

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS SELECTION

ADOPTED: January 11, 1999

REVISED:

DERRY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

No. 109.1 EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS SELECTION

1. Definition

Educational materials shall be defined as textbooks, library books, and all other media materials used in the process of instruction.

2. Authority

The Derry Area School District Board, though it is ultimately responsible for all educational material purchases, is cognizant of the student’s need of access to as many different types of educational materials as possible. The Board further recognizes the right of teachers and administrators to select educational materials in accordance with current trends in education and society; and to make them available to the appropriate students. The Derry Area School District, within the limits of its resources, shall provide educational materials that present all points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times—international, national, and local.

3. Guidelines

Objectives

All educational materials shall be selected in accordance with the following objectives. They shall:

1. Enhance the district’s educational goals and programs as it strives to meet the needs of students, faculty, and administration.
2. Provide educational materials and services that are meaningful in the student’s growth and development as individuals, as well as meeting their curricular and extra-curricular needs as determined by staff and/or administration.
3. Stimulate and guide students in all phases of development so that their enjoyment, critical judgment, and appreciation of their environment are increased.

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4. Inculcate in the students an understanding and awareness of educational materials and the methods of obtaining them as self-learning adults.
5. Be of factual accuracy, authoritativeness, balance and integrity as determined by staff and/or administration.

Censorship-Criticisms

The Derry Area School District Board of Education recognizes that the final decision for utilizing educational matter shall rest with the Board after careful examination and discussion of the book or educational material with school officials and that no parent or group of parents has the right to determine the reading matter for students other than their own children. The Board does, however, recognize the right of an individual parent to request that his/her child not have to read a given book or use certain materials. Therefore, in the event that criticisms of educational materials or requests of parents are made on behalf of their child, not to have to use certain materials, they shall be made upon the proper forms which are available from each principal. They shall then be reviewed by the principal, department chairperson, and any other professionals so designated by the Superintendent. The results of their investigation shall be made known to persons making the allegations. The Board shall also be informed by any allegations and resulting investigation. An appeal of these decisions may be made through the Superintendent to the Board. The ultimate decision shall be the responsibility of the Board.

The Board, administrators, faculty and media centers' professional staff of Derry Area School District endorse the following:

- Freedom to view
- Library Bill of Rights
- The Pennsylvania School Library Bill of Rights
- Right to Read