

Equipment, Books and Materials: Provision/Selection

In compliance with the General Statutes, the Board of Education supplies free textbooks and has approved all those currently in use.

In compliance with the Statutes concerning change of textbooks, the Board will define as a basic or supplementary text any book that is to be purchased in quantities of ten or more copies. For purposes of changing texts or adopting new ones, samples of those books recommended by the staff will be brought to one Board meeting and voted upon at a subsequent Board meeting, with approval contingent upon a two-thirds vote of the full membership. In no case will less than one week elapse between the submission of the recommendation and the vote of approval.

The Board will authorize the Principal to order reference works, library books, and books for class use in quantities of less than ten. Board payment of the bills for the books will constitute Board approval of the books.

The Board does not authorize blanket purchase of workbooks to supplement texts, except in the case of primary reading texts. In all other cases, the Board will review workbook purchases as it does textbook purchases.

Complaints against any book used in the school must be filed in writing with the school Principal.

Selection

Basic textbooks will be continuously reviewed to keep up with the expansion of knowledge and rapid changes in the world and to present balanced views on international, national, and local issues and problems of the past, present, and future. Textbooks should further:

1. provide materials to stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic and ethical value;
2. provide materials to help students develop abilities in critical reading and thinking;
3. provide materials to help develop and foster an appreciation of cultural diversity and development in the United States and throughout the world;
4. provide for all students an effective basic education that does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or disabilities;
5. allow sufficient flexibility for meeting the special needs of individual students and groups of students.

Any textbook or learning material that will serve the function of a textbook must be processed through the district primary learning material adoption procedure and formally adopted by the Board of Education. This applies to a textbook or material that will be used as a primary learning tool on an ongoing basis with the majority of students in a class, course, or learning group within a class.

Primary learning materials are textbooks, paperback books, audiovisual kits, or other instructional materials which are:

- used for the duration of a course or school year; the majority of assignments are derived from such material.
- used by all students in a class, course, or learning group within a class.

The administration will develop and maintain a procedure for selecting materials that meets the aforementioned criteria. Such procedure shall include the opportunity for professional staff to analyze, evaluate, and recommend primary learning materials for adoption.

According to state law, the Board of Education will make final textbook selections.

(cf. [1220](#) Citizens' Ad Hoc Advisory Committees)

(cf. [1312](#) Public Complaints)

(cf. [4118.21](#) Academic Freedom)

Legal Reference Connecticut General Statutes

[10-221](#) Boards of Education to prescribe rules.

[10-222a](#) Boards to have use of funds derived from repayment for school materials.

[10-228](#) Free textbooks, supplies, materials and equipment.

[10-229](#) Change of textbooks.

President's Council, District 25 v. Community School Board no. 25, 457 F.2d 289 (1972), cert. denied 409 U.S.C. 998 (Nov. 1972)

Minarcini v. Strongsville City School District, 541 F.2d 577 (6th Cir. 1976).

Island Trees Union Free School District Board of Education v. Pico, 457 US 853 (1982).

Academic Freedom Policy (adopted by Connecticut State Board of Education, 9/9/81)

Adopted: November 19, 1975

Revised: May 11, 2021

NORTH CANAAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

North Canaan, Connecticut