

School District 50: Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte

Policy Subject: LOCALLY RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES

Date Passed: October 1999

Date Amended: March 2004

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Policy No. 3120

Date Approved: November, 1999

Date Amended: March, 2004

POLICY

The Board of School Trustees of School District No. 50 (HAIDA GWAII/QUEEN CHARLOTTE) recognizes that the learning of individual students is enhanced by the use of a variety of learning materials, which are appropriate to each student's developmental level and learning style.

PROCEDURE

A. Provincially Recommended Learning Resources

Provincially recommended resources that support the provincial curricula are evaluated through the provincial evaluation process. These are approved by the Ministry of Education for use in all British Columbia schools and are listed in the Catalogue of Learning Resources as well as in "Appendix B" of each of the Ministry's integrated resource packages.

B. Locally Evaluated Learning Resources

Teachers may choose to use provincially recommended resources to support provincial or Board-approved curricula; or they may select resources not on the recommended list. Resources used and not on the recommended list must be evaluated at least informally according to the following criteria and to the extent

that each is appropriate to any given learning resource:

Other factors being equal, priority will be given to learning resources developed and produced in Canada.

The learning resources should be relevant to the learning outcomes and content of the course.

The learning resource should be appropriate in terms of the age, maturity and learning needs of the students for whom it is intended.

The learning resource should be appropriate for the particular community in which it will be used.

The learning resource should be fair, objective, free from bias, propaganda, and discrimination, except where a teaching/learning situation requires illustrative material to develop critical thinking about such issues and shall reflect an awareness of our pluralistic society, and an understanding of the contribution made by women, minority groups and ethnic groups to our society.

The learning resource should be readable, interesting and manageable in the teaching/learning situation.

The learning resource should be well organized, of good quality, and worth using in terms of cost and time involved.

Selection Responsibilities

Within the framework of the above, the Board delegates the responsibility for selecting learning resources for classroom use to the professional staff employed by the School District. While the selection of learning resources involves many people, it shall be the responsibility of the principal to coordinate procedures for the selection of learning resources for classroom use and to acquire learning resources from funds made available by the Board.

Locally Evaluated Learning Resources Challenge

In the event that learning resources selected, which are not on the recommended list, are challenged on the grounds that they are inappropriate, the following procedures shall apply:

1. the Principal shall endeavour to resolve informally any complaint received by the school;

2. if a review and decision by the Board is requested, the request shall be made in writing and must include the name of the persons, the name or description of the particular resource in question, any specific aspects of which objection is taken and the reasons for the objection;

3. upon receipt of a request for review, the Superintendent of Schools will:

- establish a special committee whose membership should include both professional and lay person(s),
- include terms of reference, including a review of the material in the context of the criteria for selection listed below
- allow for consultation with others as necessary including the complainant, in order to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution, or, failing this, for the presentation of findings and recommendations to the Board, which will constitute a final decision.