process.
- 2. Textbooks and instructional resource materials currently in use shall be periodically evaluated for their continuing usefulness and relevance.
- 3. Textbooks and instructional resource materials with copyright dates more than six (6) years old shall be reviewed for their suitability for use in the classroom.
- 4. The staff shall continually research new sources of textbooks and instructional resource materials.

In considering the approval of any proposed textbook and instructional resource materials, the Board will evaluate its:

- 1. Suitability for the maturity level and educational accomplishment of the students who will be using the book.
- 2. Freedom from bias.
- 3. Relationship to the curriculum.
- 4. Relationship to a continuous multigrade program.
- 5. Manner of selection.
- 6. Cost.
- 7. Appearance and durability.
- 8. Materials shall relate to, support and enrich the planned instruction adopted by the Board.

Access to textbooks and instructional resource materials shall be made available to professional staff, Board members, students and parents.

School Code 508, 801, 803

To allow for Board and community review of proposed new textbooks, samples will be placed on display. They will be available for review in the Southern Lehigh School District central office for two (2) weeks prior to Board approval.

Rated Instructional Resource Materials

Many off-air recorded television and radio programs, videotapes and movies have

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educational value and enhance the district curriculum. The Motion Picure Association of America rates film content. District personnel will provide written notification and seek parental permission whenever the materials exceed a G: General Audiences rating.

If not formally rated, materials should satisfy the intent of a General Audience rating, specifically containing nothing in theme, language, nudity and sex, violence, etc. which would be offensive to parents whose children view the instructional resource materials.

(MPAA Guidelines)

Reference: Board Policy 906