

POLICY

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Related Entries: ABA, CEB-RA, IFB-RA, IIB, IIB-RA

Responsible Office: Instruction and Program Development

Citizen Review of Curricular and Instructional Materials

A. PURPOSE

To provide an opportunity for citizens to examine curriculum materials in use or proposed for Board of Education adoption and to make available to the public the textbooks now in use in the schools and those that have been recommended by the superintendent for adoption

B. ISSUE

Parent and citizen involvement is essential to fulfillment of the goals of the Montgomery County Public Schools. Since curricular and instructional materials are vital to the teaching and learning of all students, it is appropriate to include citizens, including parents, in the review process of these materials.

C. POSITION

1. Newly developed curriculum documents shall be presented to the Board of Education for consideration approximately one month prior to the date on which approval will be sought, and the superintendent of schools may extend this period to allow further time for citizen reaction to curriculum documents dealing with sensitive topics.
2. At the recommendation of the superintendent of schools, information sessions, public hearings, or other mechanisms shall be instituted to inform citizens about instructional programs and to solicit their reactions to them.

D. DESIRED OUTCOME

A comprehensive process for reviewing curricular and instructional materials that includes input from parents and citizens

E. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. Curriculum materials in the process of development shall be released only to MCPS-authorized task forces or committees with the understanding that such unapproved and uncopyrighted materials shall not be further duplicated.
2. Citizen review of proposed curriculum documents shall be provided at the Carver Educational Services Center and at such additional centers in the county as may be deemed appropriate by the superintendent.
3. There shall be assembled in one place in the Carver Educational Services Center at least one copy of all textbooks as well as classified lists of supplementary books and visual aids in use in the schools or proposed by the superintendent for future use.
4. All textbooks, supplementary books, and visual aids shall be available to the public during normal office hours for perusal on the premises only.

F. REVIEW AND REPORTING

This policy will be reviewed on an on-going basis in accordance with the Board of Education Policy review process.

Policy History: Adopted by Resolution No. 31-54, February 9, 1954; amended by Resolution No. 400-73, June 18, 1973; amended and reformatted in accordance with Resolution No. 333-86, June 12, 1986, and Resolution No. 458-86, August 12, 1986, accepted by Resolution No. 517-86, September 22, 1986; reformatted December 1997.