

TEACHING ABOUT CONTROVERSIAL/ SENSITIVE ISSUES

Code **IMB** *Issued* **4/05**

Purpose: To establish the board's vision for teaching about controversial/sensitive issues in district schools.

Education for effective citizenship is a major goal of the district. To achieve this purpose, students should have an opportunity to examine controversial issues within the context of their formal education experiences.

Emotional criticism and the promotion of a cause within the classroom are inappropriate and will not be tolerated. Teachers should guard against giving their personal opinions on sectarian or political questions or any other controversial issues. The teacher's attitude should be that of the true scholar.

Before introducing a controversial topic, a teacher will discuss it with the principal as to these conditions.

- appropriateness to the course
- appropriateness for the maturity of the students
- approach to instruction
- teaching materials to be used

The principal must approve all aspects of the instruction in line with the statements in this policy.

Adopted 7/1/75; Revised 8/13/91, 4/12/05