

SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL

Responsibility for Selection of Materials

As the governing body of the school district, the Board of Education is legally responsible for the selection of all printed and published materials used in the school district. As the policy-making body, the Board delegates authority to the professional staff, under the supervision and guidance of the building principals, for the selection of textbooks, and other supplementary books and instructional materials. In accordance with New York State Law - the Board will formally adopt all textbooks.

Philosophy Governing Selection of Materials

To prepare students for adult roles in a democratic society, the Broadalbin-Perth Central School is committed to providing students with experiences and opportunities which offer critical thinking in an atmosphere of free inquiry.

Consistent with this philosophy, the following rights and responsibilities are recognized by the Board.

1. Students have the right to study, and develop informed opinions on, controversial issues which have political, economic, or social significance. Also, the students' basic right to freedom of choice in reading is acknowledged, but this in no way shall be construed to infringe on the Board's right to determine the most appropriate materials and books to be acquired for school use.
2. The Board of Education recognizes the right of an individual parent to request that his/her child not use certain materials but the parent does not have the right to determine what materials are used in the classroom. When a citizen challenges the suitability of curricular materials, the procedure outlined in administrative regulation 6.5.1A shall be followed.
3. The Board of Education also recognizes the right of the professional staff to select books and instructional materials for students after considering the contribution that each work may make to the education of the student and those other considerations outlined in administrative regulation 6.5.1A. It is also the teachers' right to encourage freedom of discussion of controversial questions in the classroom and to develop in students a love of knowledge and a desire to search for the truth. However, the issues discussed must be appropriate to the curriculum and the maturity level of the student.

Education Law Section 701