MURFREESBORO CITY SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

Descriptor Term:	**Descriptor No:**	**Date Adopted:**
SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS (OTHER THAN TEXTBOOKS)	**IS 7**	**4/79**
	Reviewed*/Revision Adopted:** **11/98; 4/01; *2/13	

The Board will seek to provide a wide range of instructional materials with diversity of appeal, the presentation of different points of view, and will provide procedures for review and consideration of allegedly inappropriate instructional materials.

OBJECTIVES OF SELECTION

In order to assure that instructional materials are an integral part of the educational program, the following selection objectives are adopted:

1. To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum and personal needs of the students, taking into consideration their varied interests, abilities and learning styles;

2. To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values and ethical standards;

3. To provide a background of information which will enable students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives;

4. To provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues so that the students may develop, under guidance, the practice of critical analysis;

5. To provide materials which realistically represent our pluralistic society and reflect the contributions made by these groups and individuals to our American heritage;

6. To place principles above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality in order to ensure a comprehensive media collection appropriate for all students.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR MATERIALS SELECTION

The responsibility for selection of instructional materials is delegated to the professionally trained personnel employed by the school system.

Selection of materials may involve many people including library media specialists, teachers, students, principals, administrators, and community persons. The responsibility for coordinating

the selection and making the recommendations for purchase rests with the professionally trained media personnel.

SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES

In selecting materials for school media centers, the following practices are to be observed:

1. Selection shall be consistent with the goals and objectives of the instructional program.

2. Selection shall be made to provide balance in materials that present different points of view concerning current problems and issues.

3. Selection shall be made using reputable, unbiased, professionally prepared selection aids.

4. Selection shall be a continuing process throughout the school year as new suggestions of staff members and students are evaluated and materials already purchased are reevaluated to determine their current or lasting contributions to the educational program of the school.

5. Gift materials shall be judged upon the same basis as the library media center's own purchases. Gift materials meeting the selection standards may be accepted with the recommendation of the library media specialist and the approval of the principal.

In order to always provide a current, highly usable collection of materials in every library, each media specialist shall provide for constant and continuing renewal of the collection, not only by the addition of up-to-date materials, but by the judicious elimination of materials which no longer meet needs or find use.

Should objections to selected library-media center materials be voiced by the public, the procedure to voice those objections (see Administrative Directive 95--Media Selection Procedure) should be followed in handling said objections.

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Legal References:

TRR/MS 0520-1-3-.07(2)
T.C.A. 49-3-359