

Dell Rapids School District #49-3

Policies and Regulations Code: KLC – School/Community Relations



KLC PUBLIC CONCERNS/COMPLAINTS ABOUT INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

One of the most important goals of education is to help young people understand the diversity of viewpoints, religions, and cultures in the world and learn to make informed choices. An individual's freedom to read and explore diverse ideas and viewpoints is guaranteed in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. As expressed in the American Library Association's Freedom to Read statement, "We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture."

Despite careful review and selection of instructional materials, parents/guardians and/or students may occasionally have objections to materials that are used in the classroom or that are available through the school library or the school computer network.

When a student or parent/guardian feels significant sensitivity, embarrassment, or moral conflict with the ideas, language, and/or graphics presented in required instructional materials, he or she should express these concerns to the teacher and then the principal. The teacher shall work with the parent/guardian and student as specified in Regulation KLC-R under the heading "Procedure for Requesting Alternatives to Required Instructional Materials."

If the parent/guardian or student feels that the required material is not appropriate for any student's use, the parent/guardian or student should follow the procedures specified in Regulation KLC-R under the heading "Procedure for Reconsideration of Curriculum Adopted Instructional Materials."

The building principal shall review with the complainant the procedures for filing the complaint and shall provide the parent/guardian or student with the appropriate form to file a complaint.

A review of the material shall begin within ten (10) school days of the written complaint reaching the Superintendent, and all steps of the process shall be followed as spelled out in Regulation KLC-R.

LEGAL REFS.:

SDCL 13-32-6

ADOPTED: 08-2007

REVIEWED: 11-2009

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