

Book Policy Manual

Section I - Instructional Program

Title SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS SELECTION

Code IIABA

Status First Reading

#### SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS SELECTION

The Rockingham County School Board is committed to the philosophy of "Empowering ALL Learners". This mission is accomplished in part by its selection of instructional materials, as defined in School Board Policy IIA. The Rockingham County School Board recognizes that teachers and librarians may undertake to select and provide supplementary materials, as that term is defined in School Board Policy IIAB, to students to further enrich student learning by:

- Creating a caring learning environment that values the richness of diversity within our community and beyond;
- <u>Supporting the Virginia Standards of Learning;</u>
- Supporting all curricular areas with a collection that is current;
- Supporting each school's reading program;
- Providing a balanced collection reflecting various points of view;
- Aiding students in research and study;
- Promoting critical thinking skills;
- Providing materials on a wide range of ability levels, chosen to reflect the various student populations;
- Providing instruction and professional support for teachers, administrators, and staff;
- Supporting a variety of learning and teaching styles;
- Supporting leisure reading among students.

In pursuit of the foregoing goals, the Rockingham County School Board directs teachers and librarians to use the guidance and procedures provided in this policy to select or deselect supplementary materials in their classroom libraries and school libraries. Supplementary materials do not exist to provide universal coverage but to provide materials focused on all of the above goals. Through the selection and deselection of these materials, it is recognized that parents play an essential role in the education of their children and have the fundamental right to guide what their children read, hear, and view.

#### **Criteria For Selection**

All supplementary materials, regardless of format, are considered for purchase or acquisition on the basis of the following criteria, as may be further directed by the Superintendent or designee:

- Educational suitability and age appropriateness (appropriate learning and interest levels)
- Authority (qualifications of those responsible for creating material)
- Scope (overall purpose and coverage)
- Format (appropriateness to content and technical quality)
- Authenticity, accuracy, and timeliness
- <u>Treatment and arrangement (clearly presented, well-organized, balanced, and appropriate depth of coverage for school-age students)</u>
- Physical quality (durability, aesthetic appeal)
- Price (with respect to budget limitations)
- Special features (usage guides, bibliography, glossary, index)
- <u>Currency and relevance to the educational curriculum and instructional materials (as that term is defined by Policy</u>

## <u>IIA)</u>

- Reviews from standard professional selection sources
- Reference to the Massanutten Regional Library age classification
- Recommendations based on preview and examination of materials by professional personnel (other teachers or librarians)
- Primary sources

<u>Teachers and librarians shall not acquire or select for their classroom libraries and school libraries any supplementary material, regardless of format, that contains sexually explicit content.</u>

# **Deselection of Sexually Explicit Content**

If teachers or librarians are aware of any supplementary material, regardless of format, that is currently in their classroom library inventory or school library inventory and that contains sexually explicit content, the teacher or librarian will submit the supplementary material to the Content Review Committee consistent with School Board Policy IIABB and follow the procedures provided in Policy IIABB.

## **Notification of Recently Selected Supplementary Materials**

Teachers and librarians will regularly submit a list of supplementary materials that they have selected and acquired for their classroom library or school library to the school principal or designee. The list will be available for all parents or guardians to review within thirty (30) days of selection.

## **Definitions**

"Supplementary materials" and "supplementary material" is defined in School Board Policy IIAB.

"Sexually explicit content" is defined in Virginia Code § 2.2-2827 and School Board Policy IIA.

## Adopted:

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 2.2-2827, 22.1-78

Constitution of Virginia, Article VIII, § 7

Newton v. Slye, 116 F. Supp. 2d 667 (W.D.Va. 2007)

<u>Lee v. York County Sch. Div., 418 F. Supp. 2d 816 (E.D.Va. 2006)</u> <u>Boring v. Buncombe County Bd. of Educ., 136 F.3d 364 (4th Cir. 1997)</u>

<u>Cross Refs.:</u> <u>IIA</u> <u>Instructional Materials</u>

IIAB Supplementary Materials

IIABB Complaint about Supplementary Materials/Challenged Supplementary Materials

IIABB-F Sexually Explicit Content Complaint Form

IIAC Complaint about Curriculum or Instructional Materials/Challenged Materials

IIBD School Libraries/Media Centers

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