TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095

606 TEXTBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for selection of textbooks and instructional materials.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The charter school board recognizes that selection of textbooks and instructional materials is a vital component of the charter school's curriculum. The charter school board also recognizes that it has the authority to make final decisions on selection of all textbooks and instructional materials. As an online educational option, the term "textbook" is used broadly to represent an array of curriculum options.

III. RESPONSIBILITY OF SELECTION

A. While the charter school board retains its authority to make final decisions on the selection of textbooks and instructional materials, the charter school board recognizes the expertise of the professional staff and the vital need of such staff to be primarily involved in the recommendation of textbooks and instructional materials. Accordingly, the charter school board delegates to the Director the responsibility to direct the professional staff in formulating recommendations to the school board on textbooks and other instructional materials.

B. In reviewing textbooks and instructional materials during the selection process, the professional staff shall select materials which:

1. support the goals and objectives of the education programs;

2. consider the needs, age and maturity of students;

3. foster respect and appreciation for cultural diversity and varied opinion;

4. fit within the constraints of the charter school budget;

5. are in the English language. Another language may be used, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 124D.61;

6. permit grade-level instruction for students to read and study America's founding documents, including documents that contributed to the foundation or maintenance of America's representative form of limited government, the Bill of Rights, our free-market economic system, patriotism; and

7. do not censor or restrain instruction in American or Minnesota state history or heritage based on religious references in original source documents, writings, speeches, proclamations, or records.

C. The Director shall be responsible for developing procedures and guidelines to establish an orderly process for the review and recommendation of textbooks and other instructional materials by the professional staff. Such procedures and guidelines shall provide opportunity for input and consideration of the views of students, parents and other interested members of the charter school community. This procedure shall be coordinated with the charter school's curriculum development effort and may utilize advisory committees.

IV. SELECTION OF TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. The Director shall be responsible for keeping the charter school board informed of progress on the part of staff and others involved in the textbook and other instructional materials review and selection process.

B. The Director shall present a recommendation to the charter school board on the selection of textbooks and other instructional materials after completion of the review process as outlined in this policy.

V. RECONSIDERATION OF TEXTBOOKS OR OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. The charter school board recognizes differences of opinion on the part of some members of the charter school community relating to certain areas of the instruction program. Interested persons may request an opportunity to review materials and submit a request for reconsideration of the use of certain textbooks or instructional materials.

B. The Director shall be responsible for the development of guidelines and procedures to identify the steps to be followed to seek reconsideration of textbooks or other instructional materials.

C. The Director shall present a procedure to the charter school board for review and approval regarding reconsideration of textbooks or other instructional materials. When approved by the charter school board, such procedure shall be an addendum to this policy.

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Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120A.22, Subd. 9 (Compulsory Instruction – Curriculum)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.235 (American Heritage Education)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 2 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.09, Subd. 8 (School Board Responsibilities)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.59-124D.61 (Limited English Proficiency)
Minn. Stat. § 127A.10 (State Officials and School Board Members to be Disinterested; Penalty)
Hazelwood Sch. Dist. v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260, 108 S.Ct. 562, 98 L.Ed.2d 592 (1988)
Pratt v. Independent Sch. Dist, No. 831, 670 F.2d 771 (8th Cir. 1982)

Cross References: Policy 603 (Curriculum Development)
Policy 604 (Instructional Curriculum)