



POLICY 1.14
SELECTION AND CHALLENGE
OF LEARNING RESOURCES

Adopted: 2005-06-06
Reviewed: 2008-05-15
Revised: 2005-06-10, 2006-01-16, 2006-03-24, 2006-04-24

It is the policy of School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia) to provide a wide range of grade and age appropriate learning resources to meet student needs.

The only learning resources that can be legally used in British Columbia schools are either Ministry-recommended or district-approved resources.

On the basis of appropriateness, any resident or employee of the school district may formally challenge learning resources used in the district’s educational programs.

REGULATION 1.14.1-R
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1. Definition of Learning Resources

For the purpose of this statement of policy, the term “learning resources” will refer to any person(s) or any material with instructional content or function that is used for formal or informal teaching/learning purposes.

Some examples of learning resources would include but are not limited to:

- print materials (e.g. textbooks, printed teaching materials)
- electronic media (e.g. computer software and programs, websites, movies and other multi-media)
- library resources
- guest speakers and presenters
- field trip sites
- other teaching and resources chosen to support student learning

2. Responsibility for Selection

- 2.1 Educational personnel employed by the Board have responsibility for selecting and issuing learning resources in accordance with school district criteria provided in Section 4 of this regulation.
- 2.2 The Superintendent of Schools and school principals have general responsibility for ensuring that the approved criteria are known and appropriately applied.

3. Procedures for Selection of Learning Resources

- 3.1 Selection of learning resources shall be in accordance with criteria provided in Section 4 of this regulation.
- 3.2 Those charged with responsibility for selecting learning resources shall place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate to the school community.
- 3.3 To every extent possible, the learning resource will be reviewed fully before selection and use.

- 3.4 It is understood that in situations such as library resource centres, it is impossible to review all materials in entirety.
- 3.5 Selection is an ongoing process which includes the removal of materials which are no longer appropriate according to the criteria provided in Section 4 of this regulation.

4. Criteria for Selection of Learning Resources

The following criteria will be used as they apply:

- 4.1 Learning resources shall support and be consistent with the educational goals of the province and district, as well as the needs of individual schools and specific courses.
- 4.2 Learning resources shall be chosen in order to support and enrich the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied needs of the students.
- 4.3 Learning resources shall be chosen in order to help students gain an awareness of our pluralistic society.
- 4.4 Learning resources shall be selected to present various sides of controversial issues so that students may have an opportunity to develop, under guidance, the practice of critical analysis and making informed judgment in their daily lives.
- 4.5 Biased or slanted learning resources may be provided to meet specific learning objectives; for example, to recognize propaganda and its purposes in a given context.
- 4.6 Emphasis will be placed on the selection of Canadian learning resources where appropriate.

5. Supplementary Learning Resources

- 5.1 Educational personnel shall not recommend the purchase of supplementary learning resources to families or students, unless a parent or student makes a specific request for information.

6. Parent Requests

- 6.1 Individual parents/guardians can request in writing to the school principal that specific learning resources not be used with their children.
- 6.2 No parents/guardians have the right to restrict access to instructional materials for students other than their own children.

7. Reconsideration of Learning Resources

- 7.1 Anyone with a concern shall be provided with a copy of the district policy and procedures regarding learning resources.
- 7.2 All requests for reconsideration of a learning resource shall be in writing on a district authorized form (Request for Reconsideration of Learning Resources) with copies to the Superintendent of Schools for possible consideration at a district-wide level
- 7.3 The first attempt to resolve the learning resource issue shall be at the school level. Should the concern not be resolved at the school level, the complaint shall be referred to a Learning Resource Reconsideration Committee (LRRC).
- 7.4 The LRRC shall prepare a written report recommending that action should be taken regarding the challenged learning resource. This report will be communicated to the Board, school principals, and the complainant

- 7.5 The LLRC shall be a broadly representative ad hoc committee with members appointed by the Board and Superintendent. Members would include:
- Trustee
 - DPAC representative
 - KCTU representative
 - Teacher-Librarian representative
 - CUPE representative
 - Student (where appropriate)
 - School-based administrator
 - Superintendent or designate
- 7.6 The complainant will have the right to attend and present at an LLRC meeting convened to discuss the learning resource being reconsidered.
- 7.7 The complainant can appeal this decision to the Board as per Board Policy.
- 7.8 All challenges to learning resources shall be dealt with as expeditiously as possible.
- 7.9 Access to challenged material shall not be restricted during the reconsideration process unless otherwise determined by the Superintendent.