



Book	Policy Manual
Section	(JS) Special Update - Nov.22
Title	SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT PROGRAM
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#### 2520 - **SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT PROGRAM**

The School Board adopts courses of study pursuant to State law and Policy 2220. When adopting courses of study, State law also requires the Board to adopt and provide adequate instructional materials to students enrolled in the District.

"Adequate instructional materials" means a sufficient number of student or site licenses or sets of materials that are available in bound, unbound, kit, or package form and may consist of hard-backed or soft-backed textbooks, electronic content, consumables, learning laboratories, manipulatives, electronic media, and computer courseware or software that serves as the basis for instruction for each student in the core courses of mathematics, language arts, social studies, science, reading, and literature.

Furthermore, Federal law requires the Board to provide accessible instructional materials as specified in a student's IEP. Such accessible instructional materials may be of a type or in a format as specified in the definition of adequate instructional materials in this policy.

As required by State law, instructional materials adopted and used in the District shall be consistent with the goals and objectives in the District's adopted course of study and with the course descriptions established by State Board rule. The Board is responsible for the content of all instructional materials and any other materials used in a classroom, made available in a school library, or included on a reading list.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures that set forth a process to involve staff in the review and evaluation of instructional materials. The staff involved in this process shall recommend to the Superintendent for submission to the Board for adoption the instructional materials that address the goals and objectives for adopted courses of study and the course descriptions established by State Board rule. The instructional materials shall be from the State-adopted instructional materials list if there has been a State adoption or from publishers and other resources if there has not been a State adoption. A meeting of a committee for the purpose of ranking, eliminating, or selecting instructional materials for recommendation to the Board must be noticed and open to the public in accordance with F.S. 286.011. A committee convened for such purposes must include parents of District students.

The Superintendent's procedures shall also prescribe the process for the acquisition, management, use, accountability, and reporting requirements of all instructional materials.

#### **Adoption of Instructional Materials**

Prior to submitting a recommendation to the Board regarding the recommended instructional materials, those materials will be accessible for review online for at least twenty (20) calendar days prior to the open publicly noticed meeting at which a public hearing will be held so that the Board can receive comment, if any, about the instructional material under consideration for adoption. The Superintendent shall establish reasonable safeguards against the unauthorized use, reproduction, and distribution of the instructional material under consideration.

Following the public hearing, the Board may act upon the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the instructional materials. The Board will select, approve, and adopt all materials as a separate line item on the regular (non-consent) agenda and will provide a reasonable opportunity for public comment.

At an open publicly noticed meeting following the meeting at which the instructional material is adopted, the Board shall consider a recommendation to approve an annual instructional materials plan that identifies any instructional materials to be purchased pursuant to the instructional materials review process described herein.

The Superintendent shall maintain a list of all adopted instructional materials.

### **Publication on Website**

The Board will publish on its website, in a searchable format, a list of all instructional materials, including those used to provide required instruction under Florida law.

### **School Library Media Centers and Reading Lists**

Effective July 1, 2022, each book newly made available to students through a school library media center or included in a recommended or assigned school or grade level reading list must be selected and approved by a District employee who holds a valid educational media specialist certificate, regardless of whether the book is purchased, donated or otherwise made available to students.

### **Procedure**

The media specialist will endeavor to stay informed about appropriate new publications, using multiple sources, such as discussions with colleagues, attendance at conferences, and reading a variety of periodicals and book reviews. The media specialist will also receive and consider suggestions or requests brought forward by other faculty, students and parents.

Potential new books for the school library media center and reading lists will be evaluated to determine if they would be suitable for student needs and whether they would be appropriate for the intended grade level and age group. In considering possible new acquisitions, the media specialist will consult reputable, professionally recognized reviewing periodicals and school community stakeholders. The media specialist will also assess the level of student interest in the subject(s) presented and the ability of students to comprehend the material. Books that are selected must be free of pornography and material prohibited under F.S. 847.012.

The goal of the selection process is for the school's library media center and reading list collections to be based on reader interest, the support of ~~State~~ state standards and aligned curriculum, and the academic needs of students and faculty.

After evaluation, the media specialist will inform the principal of those books that have been evaluated and are approved for inclusion in the collections.

Periodically, books will be removed from the collection or discontinued, based on their poor physical condition, low rate of recent circulation, non-alignment to ~~State~~ state standards, out-of-date content, or status following a parent's or community member's objection.

The procedure for developing library media center and reading list collections will be posted on the website for each school in the District.

Upon written request, an individual will be provided access to material or books specified in the written request that are maintained in a District library if such material or books are available for review. The Principal shall arrange for a convenient time to provide such access.

Each elementary school must publish on its website, in a searchable format, a list of all materials maintained in the school library media center which can be checked out or used by a student or required as part of a school or grade-level reading list. The format must:

- A. identify the type of material maintained in the library media center by category, such as books, ebooks, periodicals, and videos;
- B. list, at a minimum, the following information:
  1. the title and author for books and ebooks;
  2. the name or title for periodicals and videos; and,
  3. the title for any other material maintained in the media center.
- C. Books and ebooks must be searchable by, at a minimum, author and title. All other materials must be searchable by, at a minimum, title.

### **Purchase of Instructional Materials**

Following adoption by the Board, requisitions shall be issued to purchase current instructional materials from the State-adopted instructional materials list so that each student in kindergarten through grade 12 will have a major tool of instruction in core courses of the subject areas of mathematics, language arts, science, social studies, reading, and literature. Any materials purchased shall be free of pornography and material prohibited under F.S. 847.12, suited to student needs and their ability to comprehend the material presented, and appropriate for the grade level and age group for which the materials are used or made available. The Board will purchase all materials as a separate line item on the regular (non-consent) agenda and will provide a reasonable opportunity for public comment.

Requisitions shall also be issued to purchase instructional materials that will be the major tool of instruction for subjects in the State Course Code Directory for which the Board has adopted courses of study, but for which there are no materials on the State-adopted instructional materials list.

The Superintendent shall approve these purchases.

In any year in which the total instructional materials allocation for District has not been expended or obligated prior to June 30th, the unobligated amount shall be carried forward and added to the next year's allocation.

The District shall maintain on its website a current list of instructional materials, by grade level, purchased by the District.

### **Replacement and Purchase of Instructional Materials by Students/Parents**

Students shall be held responsible for the cost of replacing any instructional materials lost, destroyed, or unnecessarily damaged. Failure to provide payment for the damage or loss may result in the suspension of the student from participation in extra-curricular activities, or the debt may be satisfied by the student performing community service activities at the school site as determined by the school principal.

A student or his/her parent(s) may purchase a copy of the designated course instructional materials, regardless of format, for the District's purchase price, including shipping.

Cost of materials may be charged for materials used in those activities beyond the basic curriculum in which a student elects to participate, particularly in activities where the product becomes the property of the student.

### **Free School-Related Instructional Materials**

Free instructional materials may be accepted for classroom and school purposes under conditions that meet all the following criteria:

- A. The initiative for securing the materials should be of the type that teachers seek rather than materials forwarded to them to promote the interests of an outside agency.
- B. The materials should fill a legitimate purpose of the school curriculum.
- C. The advertising feature of the materials should be minimized.
- D. Educational films should contain a minimum amount of commercial advertising.

### **Equipment or Instructional Materials Vendors**

The principal may permit vendors to demonstrate and show only that equipment and instructional materials which can be used to improve the instructional program and which are under consideration for purchase by the school.

### **New Worlds Reading Initiative**

The New Worlds Reading Initiative, created by the Florida Department of Education, provides high-quality, free books directly to K-5 students who are reading below grade level and to improve the literacy skills of students in K-12. The District must notify parents of eligible students upon enrollment and at the beginning of each school year options for specific book topics or genres in order to maximize student interest in reading. The ~~District district~~ must coordinate monthly book deliveries with the program administrator beginning no later than October and continuing through at least June. The ~~District district~~ must participate in the initiative by partnering with local nonprofit organizations and raising awareness by using marketing materials provided by the program administrator. A student's eligibility for the initiative continues until promotion to grade 6 or until the parent opts out of the initiative.

The District shall coordinate with each charter school it sponsors for the purposes of identifying eligible students, notifying parents, coordinating book deliveries, providing the opportunity to annually select book topics and genres, and raising awareness of the initiative.

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Legal	F.S. 119.071
	F.S. 212.183
	F.S. 1001.215
	F.S. 1002.22
	F.S. 1003.485
	F.S. 1006.28
	F.S. 1006.28 through 1006.42
	F.S. 1008.22
	F.S. 1008.25(5) (a)
	F.S. 1008.25(5) (c)
	F.S. 1014.05
	F.A.C. 6A-6.03028
	34 C.F.R. Part 300