ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS

It is the legal responsibility of the Board of Education to approve all textbooks used as part of the educational program of this district.

For purposes of this policy, "textbooks" means books, workbooks, or manuals, whether bound or in looseleaf form, intended as a principal source of study material for a given class or group of pupils, a copy of which is available for the individual use of each pupil in such class or group.

The Board shall consider for approval only those textbooks which have been selected and recommended for their consideration by the Assistant Superintendent.

The Assistant Superintendent shall develop a plan for the selection of textbooks according to the following guidelines:

1. Staff members at all appropriate levels shall participate in the selection process.

2. Textbooks shall be replaced or updated with new editions as often as necessary to meet the needs of pupils and the curriculum.

3. Textbooks currently in use shall be periodically evaluated for their continuing usefulness and relevance.

In considering the approval of any proposed textbook, the Board will weigh its:

1. Suitability for the maturity level and educational accomplishment of the pupils who will be using the book;

2. Freedom from bias;

3. Relationship to the curriculum;

4. Impact on community standards of taste;

5. Manner of selection;

6. Cost; and

7. Appearance and durability.

A list of all approved textbooks shall be reviewed and revised annually by the Assistant Superintendent, and made available for the use of the professional staff, and for the information of members of the Board.

Any controversies arising over selection or use of textbooks and reading materials, such as the handling of a given topic, or alleged bias, inaccuracy, indecency, or omissions, shall be investigated by the Superintendent, and reported to the Board of Education. Objections raised by citizens or groups shall be made in writing to the Board of Education, which shall then decide its appropriate course of action.

N.J.S.A. 18A:34-1; 18A:34-2

Adopted: 20 November 2008