

Book	Board Policies
Section	6000 - Instruction
Title	Controversial Issues Code
6233	Board Policy Status Active
Adopted	February 1, 1982
Last Revised	November 28, 2022

The Discussion of Controversial Issues

The Natrona County Board of Trustees is responsible primarily to the ~~patrons~~ **parents** of the District and believes that, within the context of the ~~curricular~~ **academic** goals of each school, the study of issues that are controversial **and relevant to the academic goal** is important and may equip students with decision-making skills to resolve problems that beset them and society throughout their lives. Furthermore, it is believed that impartial study and discussion should prevail and that on any given **academic relevant** controversial subject **original sourcing, historical context, equal balanced** and appropriate viewpoints are to be presented in an atmosphere as free as possible from bias and partiality. A controversial question should be handled in an appropriate setting by an educator prepared for such responsibility. It is also recognized, however, that extreme circumstances may introduce controversial and sensitive issues within the school which used to be addressed in a more immediate fashion than covered in this policy.

Definition

For the purpose of this policy a controversial issue is defined as a question or topic characterized by current importance by which persons are polarized and divided toward one end of the spectrum or the other. A controversial issue may relate to either content and/or format and includes discussions, live or media presentations, individuals, learning resources, or types of activities. **All of which should only be discussed if it is relevant to the academic goals of that school.**

Supplementary Learning Resources - Library/Media Center

The district seeks to ~~provide~~ **have every school** library ~~provide~~ materials that would be of the greatest support to its ~~educational~~ **academic curriculum** objectives for the minor students **enrolled at that school in the District**. The District's **school** libraries do not exist to provide universal coverage but instead to provide materials aimed at its ~~pedagogical~~ **academic** goals and for the ~~interest, information,~~ **learning and research abilities** enlightenment of students. Since school libraries are viewed as places for **academic research and support** ~~voluntary inquiry,~~ library materials must be ~~treated differently from a~~ **source of support for the** primary learning resources materials used in the classroom. This policy provides criteria for the selection of library supplementary learning resources, focused on maximizing transparency with parents and community members while meeting student needs to provide **academic research and support** ~~supplemental enrichment~~ in their learning with appropriate materials. This policy provides criteria to allow individual parents the option to access the district library opt-in and opt-out procedures.

Administrative regulations will be established for the implementation of this policy, including opt-in procedures.

Definitions

Library learning resource materials - are for independent **research** use by students and faculty outside of the District's primary learning material. While primary learning resources and supplementary learning resources are both considered **academic** instructional resources, they are not the same, and the terms shall not be used interchangeably.

Sexually explicit images - Any picture, photograph, drawings, motion picture films, digital image, **websites, digital books** or similar visual representation depicting the human sexual acts of masturbation, intercourse, or direct physical stimulation of the genitals.

Library Collection - refers to library items for use by school patrons. Library collections ~~may~~ **should** include **as much firsthand account of historical events, historical documents, literature from the periods of history, science, art, music that are study by that school** such items as books, videos, sound recordings, licensed databases, and equipment. Library Circulation - is the function of lending library materials (books, videos, sound recordings, licensed databases, and equipment).

Avoiding Inappropriate Material

The District recognizes there exists a vast array of materials with age appropriate ~~academic educational~~ content. It is the District's objective to choose material that provides ~~academic educational~~ **academic educational** content **and original sourcing when** appropriate to students in the District rather than material that may provide similar content with sexually explicit images **or gratuitous language**.

Opportunity for Parent/Guardian Review In recognizing that parents/guardians hold an essential role in the education of their student(s) and have the right to guide what their minor student(s) read, each library shall maintain a list of materials onsite or on the school library website that shows what is in circulation for students.

Book	Board Policies
Section	6000 – Instruction
Title	Learning Resources Selection
Code	6232
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This policy of the Natrona County School District Board of Trustees is to provide and maintain a wide range of **original** learning resources at various levels of difficulty, **academic interest** diversity of appeal, and the presentation of different **original/historical accounts. points of view** To meet the needs of students and teachers with attention to **cognitive intellectual** research and **current** digital **resources that give historical context** in order to support students **ability to develop critical thinking** learning and achievement in the 21st century. Learning resources support, enrich, and help to **achieve the academic obligation** implement the educational program of the district through the interaction of professional personnel and other members of the school community.