The Board's basic educational philosophy expressed in Board Policy KEC applies to complaints regarding the district's instructional materials.

The Board recognizes that, as with curriculum and adopted textual materials, opinions will differ concerning appropriateness of certain library-media materials maintained by the district. It is the Board's policy to provide individuals or groups directly or indirectly affected by such library-media materials with a method of expressing and processing complaints. The process should include procedures whereby those complaints may be thoughtfully considered and remedial measures taken to address library-media materials found to be inappropriate.

The superintendent is directed to prescribe procedures which carry into effect the concepts outlined above and in Policy KEC, taking also into account the following principles:

1. Requests by parents that their child or children not be exposed to certain portions of the district's library-media materials should be accommodated where to do so would not unduly disrupt the district's educational program or deprive the students of instruction essential to the adopted curriculum.

2. Where complaints arise concerning religious material maintained in district libraries, solutions should be sought which permit retention of the material in question.

3. Complaints determined to be well-founded, whether made by groups or individuals should, if practicable, be remedied by options which restrict access on a selective basis or allow individuals to "opt out" of instruction or exposure to certain materials rather than by options which delete materials.

4. Complaints alleging that certain materials are biased or ideological should, wherever practicable, be remediated by achieving a balanced selection of materials containing opposing or contrary views.

5. Processing of complaints shall commence with an informal reevaluation by the appropriate building principal. If efforts to resolve the matter informally are not successful, a formal reevaluation will then be undertaken by a district-level review panel to be established under procedures prescribed by the superintendent. Decisions made by the panel shall be considered final, but subject to review at the discretion of the Board. Processing of the complaint through the building level and the district-level review panel shall be conditions precedent to the Board's consideration of a complaint.

Cross References:

IJL, Selection and Adoption of Library Materials