

Section 600 – Instruction
Instructional Materials
Instructional Materials Selection

File: 606.01

The board of education recognizes that appropriate texts, library reference material, maps and globes, laboratory equipment, audiovisual equipment, art supplies, athletic equipment, current periodicals, standard tests and questionnaires, and similar materials are the tools of the teaching profession. The board of education will attempt to provide finances, within the means of the district, to maintain a desirable instructional program.

Upon the recommendation of the staff and administration the board of education will approve any major text book changes or adoptions. At the beginning of each school year the board of education will appoint a three person committee, known as the Americanism committee, whose duties shall be to examine, inspect, and approve all textbooks to be used in the teaching of American history and civil government.

The board of education which is responsible for the purchase of all material recognizes the student's right of free access to many different types of media. The board of education also recognizes the right of teachers and administrators to select books and materials in accord with current trends in education and to make them readily available in the schools. It shall be the policy of this district to purchase materials utilizing the following procedures:

SELECTION GUIDELINES

1. Materials should strive to enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, maturity levels, and the ethnic backgrounds of the students served.
2. Materials should strive to stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciations, aesthetic values, and ethical standards.
3. Selections of materials should strive to provide a background of information, thus enabling students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives.
4. Selections of material should strive to present opposing sides of controversial issues, so that students may develop under guidance the practice of critical reading and thinking.
5. Selection of materials should strive to represent all religious, political, ethnic, and social groups and their contribution to our American heritage.
6. Materials shall be in harmony with the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Nebraska.

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SPECIFIC REGULATIONS ON SELECTION

1. The responsibility of selection shall rest with the appropriate administrator or his or her professionally qualified designate in consultation with the certified staff.
2. The basic factors in selection shall be the curriculum, the reading interest, the abilities, the backgrounds, and maturity levels of the students.
3. All selection of material shall be a cooperative continuing process in which administrators, teachers, media specialists, and students participate.
4. Materials, made available through individuals or outside agencies, shall be referred to the appropriate administrator for screening.
5. The following authorities are representative of those which may be consulted in selection of library materials:
 - A. Publications by: American Library Association, National Council of Teachers of English, H. W. Wilson catalog series, American Association for the Advancement of Science, National Education Association, and the Association for Education Communication and Technology.
 - B. Current periodicals, such as: School Library Journal, American Library Association Booklist, Horn Book, and professional journals in various subjects.

DISPOSAL OF DISCONTINUED INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL

Non-consumable instructional supplies become surplus to the school district for a variety of reason, among them:

1. Obsolete - to be replaced by updated material.
2. Expiration of adoption period.
3. Torn, soiled, or defaced.
4. Needed, but damaged to the extent that the item is not economically repairable.

The appropriate principal shall be responsible for directing the disposal of instruction materials classified as no longer needed by the school district.

Cross Reference: 203.07 Advisory Board Committees
 603 Curriculum Development
 611 Academic Achievement