

K-15 PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE CURRICULUM OR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The Plainfield Community School Corporation, though it is responsible for all instructional material purchases, recognizes the student's right to free access to many different types of instructional materials. The Board also recognizes the right of teachers and administrators to select books and other materials in accordance with current trends in education and to make them available in the schools. It is, therefore, the policy of the Board of School Trustees to require the materials selected for the schools to be in accord with the following:

1. All instructional material shall be chosen for values of interest and enlightenment of all students in the community. Instructional material shall not be excluded because of the race, nationality, political, or religious views of the writer or of its style.
2. Effort will be made to provide materials that present various points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times, international, national, and local; and instructional material of sound factual authority shall not be prescribed or removed from media center shelves or classrooms because of partisan, doctrinal approval, or disapproval.

Occasional objections to the selection of instructional materials may be made by the public despite the care taken to select those materials most valuable for the student and the teacher. The complainant will be asked to complete the form, "Reconsideration Form Concerning Instructional Materials." Upon receipt of a request for reconsideration, a School Materials Review Committee, composed of a school administrator, two teachers, a media specialist, and two parents, will be appointed by the building principal. By using the "Suggested Checklist for School Materials Review Committee When Reconsideration of Instructional Materials is Requested" form (File: KLB-R1), the Committee will review the work in question and report its findings to the complainant. Copies of the request form and the report will be sent to the principal and the superintendent. If the complainant is not satisfied with the decision contained in the report, he or she may appeal the decision to the principal, superintendent, and the Board of School Trustees. Should a complaint reach the Board, the Board will review the materials in question in the light of the following.

1. No parent or group of parents has the right to determine the reading matter for students other than their own children.
2. The Board recognizes, however, that the right of an individual parent to request that his or her child not have access to certain instructional materials, provided a written request is made to the appropriate building principal.

3. That the final decision for controversial instructional material will rest with the School Board after careful examination and discussion of the instructional material with school officials or anyone else the School Board may wish to involve.

See KLB-R1 (Form)
See KLB-R2 (Form)

SOURCE: Plainfield Community School Corporation
Plainfield, IN

ADOPTED: Prior to 08/10/66

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