

LEARNING RESOURCES

Background

The District is responsible for the authorization of local learning resources. The District understands the necessity of providing a wide range of learning resources that are appropriate to individual student needs and a variety of teaching and learning styles, which support and enrich educational programs.

In accordance with the Ministry of Education's Learning Resource Policy, the District is responsible for establishing evaluation processes to recommend learning resources. The Superintendent believes that the classroom instructional resources selected are to be those that best assist in teaching the provincially-prescribed and locally-approved curricula.

The District respects the right and responsibility of its professional staff to use supplementary materials, and will provide a wide range of learning resources, which shall be fair, objective and free from bias, propaganda, discrimination and gender stereotyping, except where the use of such material promotes critical thinking about these issues.

Definition

Learning resources will refer to any material, whether acquired or locally produced, with instructional content. Learning resources encompass a variety of materials, including, but not limited to print and digital resources, video, guest speakers and places (fieldtrips).

Procedures

1. Guidelines for Selection of Learning Resources
 - 1.1. In accordance with section 168(2)(e) of the School Act and section 5 of Ministerial Order 333/99, educators may use educational resource materials (i.e. learning resources) that the District considers appropriate, that are specified in the Educational Program Order or are recommended by the Minister of Education from time to time.
 - 1.2. Educators are encouraged to refer to collections of resources which have been evaluated and/or licensed at the District and provincial levels for use in the B.C. educational setting. These may include the K to 12 Resource Collection that is maintained by the Educational Resource Acquisition Consortium (ERAC) and The Authentic First Peoples Resources (K-9) from the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNEESC).
 - 1.3. Educators may select resources not on the evaluated and recommended lists. Resources used and not on the recommended lists must be evaluated and approved in accordance with District "Resourcing the Curriculum and Learning Resources" procedural document.
 - 1.4. Selection is an ongoing process that is to include the removal of materials no longer appropriate according to the criteria for the selection of learning resources.

2. Criteria for the Selection of Learning Resources:

In selecting learning resources educators will select resources that:

- 2.1. Support the learning standards or learning outcomes of the curriculum;
- 2.2. Assist students in making connections between what they learn in school and real life applications;
- 2.3. Are developmentally and age appropriate;
- 2.4. Have effective instructional and technical design;
- 2.5. Meet the requirements set by copyright and privacy legislation; and,
- 2.6. Are suitable based on social considerations.

3. Delegation of Responsibility for Selecting Learning Resources:

The District delegates the responsibility for the selection of learning resources to the professional staff employed by the school system.

- 3.1. The Superintendent will ensure that District Administrators and Principals are aware of the relevant sections of the School Act, Regulations and Ministers' Orders, and District procedures.
- 3.2. Principals shall annually review learning resource procedures with education staff.

4. Request for Reconsideration of a Learning Resource

- 4.1. The selection of any resource may be challenged in accordance with District Administrative Procedure 252 - Challenged Materials.

Reference: Sections 7, 8, 17, 20, 22, 65, 85, 168 School Act
Evaluating, Selecting, and Managing Learning Resources: A Guide (2002)
Ministerial Order 333/99 – Educational Program Guide Order

Adopted: November 2019
Revised: