

TEXTBOOK SELECTION AND ADOPTION

Code **IJJ** Issued **4/05**

Purpose: To establish the board's vision and basic structure for the selection and adoption of textbooks to be used by the district.

In adopting textbooks for use in the school system, the board must carefully consider the rights, freedoms and responsibilities of students, parents and teachers.

The board's first commitment in the selection and adoption of textbooks will be the preservation of the student's right to learn in an atmosphere of academic freedom. The board supports the rights of teachers to exercise professional judgement in their work; but, at the same time, will require teachers to balance this right with an awareness of their responsibility to meet the district's educational goals and objectives, as well as standards established by state law.

The board recognizes the rights of parents/legal guardians to influence the education of their children. The board will not, however, allow the wishes of any individual to infringe upon the rights of the majority of the students in any class.

Selection process

The superintendent will be responsible for selecting and recommending to the board for adoption all basic textbooks to be used in the district's program of education.

The superintendent will recommend textbooks in specific curriculum areas based upon the recommendation of textbook committees composed of teachers, department chairs, supervisors, directors and principals. The committee may seek comments from interested ~~parents~~ parents/legal guardians, community members and students.

The committee will select texts from those on the approved list of the state department of education. The content of these textbooks will reflect the substance and level of performance outlined in grade specific educational standards adopted by the state board of education.

The district may request that the state board of education add a textbook or series to the approved list under the following circumstances.

- The textbook or series must be one that was reviewed by the state board, but not adopted.
- The boards of five or more districts may request in writing an addition to the approved state board list.
- The boards of two or more districts with a combined student population of 25,000 or more may request in writing an addition to the approved state board list.

The district will set up procedures for principals and teachers to request these additions.

Beginning classes

Schools may begin a course if textbooks or other materials are not available on the first day of class or if the delivery date is after the first two weeks of classes.

Adopted 7/1/75; Revised 8/13/91, 10/14/97, 10/10/00, 4/12/05

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Legal references:

A. S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:

1. Section 59-5-60(7) - General powers of state board.
2. Section 59-31-30 - Use of uniform series of textbooks; exceptions.
3. Section 59-31-40 - Adoption of new books.
4. Section 59-31-45 - Selection of textbooks.
5. Section 59-31-70 - Purchase of textbooks.
6. Section 59-31-75 - Textbooks required.

B. State Board of Education Regulations :

1. R 43-251 - Selection and adoption of textbooks.
2. R 43-70 - Textbook adoption.