

# Weakley County Board of Education



Monitoring:

Descriptor Term:

Descriptor Code:

Issued Date:

## Reconsideration of Instructional Materials and Textbooks

4.403

02/05/2009

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2 The Board supports principles of intellectual freedom inherent in the First Amendment of the  
3 Constitution of the United States<sup>1</sup> and expressed in the *Library Bill of Rights* of the American  
4 Library Association.  
5  
6 Because opinions differ, there may be questions concerning some instructional and library  
7 materials despite the quality of the selection process. If a complaint is made, the following  
8 procedure is to be followed:  
9  
10 1. Inform complainant of the selection procedures and make no commitments.  
11  
12 2. Request the complainant to submit a formal "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional  
13 Materials."  
14  
15 3. Inform the principal (and other appropriate personnel).  
16  
17 4. Keep challenged materials available for use during the reconsideration process.  
18  
19 5. Upon receipt of the completed form, the principal requests review of the challenged  
20 materials by an ad hoc materials review committee within fifteen (15) working days, and  
21 notifies the appropriate supervisor and director of schools that such review is being done.  
22 The review committee is appointed by the principal, and includes certificated library  
23 media personnel, representatives from classroom teachers, one or more parents, and may  
24 include one or more students.  
25  
26 6. The review committee shall take the following steps after receiving the challenged  
27 materials:  
28  
29 a. Read, view or listen to the material in its entirety;  
30 b. Check general acceptance of the material by reading recognized and evaluative  
31 reviews;  
32 c. Determine the extent to which the material supports the curriculum;  
33 d. Complete the appropriate "Checklist for Reconsideration of Instructional  
34 Materials," judging the material for its strength and value; and  
35 e. Present recommendation to principal for further action and to the director of  
36 schools for purposes of information.  
37 7. If the complainant desires further action after receiving the recommendation of the  
38 committee and the decision of the principal, an appeal may be made to the Board.

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Legal Reference:

<sup>1</sup> *Island Trees/Union Free School District v. Pico*, 457 U.S. 853, 102 S. Ct. 2799 (1982)