

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE CURRICULUM OR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Procedure for Handling Objections

Should the issues(s) not be resolved between the citizen and principal, the principal will forward a copy of the "Request Form for Reconsideration of Materials" to the Superintendent, who will arrange to have the material in question reviewed by a committee of six composed of:

1. Superintendent or designee, who shall chair the committee.
2. Two teachers from the building involved in the subject field or grade level of the questioned materials, to be selected by the principal.
3. Three lay persons interested in school affairs mutually agreed upon by the Superintendent and complainant.

This review of questioned materials shall be treated objectively and as an important matter. The committee will listen to persons presenting opinions on the pros and cons of the question. The best interests of the students, the curriculum, the school, and the community shall be of paramount consideration,. The report of the review committee shall be completed as rapidly as possible and submitted directly to the Superintendent who may decide the disposition of the material or will in turn submit it for disposition to the Arlington Board of Education, whose decision shall be sent to the complainant.

No material shall be removed from use until a direct line administrator or the Board of Education has so directed in writing.

Instructions to Evaluating Committee

Bear in mind local community standards, as well as the principles of the freedom to learn and to read. Base your decision on individual material in light of these broad principals.

Study thoroughly all materials referred to you and read available reviews. The general acceptance of the materials should be checked by consulting standard evaluation aids and local holdings in other schools.

Passages or parts should not be pulled out of context. The values and faults should be weighed against each other, and the opinions based on the materials as a whole.

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