

## **Materials Selection**

### **Legal Authority and Responsibility**

The Board of Directors of the Area Education Agency 267 hereby declares it the policy of the Agency to provide through the Information and Technology Services area a wide range of instructional materials on all levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal, and presentation of different points of view.

#### **Delegation of Selection Responsibility by the AEA Board**

The AEA 267 Board delegates its authority and responsibility for instructional materials selection to the Service Area Director of Information and Technology Services.

#### **Adherence to Federal and State Laws and Regulations**

All funds used to purchase instructional materials are subject to federal and/or state regulations. Federal and state regulations will not knowingly be violated or circumvented.

#### **Endorsement of Intellectual Freedom Principals**

Information and Technology Services, in keeping with the tradition of American Libraries in the area of intellectual freedom, endorses the following documents:

- The Library Bill of Rights
- The School Library Bill of Rights
- The Freedom to Read Statement
- The Statement on Labeling
- Re-evaluating Library Collections

#### **Information and Technology Services Philosophy**

It is basic to the philosophy of the Information and Technology Services that its services primarily respond to currently expressed needs of the schools we serve. Since the program's inception, yearly decisions have been made setting priority needs. It is felt that this policy is responsive to the rules and regulations that direct Information and Technology Services to provide services that supplement, but do not supplant the effort of the local schools.

It is the position of Information and Technology Services that there is a felt need in AEA 267 for the types of services so provided. It is also the position of Information and Technology Services that when a need is no longer felt, unnecessary services will be curtailed.

## **Criteria Used in Selecting Instructional Material**

Information and Technology Services is dedicated to providing the best instructional materials available. Materials are selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses.

### ***Instructional Criteria***

- a. Materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the school districts served.
- b. Materials shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level and social development of the students for whom the materials are selected.
- c. Materials shall be chosen to foster respect for minority groups, women and ethnic groups and shall realistically represent our pluralistic society along with the roles and life styles open to both men and women in today's world. Materials shall be designed to help students gain an awareness and understanding of the many important contributions made to our civilization by minority groups, ethnic groups and women.

Materials shall clarify the multiple historical and contemporary forces with their economic, political and religious dimensions which have operated to the disadvantage or advantage of women, minority groups and ethnic groups. These materials shall present and analyze inter-group tension and conflict objectivity, placing emphasis upon resolving social and economic problems.

Materials shall be designed to motivate students and staff to examine their own attitudes and behaviors and to comprehend their own duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges as participating citizens in a pluralistic, non-sexist society.

- d. Physical format and appearance of materials shall be suitable for their intended use.
- e. Materials selected shall be of the nature that will best serve the schools because it would not be cost effective for them to provide because of 1) cost of the material or 2) the materials affordable to the schools could not be purchased in sufficient quantity to meet the needs.
- f. The selection of materials on controversial issues will be directed toward maintaining a balanced collection representing various views.