

## INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS/TEXTBOOKS

The School Committee recognizes that knowledge is changing and expanding and that it is imperative that the curriculum and instructional materials continue to evolve with changing times and demands. In their professional capacity, teachers and administrators should have a significant role in identifying those resources (print, electronic, etc.) that can be suitably adopted to enhance the curriculum and support critical thinking skills in our students.

The School Committee believes that materials appropriate to the needs of the school program must be available to each student and teacher. The acquisition of textbooks and other instructional material should be done giving consideration to the wide range of learning styles that exist within our classroom.

Increasingly, textbooks are serving as only a portion of the instructional material used in a curriculum. The task of selecting textbooks and other instructional materials and programs will be delegated to the professional staff. The following guidelines shall be considered in selection of instructional materials:

1. They must present balanced views of international, national, and local issues and problems of the past, present and future.
2. They must provide materials that stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic and ethical values.
3. They must help students develop abilities in critical reading and thinking.
4. They must help develop and foster an appreciation of cultural diversity and development in the United States and throughout the world.
5. They must provide for all students an effective basic education that does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, sex, physical disabilities or sexual orientation.
6. They must allow sufficient flexibility for meeting the special needs of individual students and groups of students.

The building principal will identify budget priorities with respect to funding textbooks and other instructional materials. In doing this, the instructional goals of the school and strategic planning priorities will be considered. Input from teachers, department leaders and curriculum coordinators will be paramount in prioritizing the purchase of these materials.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. [71:48](#); [71:49](#); [71:50](#)

CROSS REF.: KEC, Public Complaints about the Curriculum or Instructional Materials

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