Asheville City Board of Education Policy

Parental Inspection and Objection to Instructional Materials

Policy Code: 3210

PARENTAL INSPECTION AND OBJECTION TO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

In Board policy 3200, Selection of Textbooks and Supplementary Materials, the Board established a process for the selection of instructional materials that should meet State Board requirements and the educational goals of this Board. That process provides an opportunity for parental input in the selection of materials.

The Board recognizes that despite the opportunity to participate in the selection of materials, parents still may have concerns about instructional materials used in the school district. Thus, to further involve parents in the education of their children, the Board also provides opportunities for parents to review instructional materials and to object to the use of materials.

Parents have a right under federal law to inspect all instructional and supplementary materials used in connection with any applicable federally funded programs. Parents also may review all other instructional materials following procedures provided by the Superintendent. Due to the rapidly evolving nature of online resources, some materials available through the Internet and used in individual classes to provide up-to-date information or information on current events may not be available for review.

Parents may submit objections in writing to the principal regarding the use of instructional materials. The principal may establish a committee to review the objection. While input from the community may be sought, the Board believes professional educators are in the best position to determine whether a particular instructional material is appropriate for the age and maturity of the students and for the subject matter being taught.

If the principal or the Media and Technology Advisory Committee (MTAC) determines that any material violates constitutional or other legal rights of the parent or student, the principal or committee will either remove the material from instructional use or accommodate the particular student and parent. Before any material is removed, the principal or the MTAC will ensure that the curriculum is still aligned with the Common Core State and North Carolina Essential Standards and articulated from grade to grade. If an objection made by a parent or student is not based upon constitutional or legal rights, the principal or the committee may accommodate such objections after considering the effect on curriculum, any burden on the school, teacher or other students that the accommodation would create, and any other relevant factors.

The decision of the principal or MTAC may be appealed to the Superintendent. The decision of the Superintendent may be appealed to the Board.

The superintendent shall develop the necessary administrative procedures to implement this policy.

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Legal Reference: U.S. Const. amend. I; 20 U.S.C. § 1232h (Supp. 1995); N.C. Const. art. I, § 14; G.S. 115C-45, -47, -81, -101	Adopted: May 11, 1998 Revised: August 5, 2013	Page 2 of 2	
Cross References: Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Curriculum Development (policy 3100), Selection of Textbooks and Supplementary Materials (policy 3200)			