

Policy 1312.2: Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 02/06/2007

The Governing Board takes great care in the adoption of instructional materials and is aware that all adopted materials may not be acceptable to all students, their parents/guardians or other district residents. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures which will permit proper consideration of any complaints against the use of any instructional materials, including textbooks, supplementary textbooks, library books, and other instructional materials and equipment. The Board believes the Superintendent and staff are well qualified to consider complaints concerning instructional materials. Complainants are advised to consider and accept the Superintendent or designee's decision as final. However, if the complainant finds the decision of the Superintendent or designee unsatisfactory, he/she may request that the matter be placed on the agenda of a regular Board meeting. The Board's decision in any such case will be based on educational suitability and will not be influenced by a desire to suppress information or deny students access to ideas with which the Board disagrees.

The Governing Board uses a comprehensive process to adopt district instructional materials that is based on selection criteria established by law and Board policy and includes opportunities for the involvement of district staff, parents/guardians, and community members, and, as appropriate, students. Complaints concerning the content or use of instructional materials, including textbooks, supplementary instructional materials, library materials, or other instructional materials and equipment, shall be properly and fairly considered using established complaint procedures.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to discuss any concerns regarding instructional materials with their child's teacher and/or the school principal. If the situation remains unresolved, a complaint may be filed using the process specified in the accompanying administrative regulation and exhibit.

The district shall accept complaints concerning instructional materials only from staff, district residents, or the parents/guardians of children enrolled in a district school. (Education Code 35160)

However, a complaint related to the use or prohibited use of any existing textbook, instructional material, supplemental instructional material, or other curriculum for classroom instruction, or any book or other resource in a school library that alleges unlawful discrimination based on a violation of Education Code 243 shall be filed, investigated, and resolved in accordance with Board Policy 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

When deliberating upon challenged materials, the Superintendent, or any designee or committee established by the Superintendent to review the materials, shall consider the degree to which the materials aligned with the criteria for instructional materials as specified in law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. In addition, such deliberations may consider the educational philosophy and vision of the district; the educational suitability of the materials including the manner in which the materials support the curriculum and appropriateness for the student's age; the professional opinions of teachers of the subject and of other competent authorities and/or experts; reviews of the materials by reputable bodies; the stated objectives in using the materials; community standards; the allegations in the complaint, including the extent to which the objections are based on the dislike of ideas contained in the materials; and the impact that keeping or removing the materials would have on student well-being.

The Superintendent, or any designee or committee established by the Superintendent to review the materials, shall not prohibit the continued use of an appropriately adopted textbook, instructional material, supplemental instructional material, or other curriculum for classroom instruction, or any book or other resource in a school library on the basis that it contains inclusive and/or diverse perspectives, as specified in Education Code 243.

If the complainant finds the Superintendent's or review committee's decision unsatisfactory, the complainant may appeal the decision to the Board.

Any challenged instructional material that is reviewed by the district shall not be subject to further reconsideration for 12 months, unless required by law.

Complaints related to the sufficiency of textbooks or instructional materials shall be resolved as specified in Administrative Regulation 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures.

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 board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the

policy.

State References

5 CCR 4600-4670

Ed. Code 1240

Ed. Code 18111

Ed. Code 220

Ed. Code 242

Ed. Code 243

Ed. Code 35010

Ed. Code 35160

Ed. Code 35186

Ed. Code 44805

Ed. Code 48907

Ed. Code 48950

Ed. Code 51204.5

Ed. Code 51501

Ed. Code 51511

Ed. Code 51933

Ed. Code 60000-60005

Ed. Code 60040-60052

Ed. Code 60119

Ed. Code 60200-60213

Ed. Code 60226

Ed. Code 60400-60411

Ed. Code 60510-60511

Description

Uniform complaint procedures

County superintendent of schools; duties -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/zxiNbLNKXQ1Z3w2H1beZIA==>

Exclusion of books by Governing board that are sectarian, partisan, or denominational character -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fAcJGqEGsvKfW1GDcogDzw==>

Prohibition of discrimination -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UuY0xi20LPENZCvpYu9MBA==>

Access to information about educational laws and policies regarding right to accurate and inclusive curriculum -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/qvasflzlx0uHd0XoTnf4uw==>

Unlawful discrimination related to the use or prohibited use of textbooks and instructional materials -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/1BiVCh1vc8qbgObiAPSFnw==>

Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/OQVSpplusCEZXMhIMKVyv3kBA==>

Powers and duties of school boards -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/FFplus3PC2rsgGxvplus8DVSsrkQ==>

Williams uniform complaint procedures -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/MDiv2vFqYgd1u6vWMYFnhA==>

Teacher enforcement of course of studies; use of textbooks, rules and regulations -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/aspZQpXuVHqirxKV3DzJNw==>

Exercise of free expression; time, place and manner rules and regulations -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/KDSjnurLBlr2KdV5numJiQ==>

Speech and other communication -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Q5itwgUPlOTFejGslshDadJ4g==>

Social sciences instruction; contributions of specified groups -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/oZPEg6h3Qnnndu4eQsmHFg==>

Nondiscriminatory subject matter -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/txGfKL89VkvCW7IFg8Emtw==>

Religious matters properly included in courses of study -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/iTw7dJByJNReEy9XCHThhg==>

Sexual health education and HIV prevention materials -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/lzCkLi03Eyn6g8fhsFib0Q==>

Instructional materials; legislative intent -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/OUKX3BpLit7eis8ERdhYqg==>

Requirements for instructional materials -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/vqD4yC2hSBZ9a219bpluseiDA==>

Public hearing on sufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/wgpZKRQ3ptU4Chh5FQUMmw==>

Elementary school materials -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/5jFbFwrbBUT7yMqHe2X3Bg==>

Requirements for publishers and manufacturers -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/8bqvmpLmM6YiYL21AdslshNdw==>

High school textbooks and instructional materials -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/OSOZiU7DE6w54kslshsplusKofslshg==>

Donation or sale of obsolete instructional materials -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/fyTf3BXojSgWwslshDMhlygzg==>

Management Resources References

California Department of Education Publication	Instructional Materials, FAQ - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/6g5DV5psnbEiqKAP9oXYzg==
California Department of Education Publication	Standards for Evaluating Instructional Materials for Social Content, 2013 - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/PXAMC00s1hli78ftFNM1JQ==
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UdykszdmPETuDslshXk6R5akQ==
Website	Department of Justice - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/kYMplusPKVwKTngiVfOT4AD8Q==
Website	California Department of Education, Curriculum and Instruction Resources - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/rse1wvWcofD1nr0Z7Xplus7vw==
Website	CSBA - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/W3QxkK2FPsDsQBnMIENxGg==
Website	U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/xmCPrTcoZle111WmbX10Vg==

Cross References

	Description
0410	Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/FnDZ7yHITUVLmcPBwcYa4w==
1100	Communication With The Public - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Hywu1plusUHmPznTnAojQejslshg==
1250	Visitors/Outsiders - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/0UxfKnDQx8i9V4vageslsh6VA==
1250	Visitors/Outsiders - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Algl3G2av7RnSyAPrFJslshPg==
1312.1	Complaints Concerning District Employees - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UeCd2AJlxfBU7E37o1kmUg==
1312.1	Complaints Concerning District Employees - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/3x1plusj0z5ZLMqRsshsEIT6Q==
1312.1-E PDF(1)	Complaints Concerning District Employees - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/eAlz50x7oMx0vq3x9PjTplusg==
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/CfApluscpXRIZplusOj2lmuhfqbaA==
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/NaAoUplustL0gdMDg4YyrqkSQ==
1312.3-E PDF(1)	Uniform Complaint Procedures - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/CGtJ1bS0fJ2qqnQzzY5qbQ==
1312.3-E PDF(2)	Uniform Complaint Procedures - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/hYsgaF9LHjeplus4tInfVHZyg==
1312.4	Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/4nKsf7OqCyf78FQ5NpVbbA==
1312.4-E(1)	Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/eOAbx9cOGmEpaxiV7sfqSw==
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Xtm3uqHMol1KAP4CIBOS3g==
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Rx7eYWCQJQxyhVGfnTMQBQ==
6000	Concepts And Roles - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/VcnDCn9pslshzoAvdQnkvWBslshw==

6141	Curriculum Development And Evaluation - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/61Y9cvRslshKoW6mmj04arBBA==
6141	Curriculum Development And Evaluation - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/b3H6ssslshVg4w5Fn8pgCBjCIA==
6142.6	Visual And Performing Arts Education - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/N738O7slshud1ol7mrVlplusSOfw==
6142.92	Mathematics Instruction - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/esLsyR41A2MV6HpWvUso8A==
6142.94	History-Social Science Instruction - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/kOgxeL28LBIK6rQB9O3AdA==
6143	Courses Of Study - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/2rm43307PLCL6tPtEi0B1g==
6143	Courses Of Study - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/QSMplusSNCxGfu1or4plus3KUx6A==
6144	Controversial Issues - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/uJslsh5tSQtG3KAslshiBtacuigA==
6161.1	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/GmQp0w7DhRvK1m3vP0cXFw==
6161.1	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/36O7I0MprITMVXSH2aUCslshA==
6161.1-E PDF(1)	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/b9DR42M1EdCANrzwKB7O8g==
6161.11	Supplementary Instructional Materials - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/kWJW4zRME1hY1pHypTRx0g==
6161.2	Damaged Or Lost Instructional Materials - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Dhq1DVtVpluswCAsBzXgW6ow==
6163.1	Library Media Centers - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/lwXB8c8GOCzKnQd9nEugsg==
9000	Role Of The Board - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/yCFHLIFLUDCtfpgpluseQHTjg==
9005	Governance Standards - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/DaF2m6lmSeyu1yItj5WuoA==
9012	Board Member Electronic Communications - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/hytEYovBqsqMp5UzUoFqvQ==
9200	Limits Of Board Member Authority - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/0hKRSAtVLHUI2u41Y5PPKQ==
9322	Agenda/Meeting Materials - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/PUk8QGIYGyhN8t44Le3YMw==