

CHAPTER 4.00 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

CHALLENGED MATERIALS

4.30*+

Any citizen may file a complaint with a school or the Superintendent concerning the use of instructional materials. Instructional materials being questioned shall not be removed from use until the grievance procedures have been completed.

I. District-adopted Instructional Materials

- A. All complaints shall be presented in writing on the Citizen's Request for Re-evaluation of Instructional Materials which may be obtained from the Superintendent's office, the school office, or the District website.
- B. The written objection must be filed within thirty (30) calendar days of the adoption of the material. A complainant who does not submit the completed form within the required time shall receive no consideration.
- C. Within thirty (30) days after the initial thirty-day period has expired, the School Board shall conduct at least one public hearing on all petitions received during the thirty-day time period. The petitioner(s) shall be notified in writing of the date and time of the hearing at least seven (7) days prior to the hearing.
- D. The contested material shall be made available to the public online at least seven (7) days before the hearing.
- E. The decision of the School Board, after convening a hearing, shall be final and not subject to further review or petition.

II. Other Instructional Materials

- A. A parent, as defined by Florida Statutes, may object to his/her child's use of a specific instructional material or an adult student may object to the use of a specific material in his/her instructional program. The parent or adult student may request a conference with the teacher or media specialist at the school.
- B. If the issue is not resolved, the complainant may request a meeting with the principal to discuss the use of the material.
- C. The complainant may submit a completed Citizen's Request for Re-evaluation of Instructional Materials to initiate a district level appeal if he/she is not satisfied with the explanation of the principal and desires to file a formal complaint.

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- D. The complainant may appeal to the Superintendent if he/she is not satisfied with the outcome of the district level response.
 - E. The complainant may appeal in writing to the School Board the decision of the Superintendent.
- III. Procedures to be followed when the appropriateness of books or materials is questioned are delineated in the *District's Media Specialist Handbook*. This procedure is also available from the Superintendent's office, the school principal, and on the District's Professional Development Center Media Services web-site.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

1001.41, 1001.42, F.S.

LAW(S) IMPLEMENTED:

1000.21, 1001.41, 1001.43, 1006.28, F.S.

HISTORY:

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