

VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD POLICY NO. 1312.2

ADOPTED: 11/23/09

CLASSIFICATION: Community Relations

REVISED:

SUBJECT: Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials

The Governing Board uses a comprehensive process to adopt district instructional materials that is based on selection criteria established by law and Board policy and includes opportunities for the involvement of staff, parents/guardians and community members. Complaints concerning the content or use of instructional materials, including textbooks, supplementary instructional materials, library materials, or other instructional materials, shall be properly and fairly considered using established complaint procedures.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to discuss any concerns regarding instructional materials with their child's teacher and/or the school principal. If the situation remains unresolved, a complaint may be filed using the process specified in the administrative regulation.

The county office shall accept complaints concerning instructional materials only from staff, Ventura County residents, or the parents/guardians of children enrolled in county operated programs.

When deliberating upon challenged materials, the Superintendent and/or review committee shall consider the educational philosophy of the office, the professional opinions of teachers of the subject and of other competent authorities, reviews of the materials by reputable bodies, the teacher's stated objectives in using the materials, community standards, and the objections of the complainant.

Complainants are encouraged to accept the Superintendent's or review committee's decision. However, if the complainant finds that decision unsatisfactory, he/she may appeal the decision to the Board.

The decision shall be based on educational suitability of the materials and the criteria established in Board policy and administrative regulation.

When any challenged instructional material is reviewed by the office, it shall not be subject to further reconsideration for 24 months, unless the Superintendent determines that reconsideration is warranted.

Complaints related to sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials shall be resolved pursuant to the Williams Uniform Complaint Procedure in AR 1312.4.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

18111	Exclusion of books by governing board
35010	Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules
35186	Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
44805	Enforcement of course of studies; use of textbooks, rules and regulations
51501	Subject matter reflecting on race, color, etc.
60000-60005	Instructional materials, legislative intent
60040-60048	Instructional requirements and materials
60119	Public hearing on sufficiency of materials
60200-60206	Elementary school materials
60226	Requirements for publishers and manufacturers
60400-60411	High school textbooks
60510-60511	Donation of sale of obsolete instructional materials

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROGRAM ADVISORIES

1002.90 Selection of Instructional Materials, CIL: 90/91-02

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Standards for Evaluation of Instructional Materials with Respect to Social Content, 1986 edition, revised 2001

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, Curriculum and Instruction:
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci>