

Policy Code: 3210 Parental Inspection of and Objection to Instructional Materials

Parents may have concerns about instructional materials used in the school system. Thus, the Board provides opportunities for parents to review instructional materials and a process for parents to use when they object to instructional materials.

A. Parental Right to Inspect Materials

Parents have a right under federal law to inspect all instructional materials which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable federally funded programs. The term "instructional materials" does not include academic tests or assessments. Some materials available through the Internet and used in individual classes to provide up-to-date information or information on current events may not be available for advance review; however, all materials used in reproductive health and safety education shall be available for review as provided in the Comprehensive Healthful Living Education Program policy.

B. Parental Objection to Materials

Parents may submit an objection in writing to the principal regarding the use of particular instructional materials. The principal will establish a committee to review the objection.

If the committee determines that any material violates constitutional or other legal rights of the parent or student, the principal or the committee shall either remove the material from instructional use or accommodate the particular student and parent. Before any material is removed, the principal or the committee shall ensure that the curriculum is still aligned with current statewide instructional standards and articulated from grade to grade. If an objection made by a parent or student is not based upon constitutional or legal rights, the principal or the committee may accommodate the objection after considering the effect on the curriculum; any burden on the school, teacher, or other students that the accommodation would create; and any other relevant factors.

Books and other instructional materials may be removed from the school media collection only for legitimate educational reasons and subject to the limitations of the [First Amendment](#).

The decision of the committee may be appealed to the superintendent or designee. The decision of the superintendent may be appealed to the Board.

The superintendent shall develop the necessary administrative procedures to implement this policy.

Legal References: [U.S. Const. amend. I](#); [20 U.S.C. 1232h](#); [N.C. Const. art. I, § 14](#); [Board of Educ. v. Pico](#), 457 U.S. 853 (1982); [G.S. 115C-45, -47, -81, -98, -101](#)
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