

IJLA - Stakeholder concerns about curriculum, materials, programs, or events

Mission and learning resource selection:

Our mission “In partnership with families and community, we educate students to become responsible citizens who respect one another and have the motivation, skills, and knowledge to succeed” is met in part through the selection of curriculum, materials, programs, and events (learning resources). The board is ultimately responsible for the selection of all learning resources, including library books within the district, but delegates that duty to the superintendent or his/her designees.

Community Values:

Community values refer to the shared beliefs, attitudes, and principles that are held by those living within our district's boundaries. These values guide our actions, decisions, and behaviors and are often deeply ingrained in the community's culture. These values help shape the way members of our community interact with one another and with the broader society. These values are reflected by the democratically elected members of the board of trustees.

Stakeholders:

The board recognizes that there are several stakeholders in our district who have a legitimate interest in the learning resources used within the district. These stakeholders are students, parents / guardians of students, staff, administrators, and members of our community.

Library resources:

School libraries are a small, highly curated collection of books and materials selected to help meet the district's mission. School libraries do not and can not have every book that any one person may want to find in them nor can a school library ensure that every book meets the standards of every stakeholder. Rather, at the direction of the board, school librarians endeavor to continually update their library catalogs in an attempt to ensure that each school's library has the best books and materials currently available to support the district's mission and remain in alignment with our community's values. This necessarily means that on a regular basis some books and materials will be removed and updated with better options. This is fundamental to the curation process and should not be confused with book banning or censorship. The inclusion or exclusion of any particular book from a library catalog is an ongoing process of ensuring that all learning resources available in a library are the best available to meet the mission of the district and align with community values.

Procedures for stakeholder input:

Although the board delegates the selection of learning resources, it maintains ultimate responsibility to ensure that the learning resources used within the district are in alignment with our mission and our community's values. This is done largely through the selection of learning resources as defined in policies IIA, IIAA, and IIAC. The board recognizes that in rare circumstances there may be learning resources in use in our district that do not align with our district mission and/or with our community's values. In these instances the board recognizes the unique value of stakeholder input in identifying these mis-aligned learning resources. The

following procedures will facilitate collaboration between the board and stakeholders when a re-evaluation of learning resources is desirable.

1. If a parent / guardian believes a learning resource is inappropriate for their child that concern should be communicated to the superintendent's designee (teacher, librarian, building principal, etc.) that is responsible for the learning resource and a reasonable accommodation will be provided. This request may be escalated to the building principal, superintendent, or board as needed.
2. If a stakeholder believes that a learning resource is mis-aligned with the district's mission or the community's values then their concern should be made known to the superintendent's designee responsible for the learning resource. The stakeholder must provide sufficient information about why the learning resource is mis-aligned so that the designee can properly evaluate the learning resource. If the stakeholder and the designee agree the learning resource is mis-aligned then the designee will remove the learning resource from use in the district. Once the learning resource has been removed, the designee will document the concern along with the resolution. This documentation will be made publicly available on the district's website. This publication does not need to include the stakeholder's nor the designee's identifiers.
3. If an agreement is not reached between the stakeholder and the designee then the stakeholder will be invited by the designee to lodge a formal complaint with the superintendent using form IJLA-E.
4. Once a formal complaint is received by the superintendent he/she will notify the board. The superintendent will conduct a thorough and prompt review or may, at their discretion, delegate this review to the relevant building principal. The stakeholder will be notified that a review is underway and who will be conducting it.
5. If it is determined the resource is mis-aligned then the superintendent / principal will ensure the learning resource is removed from use in the district. The superintendent will then notify the board and stakeholder of the result of the review and the action taken. Once action has been taken, the superintendent / principal will document the complaint along with the resolution. This documentation will be made publicly available on the district's website. This publication does not need to include the stakeholder's identifiers.
6. If the principal believes the learning resource is in alignment and the superintendent agrees then the matter will be referred to the board along with the superintendent's reason for believing the resource is in alignment. If the superintendent disagrees with the principal then the learning resource will be removed from use in the district. The superintendent will document the complaint along with the resolution. This documentation will be made publicly available on the district's website. This publication does not need to include the stakeholder's identifiers

7. If the matter is referred to the board, then the board, at its discretion, will initiate its own review. Each board member will review the learning resource. At a public meeting the board will decide if the learning resource is mis-aligned or not.
8. At the board's discretion a committee may be formed to conduct this review. The board will vote to accept or not accept the recommendation of the committee.
9. If the board determines the learning resource is mis-aligned then the superintendent will remove the learning resource from use in the district. Whether the learning resource is found to be in alignment or mis-aligned, the board will designate a board member to author an explanation for the determination that the superintendent will publish along with the complaint and the results of any action taken. The stakeholder will be notified by the superintendent of the board's decision and the results of any action taken.
10. At the initiation of a review and if reasonably possible, the reviewing party will temporarily remove the learning resource from use pending the completion of the review.