

Weakley County Board of Education



Monitoring:

Descriptor Term:

Library Materials

Descriptor Code:

4.4031

Issued Date:

10/05/2023

1 *General*

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3 The Board supports principles of intellectual freedom inherent in the First Amendment of the
4 Constitution of the United States¹ and expressed in the *Library Bill of Rights* of the American
5 Library Association.

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7 Library materials shall be reviewed to ensure the content aligns with state law. The library
8 collection shall adhere to the following criteria:

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10 1. Materials shall be suitable for and consistent with the educational mission of the school;

11

12 2. Materials shall be appropriate for the age and maturity levels of the students who may
13 access them;

14

15 3. Materials shall contain literary, historical, and/or artistic value and merit; and

16

17 4. The collection as a whole shall offer a variety of viewpoints.

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19 The district's library collection will be reviewed periodically to be in line with these established
20 standards.

21

22 Each school shall maintain a current list of materials available in the school's library collection.
23 This list shall be made accessible on the school's website.²

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25 **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

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27 Because opinions differ, there may be questions concerning some library materials despite the
28 quality of the selection process. If a complaint is made, the following procedure is to be
29 followed:

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31 1. Inform complainant of the selection procedures and make no commitments.

32

33 2. Request the complainant to submit a formal "Request for Reconsideration of Library
34 Materials."

35

36 3. Inform the principal (and other appropriate personnel).

37

38 4. Keep challenged materials available for use during the reconsideration process.

Legal Reference:

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

² Public Chapter 744 of 2022

- 1 5. Upon receipt of the completed form, the principal shall notify the Director of Schools.
2
- 3 6. Upon receipt of the completed form, the principal requests review of the challenged
4 materials by an ad hoc materials review committee within fifteen (15) working days, and
5 notifies the appropriate supervisor and director of schools that such review is being done.
6 The review committee is appointed by the principal, and includes certificated library
7 media personnel, representatives from classroom teachers, one or more parents, and may
8 include one or more students. The principal shall inform the Director of Schools of the
9 review committee’s progress.
10
- 11 7. The review committee shall take the following steps after receiving the challenged
12 materials:
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- 14 a. Read, view or listen to the material in its entirety;
 - 15 b. Check general acceptance of the material by reading recognized and evaluative
16 reviews;
 - 17 c. Determine the extent to which the material is appropriate for the age and maturity
18 levels of the students who have access to the materials and whether the material is
19 suitable for, and consistent with, the educational mission of the schools.
 - 20 d. Complete the appropriate “Checklist for Reconsideration of Library Materials,”
21 judging the material for its strength and value; and
 - 22 e. Present recommendation to the Director of Schools and other LEA personnel.
23
- 24 8. The LEA shall review the recommendation presented by the review committee and make
25 the determination whether the material is appropriate for the age and maturity levels of
26 the students who have access to the materials and whether the material is suitable for, and
27 consistent with, the educational mission of the school.
28
- 29 9. If it is determined that the material is not appropriate for the age and maturity levels of
30 the students who have access to them or is not suitable for, and consistent with, the
31 educational mission of the school, the LEA shall require the school to remove the
32 material from the library collection.
33
- 34 10. If the LEA cannot reach a resolution about the material in question, the Board shall make
35 the determination whether the material is appropriate for the age and maturity levels of
36 the students who have access to the materials and whether the material is suitable for, and
37 consistent with, the educational mission of the school.
38
- 39 11. If it is determined that the material is not appropriate for the age and maturity levels of
40 the students who have access to them or is not suitable for, and consistent with, the
41 educational mission of the school, the Board shall require the school to remove the
42 material from the library collection.³
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³ Public Chapter 472 of 2023