

Instruction

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES EQUIPMENT, BOOKS, AND MATERIALS TEXTBOOKS AND WORKBOOKS

6161 (a)

The Fairfield Public School District selects instructional materials to implement, enrich, and support the educational program for the student and the instructional needs of teachers. Selected materials must serve both the breadth of the curriculum and the needs and interests of individual students. The district is obligated to provide for a wide range of abilities and to respect the diversity of many differing points of view. To this end, principles must be placed above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality and appropriateness.

The Board of Education shall provide educational materials, including textbooks, in adequate amounts for the entire educational program. However, personal non-educational student items may be requested to be provided by parents, unless there is a financial hardship. Any such request must have prior approval of the building administrator.

Textbooks shall be reviewed by the administration and staff during a curriculum review, new course proposal, and/or course/curricular updates to determine their adequacy and timeliness.

The Superintendent or designee shall institute procedures for selection of textbooks appropriate for the instructional program. (See Appendix A, *Recommendation for Textbook Adoption Form*)

I. Textbooks

A textbook is defined as (a) book(s) used as a primary work of a discipline and containing facts for the study of a particular subject with the intention of explaining it. Textbooks are included in the district's curriculum documents.

Textbooks must be processed through the administrative regulations on instructional materials, equipment, books, and materials, textbooks, and workbooks and require Board of Education approval.

The administration will develop regulations for textbook selection criteria including evaluation and recommendation by professional staff. Final adoption of textbooks shall be made by the Board of Education at a meeting upon the recommendation of the Superintendent or designee at the prior meeting.

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II. Trade Books

Trade books (e.g., novels and literature) and other books not meeting the above definition of a textbook, used for whole class instruction, will be considered and listed as resources in the FPS curriculum documents.

Teachers will be able to choose the specific resource used to meet the curriculum standards. Trade books identified by the curriculum review committee as assured texts, those read by all students across all sections of a course, will be identified as such in the curriculum documents.

The Board delegates to the Superintendent (or designee) the authority to add/remove trade books to the resource list outside of the curriculum review process via a process outlined in the administrative regulations. Any updates to the resource list will be shared with the Board of Education during a public meeting or through the posted Friday packet. Trade books are not considered textbooks and do not require dedicated approval through this policy.

III. Ancillary & Supplemental Materials

Ancillary or supplemental materials may consist of:

- reference books/materials;
- library media books/materials;
- community books;
- summer reading;
- classroom libraries;
- individual projects materials/resources;
- independent reading;
- special project materials/resources;
- other materials which are ancillary to the FPS approved curriculum.

Ancillary and supplemental materials are not considered textbooks and do not require approval through this policy.

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6161 (c)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies, and
Procedures as amended by PA 97-290
10-228 Free textbooks, supplies, materials, and equipment
10-229 Change of textbooks

Adopted 8/27/2004
Revised and Adopted 11/27/2007
Revised and Adopted 3/25/2008
Revised and Adopted 5/9/2023