

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 course of study.

(cf.0440 – District Technology Plan)

(cf. 6141 – Curriculum Development and Evaluation)

(cf. 6143 – Course of Study)

(cf. 6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements)

(6161.11 – Supplementary Instructional Materials)

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 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)

The Board's priority in the selection of instructional materials is to ensure that all students are provided with standards-aligned instructional materials in the core curriculum areas of English/language arts, mathematics, science and history-social science.

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.

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

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 a 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)

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.

The committee shall review instructional materials using criteria provided in law and administrative regulation, and shall provide the Board with documentation supporting its recommendations.

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

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. (Education Code 60119)

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

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)

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

The Board shall make a determination that all students within the district who are enrolled in the same course have “identical” standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials from the same adoption cycle, as defined in Education Code 1240.3 and 60119. (Education Code 1240.3, 42605)

However, the district may purchase the newest adopted instructional materials for students in district schools ranked in deciles 1-3 of the base Academic Performance Index in any one of the past three school years without necessarily purchasing these materials for use in other district schools. (Education Code 1240.3)

If the Board determines that there are insufficient textbooks or instructional materials, it 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 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)

Complaints

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

(cf. 1312.2 – Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 1312.4 – Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE:

220 Prohibition against discrimination
1240 County superintendent, general duties
33050-33053 General waiver authority
33126 School accountability report card
44805 Enforcement of course of studies; use of textbooks, rules and regulations
49415 Maximum textbook weight
51501 Nondiscriminatory subject matter

60000-60005 Instructional materials, legislative intent
60010 Definitions
60040-60052 Instructional requirements and materials
60060-60062 Requirements for publishers and manufacturers
60070-60076 Prohibited acts (instructional materials)
60110-60115 Instructional materials on alcohol and drug education
60119 Public hearing on sufficient 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
60510-60511 Donation for sale of obsolete instructional materials
60605 State content standard
60605.8 Common Core Standards
60605.86-60605.88 Supplemental instructional materials aligned with Common Core Standards
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
9505-9530 Instructional materials
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATION
Standards for Evaluating Instructional Materials for Social Content, 2000
Guidelines for Piloting Textbooks and Instructional Materials, September 2001

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LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT