

CONTROVERSIAL MATERIALS

Background

Intellectual inquiry requires learning resources representing a wide range of interests so that students may freely explore the world of ideas. Staff must exercise autonomy and flexibility in determining the means by which learning opportunities are presented. In the selection of resources, the Division expects sound professional judgement and consultation with others, including parents and other professional colleagues when deemed appropriate.

Procedures

1. Each Principal is to develop guidelines regarding the use of material which could be classified as controversial.
2. The guidelines will be developed with input from the School Council.
3. Teachers will include a list of learning resources to be used in a course (e.g. text books, novels, films, etc.) that is communicated to parents and students at the commencement of the course.
4. Parents/guardians who have issues with the materials being presented in class are to refer to Administrative Procedure 251 - Challenge to Learning Materials.

Reference: Section 18, 20, 39, 60, 61, 113 School Act
Alberta Bill of Rights
Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom, Constitution Act, 1982
Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12
Administrative Procedure 251 – Challenge to Learning Materials