

Hancock County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: Reconsideration of Instructional Materials and Textbooks	Descriptor Code: 4.403	Issued Date: 06/04/15
		Rescinds:	Issued:

- 1 The Board supports principles of intellectual freedom inherent in the First Amendment of the Constitution of the
2 United States¹ and expressed in the Library Bill of Rights of the American Library Association.
- 3 Because opinions differ, there may be questions concerning some instructional and library materials despite the
4 quality of the selection process. If a complaint is made, the following procedure is to be followed:
 - 5 1. Inform the complainant of the selection procedures and make no commitments.
 - 6 2. Request the complainant to submit a formal Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials.
 - 7 3. Inform the principal (and other appropriate personnel).
 - 8 4. Keep challenged materials available for use during the reconsideration process.
 - 9 5. Upon receipt of the completed form, the principal requests review of the challenged materials by an ad hoc
10 materials review committee within fifteen (15) working days, and notifies the appropriate supervisor and the
11 director of schools that such review is being done. The review committee is appointed by the principal, and
12 includes certified library media personnel, representatives from classroom teachers, one or more parents, and
13 may include one or more students.
 - 14 6. The review committee shall take the following steps after receiving the challenged materials:
 - 15 a. Read, view or listen to the material in its entirety;
 - 16 b. Check general acceptance of the material by reading recognized and evaluative reviews;
 - 17 c. Determine the extent to which the material supports the curriculum;
 - 18 d. Complete the appropriate Checklist for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials, judging the
19 material for its strength and value; and
 - 20 e. Present recommendation to principal for further action and to the director of schools for
21 purposes of information.
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 - 24 7. If the complainant desires further action after receiving the recommendation of the committee and the
25 decision of the principal, an appeal may be made to the Board.

Legal References

Island Trees/Union Free School District v. Pico, 457 U.S.
853, 102 S. Ct. 2799 (1982)