

**New Fairfield Public Schools
Textbook Selection Information**

Course: AP Government

Grade(s): 12

Title: *The Challenge of Democracy*, Enhanced, 14th Edition

Author(s): Kenneth Janda

Publisher: Cengage Learning

Date: 2018

Readability: The book is listed on the CollegeBoard website as a textbook that meets the resource requirements for AP U.S. Government and Politics.

The following criteria were adopted and/or adapted from the American Library Association Workbook for Selection Policy Writing.

- 1. Learning resources shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and the district and the aims and objectives of individual schools and specific courses.**

This textbook was chosen because it provides the depth of information that students need to be successful in AP U.S. Government and Politics. In regards to the current text that students are using, *American Government: Roots and Reform*, by Karen O'Connor and Larry J. Sabato, we only have an online subscription. Despite the text's alignment to the AP curriculum, it lacks the depth that students need to understand the course material. In addition, there are several instances when AP required terms and examples are not included in the book.

- 2. Learning resources shall be chosen to enrich and support the curriculum and the personal needs of users.**

This textbook is symmetrical with the AP Government curriculum and will support students in their organization, application, and mastery of the curriculum.

The proposed text weaves two themes throughout the book. The first is the relationship between freedom, order, and equality and the second is the majoritarianism vs. pluralism debate. These themes are central to the AP curriculum, and allow students to ground their understanding in each unit. In addition, each chapter begins with a historical or contemporary example that relates to the chapter content. This allows students to contextualize their learning, and provide relevant ways to connect the content to students' lives.

- 3. Learning resources shall meet high standards of quality in format, visual quality and presentation:**

This textbook was chosen for its excellence in organization, format, visual and learning supports, and overall presentation.

- 4. Learning resources shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of the students for whom the materials are selected.**

This textbook was designed for the high school AP Government student, and is appropriate and excellent in the manner in which it addresses the items in this question.

- 5. Learning resources shall promote an appreciation of cultural diversity.**

This textbook provides varied and eclectic perspectives and will support an enriched, diverse curriculum.

- 6. The publisher provides appropriate support materials**

This textbook is accompanied by a 2018 update and an array of electronic supports through a six year license.

- 7. Price per book and the number needed:**

[Price quote for 30 requested texts -](#)