

Newsletter October 19, 2023

Model Policy 606.5: Library Materials

In response to requests from MSBA members, the Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) has created a model policy for selection and reconsideration of library materials. The objective is to support school districts and charter schools in establishing processes that are clear, that include input from students, families, and school staff, and that rely upon the experience and training of school staff.

As with other MSBA model policies, Model Policy 606.5 offers Notes that explain items and which offer guidance to school boards on decisions that they may choose to make as they engage in the policy adoption process.

The model policy language is presented as a stand-alone policy. School boards may choose to revise MSBA Model Policy 606 (Textbooks and Instructional Materials) in order to group all policies regarding materials selection and reconsideration in a single policy. If a school board chooses to amend Model Policy 606:

- 1. MSBA recommends that the policy be renamed as "Textbooks, Instructional Materials, and Library Materials."
- 2. Articles I and II of Model Policy 606.5 (*Purpose* and *General Statement of Purpose*) can be embedded in the corresponding articles of Policy 606.
- 3. Articles III through VI of Model Policy 606.5 can be added as new articles VI through IX of Model Policy 606.

**MSBA is finalizing a sample Reconsideration of Materials form, which should be available soon.

Whether a school board adopts a stand-alone policy or chooses to embed the language in an existing policy, Model Policy 208's provisions regarding a multi-meeting process would likely apply.

Instructions to access the Policy Manual online

- 1. Please visit www.mnmsba.org.
- 2. Go to the Resources tab and select Policies
- 3. Log into the Members area (access is limited to Policy Services subscribers)
- 4. Click on Policy 606.5
- 5. A clean version for download can be found at the bottom of the Policy 606.5 webpage, below the Legal References and Cross References. Because this is a new policy, no redline version is available.

If you have questions about Policy Services, how to navigate the online Policy Reference Manual, or the content of model policies, please contact Terry Morrow by email at tmorrow@mnmsba.org

Jaymyson Sillman (<u>jsillman@mnmsba.org</u>) can assist if technological issues arise related to accessing the model policies or the revisions.