



**Objections to Material Used in Classrooms, Made Available in School Library, or Included On a Reading List**

Parents and residents of the county may object to the use of a specific instructional material in the classroom, made available in a school library, or included on a reading list, based on the criteria set forth in F.S. 1006.28(2)(a)2. or F.S. 1014.05(1)(c).

All challenges under this policy shall be addressed as follows:

A. The complaint is to be addressed to the School Principal, in writing, and shall include:

1. author;
2. title;
3. publisher;
4. the complainant's familiarity with the material challenged;
5. sections challenged, by page and item;
6. whether the challenged material contains content that is pornographic or prohibited under F.S. 847.012, is not suited to student needs and their ability to comprehend the material presented, or is inappropriate for the grade level and age group for which the material is used.

B. Upon receipt of the information, the Principal may after advising the Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning of the complaint, and upon the Assistant Superintendent's approval, appoint a review committee which will consist of one (1) or more instructional staff members including Media Specialist, District Official, Curriculum Member, Principal, Teacher; Community Member; a parent of a student enrolled in the school district; one (1) or more lay persons knowledgeable in the area.

C. The committee, in evaluating the questioned material, shall be guided by the following criteria: the appropriateness of the material for the age and maturity level of the students with whom it is being used, the accuracy of the material, the objectivity of the material, the use being made of the material.

D. The material in question may be withdrawn from use pending the committee's recommendation to the Superintendent.

E. The committee's recommendation shall be reported to the Superintendent in writing within fifteen (15) business days following the formation of the committee. The Superintendent will advise the complainant, in writing, of the committee's recommendation and advise the Board of the action taken or recommended.

F. The Board will review the case, including all evidence proffered by the complainant, during a publicly noticed Board meeting. The Board shall announce during the meeting whether the challenged material meets the requirements of this Policy. The complainant shall submit any additional evidence for the Board's consideration no later than fourteen (14) days before the meeting at which the Board will consider the challenge.

No challenged material may be removed from the curriculum or from a collection of resource materials except by action of the Board, and no challenged material may be removed solely because it presents ideas that may be unpopular or offensive to some. Any Board action to remove material will be accompanied by the Board's statement of its reasons for the removal.

The Board shall discontinue use of any material challenged under this policy if it contains content that is pornographic or prohibited under F.S. 847.012, is not suited to student needs and their ability to comprehend the material presented, or is inappropriate for the grade level and age group for which the material is used.

The decision of the Board shall be final.

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