

Policy

VIDEO MATERIALS SELECTION

VCR tapes, DVD's, video streaming, and other technology as it becomes available will constitute the term "video materials" as used in this document.

Video materials shall be selected with the primary purpose of enriching and supporting the educational program of the school. Materials selected will support the New Jersey Core Content Standards.

Criteria - The evaluation and selection criteria for all video materials shall be:

- A. Relevant to the school curriculum.
- B. Relevant to the needs of the individual students.
- C. Of high literary, technical, artistic, aesthetic, and/or musical quality.
- D. Age appropriate (according to the rating).

Previewing and Adding Video Materials to a Permanent Collection

- A. Teachers should preview available materials.
- B. If a video selection fits the above criteria, it will be added to a grade level/subject area's preliminary list forwarded to the building principal, the chief school administrator and submitted to the Chester Board of Education for approval. Upon approval, the selection will be added to the permanent collection list.
- C. The video streaming library is approved by the board of education.

Challenged Materials -board policy in regard to the following subjects is based on the firm stand that such subject matter will be included in the video collection as advised below:

- A. Religion: factual, unbiased materials, which represent all major religions.
- B. Sex and Profanity: Materials presenting some aspect of sex shall be subjected to a test of literary merit and taste by the teacher, taking viewer age level and accepted community moral standards into consideration. Any video work must be examined as a whole, not in part, before a judgment is made as to its inclusion or exclusion from the visual collection under consideration. The value and impact of any entire visual work transcends the images, script, and music out of which it is composed.

Procedure on Challenges

The following procedures for handling challenged materials shall be followed:

- A. Upon receipt of a question or complaint regarding video materials, a conference between the challenger and the teacher will be arranged. If the problem is not resolved to the mutual satisfaction of the parties to the conference, it will be referred to step two. Notice of the complaint should be shared with the board of education and chief school administrator.
- B. The challenger will be presented with a questionnaire in order to formalize the complaint or criticism, to fully identify himself or herself if this is a group challenge and to fully document the material in question.

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- C. The building principal, with the teacher, will review the completed questionnaire. If the question, problem, or criticism cannot be resolved at this level; it will be referred to step four.
- D. Upon request of the building principal, the board will appoint a committee of the handling of citizens' requests for reconsideration of visual materials. This committee shall consist of the chief school administrator, the building principal, the teacher, and at least two other persons who are not affiliated with the school. This committee will thoroughly examine and reevaluate the challenged materials and recommend to the board its inclusion or exclusion according to its best judgment.
- E. Within 30 calendar days from receipt of recommendation, the board of education will render a decision.

Adopted: No date
 NJSBA Review/Update: December 2008, August 2016, September 2018 April
 Readopted 27, 2009, September 17, 2018, August 16, 2021,
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Key Words

VCR Tapes, DVD, Video Streaming, Video Materials, Instructional Materials, Selection of Instructional Materials, Evaluation of Instructional Materials

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:4-25 Prescribing minimum courses of study for public schools; approval of courses of study
N.J.S.A. 18A:33-1 District to furnish suitable facilities; adoption of courses of study
N.J.S.A. 18A:34-1 Textbooks; selection; furnished free with supplies; appropriations
N.J.S.A. 18A:35-1 et seq. Curriculum and Courses
 P.L. 2005, c. 266 Districts to provide an alternate to dissection
N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.4 Responsibilities of the district board of education

Comprehensive Equity Plan, State Department of Education

Possible

Cross References: *1312 Community complaints and inquiries
 *2224 Nondiscrimination/affirmative action
 *5145.4 Equal educational opportunity
 6000 Concepts and roles in instruction
 *6010 Goals and objectives
 *6121 Nondiscrimination/affirmative action
 *6140 Curriculum adoption
 *6141 Curriculum design/development
 *6142.1 Family life education
 *6144 Controversial issues
 *6161.2 Complaints regarding instructional materials
 *6163.1 Media center/library

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.