

# THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

SECTION: PROGRAMS  
TITLE: Adoption of Textbooks  
ADOPTED: April 27, 1981  
REVISED: December 17, 1990

## 108 ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS

### **Purpose**

The Board of Education, to the extent of its resources, shall support its educational programs with the best available books and instructional materials.

### **Definitions**

Textbooks, library books, and instructional materials are those approved by the Board, obtained as a result of an official selection procedure and made accessible for student use.

### **Guidelines**

1. A formally defined selection procedure shall be established and made known to staff and community.
2. Content of titles selected shall be in accordance with professional criteria of validity, democratic consideration of respect for all people, adherence to the adopted curriculum, and the abilities and maturity of the student user.
3. Wherever possible, materials shall represent the many religious, racial, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contribution to the heritage of the United States.
4. Examination of available offerings shall be made by professional staff who, if advisable, may consult with non-school representatives.
5. Each selected work shall be factually accurate and possess literary or artistic value.
6. In textbooks where controversial issues are discussed, opposing viewpoints shall be presented.

7. A listing of all approved books and instructional materials shall be prepared for use by staff and available for public examination.
8. Inventories shall be maintained to assist in requisitioning.
9. Wherever possible, use of textbooks for home study shall be encouraged.
10. No student shall be denied use of required books or materials because of financial Need. All shall be held accountable for damage or loss of such books or materials in accordance with procedures developed by the Superintendent.

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent shall develop a procedure for the selection of books and materials and make recommendations for Board approval.

### **Legal References**

1. State School Code: SS 508, 803