



# RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## **Selection of Instructional Materials**

A self-governing society requires a literate, informed citizenry which understands and values individual differences. To make informed choices, people must have free access to ideas and know how to secure and evaluate information. Therefore, the River Valley School District shall provide: (1) a wide range of instructional materials at all levels of difficulty with diversity of appeal and the presentation of different points of view, and (2) a review of allegedly inappropriate instructional materials through established procedures.

When selecting instructional materials, consideration shall be given to the following responsibilities and objectives:

- a. To provide students and faculty with instructional materials that will enrich and support the curriculum and personal needs of the users, taking into consideration their varied interests, abilities, socioeconomic backgrounds, maturity levels and learning styles;
- b. To provide materials for teachers and students that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge and critical thinking and that will develop cultural, literary and aesthetic appreciation and ethical standards;
- c. To provide a comprehensive collection of instructional materials selected in compliance with basic written selection principles and to provide maximum accessibility to these materials;
- d. To provide materials which realistically represent the ideas and beliefs of the religious, social, political, historical and ethnic groups in society and which reflect their individual and group contributions to our heritage and culture;
- e. To provide materials on opposing side of controversial issues so that students may develop, under guidance, the practice of critical analysis and to develop their intellectual integrity in forming judgments;
- f. To provide materials representing the variety of communication formats, to provide for individual learning styles and to provide students the opportunity to analyze various media formats critically;
- g. To encourage students to read, view and listen for pleasure and recreation fostering a lifelong appreciation of such activities; and
- h. To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in selecting materials of the highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive media collection appropriate for the users.

Although the Board is legally responsible for the operation of the school and recognizes the students' right to free access to many different types of information, the responsibility for the selection of instructional materials is delegated to the certified library media and teaching personnel. Instructional materials include print and on-print items such as books, computer programs, dioramas, disc recordings, films, filmstrips, games, graphic works, manuscripts, caps and gloves, microforms, models, multimedia kits, newspapers, overhead

transparencies, periodicals, pamphlets, realia, reference materials, slides, tapes and cassettes, television programs, video cassettes, videotapes, video discs and various combinations of these.

Responsibility for coordinating the selection and purchase of textbooks or textbook coordinated media rests with appropriate building level administrators, department chairpersons and/or with textbook evaluation committees. Textbooks shall include all print and non-print materials provided in multiple copies for the use of a class or a major segment of a class. Responsibility for library media materials rests with the school library media professional (school librarian).

The River Valley School District shall not discriminate in the selection and evaluation of instructional and library materials or media on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, religion, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.

The Board shall review this policy and its implementing procedures periodically.

LEGAL REF.:       Sections 118.13 Wisconsin Statutes  
                          121.02(1)(h)  
                          PI 8.01(2), Wisconsin Administrative Code  
                          PI 9.03(1)

CROSS REF.:       Policy #361-Rule - Selection Guidelines  
                          Policy #362 - Library Media Center  
                          Policy #411-Rule - Discrimination Complaint Procedures  
                          Policy #771 - Printing and Duplicating Services (Use of Copyright Media)  
                          Policy #871 - Handling Complaints About Instructional Materials

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