

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials

The Superintendent believes in the principles of intellectual freedom inherent in the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and supports the ideas expressed in the Library Bill of Rights of the American Library Association and the Students' Rights to Read of the National Council of Teachers of English.

The Superintendent also recognizes that occasional objections to instructional materials will be made, despite the quality of the selection process. The Superintendent and the staff have developed a process for reconsideration of instructional materials that considers the Superintendent's belief and his role.

The Superintendent is aware that all adopted materials may not be acceptable to all students, their parents/guardians, or other county residents. In the event that materials are questioned, the principles of intellectual freedom, the right to access of materials, and the integrity of SJCOE personnel shall be defended.

Complainants shall be advised to consider and accept the Superintendent or designee's decision as final. The Superintendent's decision in any such case will be based on educational suitability and will not be influenced by a desire to suppress information or deny students access to ideas with which the Superintendent disagrees.

If the questioned material has been adopted by the State of California, the Superintendent or designee may forward the complaint, without action, to the California Department of Education for re-evaluation and decision.

cf: 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedures
6144 Controversial Issues

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

18111 Exclusion of books by governing board
35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules
60000 Power of governing board to select instructional materials
60040-60047 Content requirement for instructional materials
60200-60206 Elementary school material selection and adoption
60400 Secondary school textbooks - selection and adoption