

Public Complaints about the Curriculum/Instructional/Library Materials

Occasional objections to the selection of instructional materials or techniques may be made by the public, despite the care taken in selecting materials most valuable for the student and teacher. The following procedure will be utilized in challenging materials:

Level I. All complaints or challenges of materials shall be received with courtesy and an effort shall be made to explain the school district's philosophy for selection of materials. **Defense of a particular item shall not be made or commented on until a formal complaint is registered with the building media specialist in the form of, Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials.**

Level II. If the criticism is not resolved by the media specialist, after a review of policy, then a copy of the form should be filed with the building principal. The building principal and the building media specialist will discuss the challenge with the person or persons making the criticism and attempt to resolve the issue.

Level III. If the issue is not resolved by the above levels, then the building principal, within one school week (5 school days), will establish an ad hoc committee to review the challenged materials. The committee should be composed of the building principal as chairman, two (2) teachers from the building staff, a minister, and two (2) parents of school age children. The committee will have members of both sexes.

The decision will be made only in a hearing session as a complete committee. Within five (5) work days the building principal will inform the complainant, media specialist, and superintendent of the decision.

Level IV. Within five (5) work days of the receipt of the decision rendered by the ad hoc committee, the complainant may appeal, in writing to the superintendent.

Appeals to the superintendent will be heard by him within ten (10) working days of his written receipt of the appeal. Written notice of the time and the place of the hearing will be given five (5) working days prior thereto to the complainant or any other persons officially involved in the appeal. Attendance at the hearing of the appeal will be restricted to persons officially involved.

Within five (5) working days of the hearing, the superintendent will communicate to the complainant and all persons involved of his decision.

Level V. Within five (5) work days of the receipt of the superintendent's decision, the complainant may

appeal, in writing, to the Amity School District Board of Directors. The written notice will be addressed to the superintendent and Board of Directors. The complainant will be notified, in writing, to appear at a regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting. At that time the complainant(s) will be heard.

The review of questioned materials will be treated objectively and as an important matter. Every opportunity will be afforded those persons or groups questioning school materials to meet with the committee and present their opinions. The school media specialists and any other persons involved in the selection of the questioned materials, will have the same selection of the questioned materials, will have the same opportunity. The best interests of the students, the curriculum, the school and the community will be of uppermost consideration.

Review of materials will be in the light of Board policy establishing selection criteria for instruction and supplementary material. Challenged materials involved will not be suspended from circulation, unless the faculty committee so recommends or the Board so determines.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 336.035](#)
[ORS 337.120](#)
[ORS 337.141](#)
[ORS 337.150](#)
[ORS 337.260](#)

[ORS 339.155](#)
[OAR 581-011-0050 to -0119](#)
[OAR 581-021-0045](#)
[OAR 581-021-0046](#)

[OAR 581-022-1520](#)
[OAR 581-022-1640](#)

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, Title I, Sections 1111-1120B.