

RECONSIDERATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Material that is challenged usually belongs to one of the three basic categories: religion, ideology, or profanity/obscenity. School Committee policies regarding these areas shall be as follows:

1. Religion – Factual, unbiased material on religions has a place in school libraries;
2. Ideologies – Libraries should, with no thought toward swaying reader judgment, make available a balance collection of primary and factual material, on the level of their students on various ideologies or philosophies which exert or have exerted a strong force, either favorably or unfavorably, in government, current events, politics, education and other phases of life.
3. Profanity/obscenity – Materials shall be subjected to a test of literary merit and reality in context using the criteria established.

When a problem concerning instructional resources in a school arises, the disposition of the problem will be made in a reasonable period of time using the Hull Public Schools adopted procedures.

In accordance with the statement of philosophy, no questioned materials shall be removed from the school pending a final decision. A decision will be made by a Review Committee, which will be convened and comprised of three teachers and the principal. Pending the outcome of the request for reconsideration, however, access to questioned materials can be denied to the students of the parents making the complaint, if they so desire.

If the decision of the School Committee is that the questioned instructional resource be retained, the Hull Public Schools will not convene a Review Committee relative to the same complaint for a period of three years. If a substantially different point of view is advanced, it will be investigated. (The period of three years does not apply in this instance.)

If an individual or group undertakes action to keep material from the shelves by checking it out and failing to return it, or by taking turns in keeping it checked out so that it is not available for student use, the Superintendent shall request, in writing, the return of the material. If it is not returned within thirty (30) days, a bill for the current replacement cost of the item shall be rendered to the party holding the item.

After the School Committee has adopted new materials or approved certain methods, that decision will not be reconsidered for a period of three years beginning with the end of the school year when the adoption is made.

Last Adopted: May 23, 2006

First reading: September 18, 2017

Second reading: October 2, 2017

Adoption: October 16, 2017

Proposed reconsideration: October 2022

Hull Public Schools