

Instruction

Parental Challenges

Parents/guardians have the right to inspect any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum pursuant to School Board policy 7:15, *Student and Family Privacy Rights*. A parent or guardian may challenge the use of instructional materials to be used by his/her child.

Persons who believe that curriculum, instructional materials, or programs violate rights guaranteed by any law or Board policy should file a complaint using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. Persons with all other suggestions or complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, or programs should complete a *Curriculum Objection* form. A parent/guardian may request that his/her child be exempt from using a particular instructional material or program by completing a *Curriculum Objection* form. The Superintendent or designee shall establish criteria for review of objections and shall inform parents/guardians of the District's decision based on the District's objection review process.

Challenges are to be registered through the following procedure:

- 1) Parent/guardian will reach out to the teacher, who will include the principal in the conversation. The purpose of contacting the teacher is to clarify how the materials in question are being used in the classroom. Additionally, the teacher, principal, and parent will try to resolve the concern.
- 2) If after speaking with the teacher and principal and the concern is not resolved, the Parent/guardian is to provide the school principal with a written statement of his/her objection followed by a request that his/her child be excused from using the material(s) in question *completed Curriculum Objection form*.
- 3) The principal, following the District's review practice, will make a decision regarding the request. determine if the objectionable material is essential to the course of study at the instructional level in question, or one for which there is not a suitable alternative.
 - a. If the material is not essential, the principal will notify the appropriate teacher(s) of the circumstances and the student will not be required to use the material in question. This does not relieve the student of responsibility for meeting the requirements of the course of study in a manner expected of all children at the grade or instructional level and the student will be required to complete other relevant work to do so.
 - b. If the material is essential and a suitable alternative is available, alternative material will be substituted. The student will continue to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the course of study in a manner expected of all children at the grade or instructional level.
 - c. If the material is essential and no alternative is available, the parent/guardian may submit a written request that the student be excused from using the material. In this

~~instance, the student will be required to complete other work to satisfy the learning requirements at the instructional level.~~

- 4) Parents/guardians will receive a written response from the principal with the decision regarding the request to be excused from using particular material(s).

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §1232h, Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

ADOPTED: December 14, 1994

REVISED: May 19, 2004, October 21, 2009, **October 19, 2022**