

POLICY

TOWNSHIP OF UNION BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Materials

2530 RESOURCE MATERIALS

The Board of Education shall provide resource materials to implement district and school educational goals and objectives as student needs dictate and district resources permit. Such materials include reference books, other supplementary titles, maps, library print and non-print materials, such as audio and electronic books, electronic databases, and other sources of information for use by students that are not designated as textbooks.

While the selection of resource materials involves many people, including certified library media specialists, teachers, students, supervisors, administrators, and community members, the responsibility for coordinating and recommending the selection and purchase of library resource materials rests with the certificated library media specialists. All recommendations will be forwarded to the principal or designee for consideration. The principal and designee will make a recommendation to the Superintendent, who after review will submit to the Board of Education for final approval.

Educational goals of the school district, individual student learning modes, teaching styles, curricula needs, faculty and student needs, and existing materials should all be considered in selecting resource materials. Guidelines for the evaluation and selection of resource materials should include the following:

~~The Superintendent shall be responsible for the selection and maintenance of all resource materials, in accordance with the following standards:~~

1. ~~Material will be suited to the varied backgrounds, interests, abilities, reading levels, and maturation levels/maturity levels of the students. Students to be served, who will be provided maximum accessibility to these materials.;~~
2. ~~Wherever possible, materials will provide major opposing views on controversial issues so that students may develop under guidance the practice of critical reading and thinking;~~
3. ~~Wherever possible, materials will represent the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups, as well as persons of a diversity of gender, gender identity, and sexual orientations, and their contribution to society, this country, -and/or the world, thereby enabling students to develop diverse intellectual integrity; American heritage;~~
4. ~~Materials will be factually accurate and of genuine literary or artistic value interest, of aesthetic value, and ethical standards;~~
5. ~~Materials will be of a quality and durability appropriate to their intended uses and longevity;~~

5.

6. Materials will relate to, support, and enrich the courses of study adopted by the Board, and will align with the written, taught and tested curriculum, as updated; and,
7. Materials will be reviewed for content, context and cognitive type alignment to the district's curriculum and assessment.

The school libraries/media centers will:

1. provide qualified personnel, including certified library media specialists, to serve teachers and students;
2. provide necessary equitable access, sufficient space to provide an active instructional school library media program and personnel to implement such a program;
3. provide a comprehensive collection of resources and instructional materials selected in compliance with basic written selection principles;
4. provide materials and instruction for teachers and students that will encourage growth in knowledge, and that will develop literary, cultural and aesthetic appreciation, and ethical standards; and
5. solicit recommendations from faculty and students on resource materials to purchase.

6.

The Superintendent will develop regulations for the selection of resource materials that provide for the effective consultation of library and teaching staff members at all appropriate levels; ensure that the Board's budgetary allotment for resource materials is efficiently spent and wisely-equitably distributed throughout the instructional program and the district; and ensure an inventory of resource materials that is well balanced and well-rounded well-rounded in coverage of subject, types of materials, and variety of content. The regulations will allow for these materials to be free of all late fees and fines, other than the replacement cost of the material(s) if lost, pursuant to policy 5513 Care of School Property.

The certified library media specialists will conduct an as needed periodic review of resource materials in their collection and remove (aka "weed") materials no longer deemed appropriate based on their continued usefulness, relevance to the curriculum, representation of the needs and interest of all grade levels, subject areas, and departments and based on the content, types of materials and manner of presentation. Standard Materials subject to frequent use that are worn or missing should be replaced periodically. The library media specialist will evaluate with the concurrence from the school principal, Superintendent. The Superintendent will evaluate the continuing effectiveness and utility of resource materials and recommend to the Board the removal of those materials that no longer meet the standards set forth in this policy.

The Township of Union Board of Education supports principles of intellectual freedom inherent to the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and expressed in the Library Bill of Rights of the American Library Association and Student's Right to Read of the National Council of Teachers of English. In the event that materials are questioned, the principles of intellectual freedom, the right to access materials and the integrity of the certificated library media personnel must be defended. Any request for the removal of resource materials will be governed by Policy No. 9130 on public complaints.

N.J.A.C. 6:8-3.5 (a) 4 Cross References: 2360, 2361, 2510, 5513

Adopted: 14 September 2021

Revised/Readopted: _____, 2022