

SELECTION AND EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The Governing Board desires that district instructional materials, as a whole, present a broad spectrum of knowledge and viewpoints, reflect society's diversity, and enhance the use of multiple teaching strategies and technologies. The Board shall adopt instructional materials based on a determination that such materials are an effective learning resource to help students achieve grade-level competency and that the materials meet criteria specified in law. Textbooks, technology-based materials, and other educational materials shall be aligned with academic content standards and the district's curriculum to ensure that they effectively support the district's adopted courses of study.

(cf. 6000 – Concepts and Roles)
(cf. 6011 – Academic Standards)
(cf. 6141 – Curriculum Development and Evaluation)
(cf. 6143 – Courses of Study)
(cf. 6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6162.5 – Student Assessment)
(cf. 6163.1 – Library Media Centers)
(cf. 9000 – Role of the Board)

The Board shall select instructional materials for use in grades K-8 that have been approved by the State Board of Education (SBE) or have otherwise been determined to be aligned with the state academic content standards adopted pursuant to Education Code 60605 or the Common Core State Standards adopted pursuant to Education Code 60605.8. (Education Code 60200, 60210)

The Board shall adopt instructional materials for grades 9-12 upon determining that the materials meet the criteria specified in law and administrative regulation. (Education Code 60400)

(cf. 6011 – Academic Standards)
(cf. 6141 – Curriculum Development and Evaluation)
(cf. 6143 – Courses of Study)
(cf. 6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency)
(cf. 6161 – Equipment, Books and Materials)
(cf. 6162.5 – Student Assessment)

Review Process

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a process by which instructional materials shall be reviewed for recommendation to the Board. Toward that end, he/she may establish an instructional materials review committee to evaluate and recommend instructional materials.

(cf. 1220 – Citizen Advisory Committees)

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The review process shall involve teachers in a substantial manner and shall also encourage the participation of parents/guardians and community members. (Education Code 60002)

(cf. 6020 – Parent Involvement)

In addition, the instructional materials review committee may include administrators, other staff who have subject-matter expertise, and students as appropriate.

If the district chooses to use instructional materials for grades K-8 that have not been adopted by the SBE, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the majority of the participants in the district's review process are classroom teachers who are assigned to the subject area or grade level of the materials. (Education Code 60210)

All recommended instructional materials shall be available for public inspection at the district office.

(cf. 5020 – Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

Individuals who participate in the selection or review of instructional materials shall not have a conflict of interest, as defined in administrative regulation, in the materials being reviewed.

(cf. 9270 – Conflict of Interest)

The district may pilot instructional materials using a representative sample of classrooms for a specified period of time during a school year in order to determine how well the materials support the district's curricular goals and academic standards. Feedback from teachers piloting the materials shall be made available to the Board before the materials are adopted.

Public Hearing on Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

The Board shall annually conduct one or more public hearings on the sufficiency of the district's textbooks and other instructional materials.

The hearing shall take place on or before the end of the eighth week from the first day students attend school for that year. (Education Code 60119).

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The Board encourages participation by parents/guardians, teachers, interested community members, and bargaining unit leaders at the hearing. Ten days prior to the hearing, the Superintendent or designee shall post a notice in three public places within the district containing the time, place, and purpose of the hearing. The hearing shall not take place during or immediately following school hours. (Education Code 60119)

(cf. 9322 – Agenda/Meeting Materials)

At the hearing(s), the Board shall determine, through a resolution, whether each student in each school, including each English learner, has sufficient textbooks and/or instructional materials that are aligned to the state content standards adopted pursuant to Education Code 60605 or the Common Core State Standards adopted pursuant to Education Code 60605.8 and which are consistent with the content and cycles of the state's curriculum frameworks. in each of the following subjects: (Education Code 60119)

1. Mathematics
2. Science
3. History-social science
4. English language arts, including the English language development component of an adopted program
5. World/foreign language
6. Health

The Board shall also determine the availability of science laboratory equipment, as applicable to science laboratory courses offered in grades 9-12. (Education Code 60119)

In making these determinations, the Board shall consider whether each student has sufficient textbooks and/or instructional materials to use in class and to take home. However, this does not require that each student have two sets of materials. The materials may be in a digital format as long as each student, at a minimum, has and can access the same materials in the class and to take home as all other students in the same class or course in the district and has the ability to use and access them at home. However, the materials shall not be considered sufficient if they are photocopied sheets from only a portion of a textbook or instructional materials copied to address a shortage. (Education Code 60119)

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If the Board determines that there are insufficient textbooks and/or instructional materials, the Board shall provide information to classroom teachers and to the public, setting forth for each school in which an insufficiency exists, the percentage of students who lack sufficient standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials in each subject area, and the reasons that each student does not have sufficient textbooks and/or instructional materials. The Board shall take any action, except an action that would require reimbursement by the Commission of State Mandates, to ensure that each student has sufficient materials within two months of the beginning of the school year in which the determination is made. (Education Code 60119)

The degree to which every student has sufficient access to standards-aligned instructional materials shall be included in the district's local control and accountability plan. (Education Code 52060)

(cf. 0460 – Local Control and Accountability Plan)

Complaints

Complaints concerning instructional materials shall be handled in accordance with law, Board policy and administrative regulation.

(cf. 1312.2 – Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials/Library Books)

(cf. 1312.4 – Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1240 County superintendent, general duties

220 Prohibition against discrimination

1240 County superintendent, general duties

33050-33053 General waiver authority

33126 School Accountability Report Card

35272 Education and athletic materials

44805 Enforcement of course of studies; use of textbooks, rules and regulations

49415 Maximum textbook weight

51501 Subject matter reflecting on race, color, etc.

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

60000-60005 Instructional materials, legislative intent

60010 Definitions

60040-60052 Instructional requirements and materials

60060-60063.45 Requirements for publishers and manufacturers

60070-60076 Prohibited acts (re instructional materials)

60110-60115 Instructional materials on alcohol and drug education

60119 Public hearing on sufficiency of materials

60200-60210 Elementary school materials

60226 Requirements for publishers and manufacturers

60350-60352 Core reading program instructional materials

60400-60411 High school textbooks

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Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE (continued)
60420-60424 Instructional Materials Funding Realignment Program
60510-60511 Donation or sale of obsolete instructional materials
60605 State content standards
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
9505-9535 Instructional materials

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS:
Instructional Materials FAQ
01-05 Guidelines for Piloting Textbooks and Instructional Materials, rev. January 2015
Standards for Evaluating Instructional Materials for Social Content, 2013
CSBA PUBLICATIONS:
Maximizing School Board Leadership; Curriculum, 1996
WEB SITES:
Association of American Publishers: <http://www.publishers.org>
California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>
California Academic Content Standards Commission, Common Core State Standards:
<http://www.scoe.net/castandards>
CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Policy
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