

POLICY

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53
(Okanagan Similkameen)

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Reference: E-8

Revised: March 11, 2009

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

The Board of Education believes that the classroom instructional resources selected should be those which best assist in teaching the provincially-prescribed and locally-approved curricula, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities and maturity levels of students.

Additionally, teachers should use only supplementary instructional resources which are relevant, and enhance, broaden or support provincially-prescribed or locally-approved curricula.

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1.0 Approved Instructional Resources

1.1 Definition

Approved instructional resources are locally approved and Ministry prescribed, authorized or recommended, or “ERAC Evaluated” resources.

2.0 Supplementary Instructional Resources

2.1 Definition

Supplementary instructional resources include materials, persons and places (field trips) used to enhance, broaden or support provincial or local curricula.

2.2 Selection Criteria

In selecting supplementary resource materials teachers and administrators shall be subject to the following criteria.

2.2.1 The supplementary resources are the best suited for advancing curricula.

2.2.2 Other factors equal, priorities should be given to learning resources developed and produced in Canada.

2.2.3 The learning resources must be relevant to the learning outcomes and content of the course.

2.2.4 Resources should be appropriate in content and presentation not only to the subject area but also to the emotional development, ability level, learning style, social development and chronological age of the student. Selected supplementary resources should not replace provincially-prescribed resources of a course.

2.3 Procedures For Use

2.3.1 Supplementary resources need to be previewed and evaluated by the classroom teacher for suitability. (Note: librarians are exempt with reference to the library collection.)

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2.3.2 Where a resource is not readily classified according to the above criteria or judged to be potentially controversial by the teacher the following process must be ensured:

2.3.2.1 The Administrator must:

- approve each potentially controversial resource and provide recommendations if necessary, including the requirement of notification to parents of the intended use of a resource, or
- forward it for a further review to the District Curriculum Committee, or
- reject it.
(Where an Administrator has not approved a resource the decision shall be deemed to be final.)

2.4 Movies / Video Streaming

2.4.1 Movies/video streaming may be used for curricular purposes subject to these Regulations, BC Video and Film Ratings and School District No. 53 Requirements.

2.4.2 Use of movies, video streaming or other such sources must meet copyright laws & any information utilized is done in a manner consistent with copyright legislation.

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3.0 Learning Resource Challenge Procedures

- 3.1 Parents may challenge the use of learning resources by completing THE REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THE SUITABILITY OF A LEARNING RESOURCE (appendix 1).
- 3.2 The school receiving a request regarding a learning resource shall try to resolve the issue informally.
- 3.3 When the issue cannot be resolved, the principal shall provide a copy of the REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THE SUITABILITY OF A LEARNING RESOURCE to the person(s) making a formal request and assist in completing the form if necessary.
- 3.4 A completed form should be returned to the principal who will forward it to the Superintendent.
- 3.5 Where a formal written request has been filed the superintendent will convene a review committee comprised of: Assistant Superintendent (Curriculum), an administrator, a teacher, a member of a Parent Advisory Council, a trustee and a student where appropriate.
- 3.6 The Assistant Superintendent shall chair the committee.
- 3.7 The committee shall use Internet Access and Use Policy, Challenged Learning Resource Policy, and any other related policies to make its decision.
- 3.8 The determination of the committee shall be final except for the right to request an appeal to the School Board through the district's Appeal Bylaw.
- 3.9 Where a learning resource is considered to be appropriate by the Administrator, review committee or the Board but the parents/guardians consider the resource to be inappropriate the parents/guardians may request the student be excused for the portion of a lesson(s) during which the resource will be used.

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| BC RATING | SD NO. 53 REQUIREMENTS |
|---|---|
| <p>General - Suitable For All Ages.</p> | <p>No Restrictions</p> |
| <p>Parental Guidance Suitable for all ages, however, the content may not be suitable for all children, although there is no age restriction.</p> | <p>Teachers should screen and edit age-sensitive material. This will normally apply to elementary and junior secondary situations. In some instances a parental consent form particularly for younger children may be advisable/ necessary.</p> |
| <p>14 A Anyone under 14 must be accompanied by an adult. May contain violence, coarse language and/or sexually suggestive scenes.</p> | <p>Teachers must screen and edit/delete inappropriate/ age-sensitive material and receive approval from an Administrator and individual parents. Parental consent forms should include the rationale for the use of a movie, the nature of the movie and a commentary on edited/deleted material (if any).</p> |
| <p>18 A (rating classification as of January 1, 1997) Suitable for people 18 years of age or older. Persons under 18 should view with an adult. <u>Parents strongly cautioned.</u> Will likely contain: explicit violence, frequent coarse language; sexual activity; and/or horror</p> <p>RESTRICTED (rating classification before January 1, 1997) Classification as 18A above.</p> <p>FOREIGN MOVIES - no BC classification</p> | <p>EXPRESSLY FORBIDDEN In exceptional circumstances where a movie classified as <u>18A</u>, <u>Restricted</u> (pre 1997) or <u>Foreign</u> is deemed to be the most suitable material for a course the following requirements must be followed if it is to be used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The movie may only be used for senior courses. 2. Only senior students with parental/guardian consent forms may attend the showing of such a movie. 3. The teacher has provided for parents a synopsis and rationale of the move complete with editing/deletion information (if any). 4. An Administrator has approved the movie. 5. Students objecting to all or part of the movie because of the restricted nature shall be excused and provided with alternative instructional material. |
| <p>RESTRICTED (rating classification as of January 1, 1997) Restricted to 18 years and over. <u>Content not suitable for minors.</u> Contains frequent use of: sexual activity; brutal/graphic violence; intense horror; and/or other disturbing content.</p> <p>ADULT Pornographic</p> | <p>STRICTLY FORBIDDEN</p> |