

Policy 6161.11: Supplementary Instructional Materials

Status: DRAFT

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The Governing Board encourages the use of supplementary instructional materials to enrich the curriculum and enhance student learning. Such materials shall be aligned with district goals, curriculum objectives, and academic standards and shall supplement and not supplant the use of Board-adopted basic instructional materials that serve as the primary learning resources.

Supplementary instructional materials include, but are not limited to, instructional materials that are designed to serve one or more of the following purposes: (Education Code 60010)

1. To provide more complete coverage of one or more subjects included in a given course
2. To meet the various learning ability levels of students in a given age group or grade level
3. To meet the diverse educational needs of students with a language disability in a given age group or grade level
4. To meet the diverse educational needs of students reflective of a condition of cultural pluralism
5. To use current, relevant technology that further engages interactive learning in the classroom and beyond

Supplementary instructional materials may be selected by the Superintendent or designee, school administrators, or teachers, as applicable, and obtained through donations to the district and/or available funding sources designated for these purposes.

The use of any supplemental instructional material shall not be rejected or prohibited by the Board or district on the basis that it includes a study of the role and contributions of any individual or group consistent with the requirements of Education Code 51204.5 and 60040, unless such study would violate Education Code 51501 or 60044. (Education Code 243)

The use of any supplemental instructional material shall not be adopted by the Board or district if the use would subject a student to unlawful discrimination as specified in Education Code 220. (Education Code 244)

As appropriate, supplementary instructional materials shall meet the criteria developed for the selection and evaluation of basic instructional materials as described in AR 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials.

Supplementary instructional materials shall be directly related to the course of study in which they are being used and shall be appropriate for the age and maturity level of the students.

The use or reproduction of supplementary instructional materials shall be in accordance with federal copyright law.

Appropriateness of Materials

Whenever a district employee proposes to use a supplementary resource which is not included in the approved learning resources of the district, the employee shall preview the material to determine whether, in the employee's professional judgment, it is appropriate for the grade level taught and is consistent with district criteria for the selection of supplementary instructional materials.

The employee shall confer with the Superintendent or designee as necessary to determine the compliance of the material with district criteria. The primary considerations should be the educational value, factual accuracy, appropriateness, including whether the material contains pervasive vulgarity or profanity, and relevance of the materials, as well as the ages and maturity of the students.

The Superintendent or designee may provide training to administrators and teachers in the selection and evaluation of supplementary instructional materials, including the criteria to be utilized and applicable legal considerations.

Investigations, Complaints, and Opt-Outs

If the Board knows or has reason to know that materials were used in a classroom or an action occurred that violated Education Code 220, the Board shall investigate and remediate the action, which may include, but is not limited to, the implementation of restorative justice practices. (Education Code 244)

Complaints concerning supplemental instructional materials shall be handled in accordance with Board Policy 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials and Board Policy 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures, as applicable.

Any requests by a parent/guardian to opt a student out of specified instructional content shall be handled in accordance with Board Policy 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities and Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the Governing Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
5 CCR 4600-4670	Uniform complaint procedures
Ed. Code 18111	Exclusion of books by Governing Board that are sectarian, partisan, or denominational character
Ed. Code 220	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 233.5	Teaching of principles
Ed. Code 242	Access to information about educational laws and policies regarding right to accurate and inclusive curriculum
Ed. Code 243	Prohibition of discrimination; instructional materials
Ed. Code 244	Prohibition of discrimination; instructional materials
Ed. Code 48907	Exercise of free expression; time, place, and manner rules and regulations
Ed. Code 48950	Speech and other communication
Ed. Code 51204.5	Social sciences instruction; contributions of specified groups
Ed. Code 51501	Nondiscriminatory subject matter
Ed. Code 51510	Prohibited study or supplemental materials
Ed. Code 51511	Religious matters properly included in courses of study
Ed. Code 51933	Sexual health education and HIV prevention materials
Ed. Code 60000-60005	Instructional materials; legislative intent
Ed. Code 60010	Instructional materials; definition
Ed. Code 60040-60052	Requirements for instructional materials
Ed. Code 60060-60063.5	Requirements for publishers and manufacturers
Ed. Code 60151	Approval of instructional materials that subject students to unlawful discrimination; corrective actions and financial penalty
Ed. Code 60200-60213	Elementary school materials
Ed. Code 60226	Requirements for publishers and manufacturers
Ed. Code 60400-60411	Instructional materials; high schools
Ed. Code 60605	State-adopted content and performance standards in core curricular areas
Ed. Code 60605.8	Common Core standards

Management Resources

California Department of Education Publication	Standards for Evaluating Instructional Materials for Social Content, 2013
California Department of Justice Publication	Guidance to School Officials re: Legal Requirements for Providing Inclusive Curricula and Books, Legal Alert, Jan. 2024
California School Boards Association Publication	Instructional Materials Adoptions: State and local governing board processes, roles, and responsibilities, Governance Brief, Feb. 2024
California School Boards Association Publication	Instructional Materials Adoption: Local governing board responsibilities, Fact Sheet, Feb. 2024
California School Boards Association Publication	State Roles, Responsibilities, and Process for Instructional Materials Adoption, Feb. 2024
Court Decision	Mahmoud v. Taylor (2025) 606 U.S. 522
Court Decision	Fowler v. Board of Education of Lincoln County (1987) 819 F.2d 657
Court Decision	McCarthy v. Fletcher (1989) 207 Cal. App. 3d 130
State Board of Education Publication	Guidance for Local Instructional Materials Adoption, March 2024
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	Department of Justice
Website	U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights
Website	California Department of Education
Website	CSBA

Cross References

	Description
0000	Vision
0000	Vision
0200	Goals For The School District
0410	Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities
1260	Educational Foundation
1312.2	Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
1312.2	Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
1312.2-E PDF(1)	Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3-E PDF(1)	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.4	Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.4-E PDF(1)	Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
1325	Advertising And Promotion
3270	Sale And Disposal Of Books, Equipment And Supplies
3270	Sale And Disposal Of Books, Equipment And Supplies
3290	Gifts, Grants And Requests
3311	Bids
3311	Bids
4132	Publication Or Creation Of Materials
4232	Publication Or Creation Of Materials
4332	Publication Or Creation Of Materials

Cross References

5020

5020

5145.3

5145.3

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