



# 6411 A

## Criteria for Selection

### *Regulation 6411 A*

Original Adoption: 09/25/1973  
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Effective Date: 04/15/2010

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this regulation is to establish the criteria for selection of learning materials and resources to be used for instruction in Minneapolis Public Schools.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF REGULATION**

- A. Learning materials selected must be in compliance with the general statement of policy.
- B. Selection of materials and resources must be accomplished in alignment with the Minnesota State Academic Standards.
- C. The selection process shall include:
  - 1. An examination of the academic standards to be addressed in the material or resources;
  - 2. A review of vendor's claims that materials offered meet the standards;
  - 3. A review of data confirming that materials offered achieve the objectives the vendor claims for them; and
  - 4. A comparison between the materials and state and district assessments for determination of appropriate preparation for assessments.

### **III. SPECIFIC SELECTION GUIDELINES BY SUBJECT AREA**

- A. **Media Center.** Materials selected for the media center should reflect the needs of the school community. They should include materials which satisfy these needs whether they are for academic or recreational purposes.
  - 1. Materials which can be used to develop critical and creative thinking, objective evaluation, and aesthetic appreciation suitable to the varied maturity levels, abilities, and interests of students should be provided.
  - 2. Materials which present various interpretations of controversial subjects should be readily accessible. The inclusion of controversial material does not imply endorsement of the ideas by Minneapolis school personnel.
  - 3. To foster interest in the fine arts and literature, both classical and contemporary, students should be provided with media that enrich their thought and expression.
  - 4. Quality should not be compromised to protect or shield young people from controversial subjects.



- B. ***Social Sciences.*** Materials selected for social studies should be selected to support areas of the curriculum and should:
1. avoid gender role stereotyping;
  2. reflect the ethnic, cultural and socioeconomic diversity of life;
  3. present information on topics of current interest, as well as reflecting the past;
  4. include local resources materials, where possible; and
  5. be selected on the basis of
    - a) accuracy,
    - b) reasoned opinion, or
    - c) representative viewpoint.
- C. ***Sciences.*** Science materials should include all branches of pure and applied science and should:
1. be aligned to state and national standards;
  2. be unbiased in the portrayal of gender, ethnicity, disability and race;
  3. reflect the habits of thinking that model disciplinary literacy in science;
  4. promote scientific inquiry with a laboratory component that values authentic student experiences;
  5. foster the development of accurate scientific explanations,
  6. cognitively engage students in science knowledge and process,
  7. use current technology to enhance learning, and
  8. support math, reading, and writing literacy.
- D. ***Mathematics.*** Math materials should include:
1. The following topics:
    - a) Number concepts
    - b) Geometry and measurement;
    - c) Probability and statistics;
    - d) Algebra.
  2. A focused, coherent progression of math learning;
  3. Materials and strategies that help to develop an English Language Learner's academic vocabulary.
- E. ***Health and Physical Education.*** Materials should:
1. Present accurate and current information on Health and Physical Education topics;
  2. Represent ethnic, cultural, socioeconomic, gender, and disability differences and similarities;
  3. Be based on scientific evidence; and
  4. Develop an English Language Learner's academic vocabulary.



F. **Arts.** Materials should:

1. Reflect and include essential elements around the arts processes, such as:
  - a) creativity,
  - b) performances, and
  - c) response to art.
2. Include authentic multi-ethnic and cultural representations in our diverse society.

G. **World Languages.** Materials should:

1. Be of high interest to the age of the student;
2. Be age and level appropriate;
3. Incorporate authentic target language materials and the use of technology;
4. Focus on developing proficiency in interpretive, interpersonal and presentational modes;
5. Develop understanding of cultural products, practices and perspectives.

H. **Fiction Literature.** Because fiction reflects all segments of life, it deserves a permanent place in the school curriculum as well as media centers. Materials selected should:

1. reflect, insofar as is possible, all sides of political, social, religious and racial issues;
2. not exclude materials that include use of offensive language or frankness in dealing with sex if these treatments contribute to the accuracy of the characters portrayed and assist in expanding the reader's attitudes.

**IV. RESPONSIBILITY**

- A. The Superintendent authorizes the Deputy Superintendent to establish further specifications for learning and materials that support the district strategic plan and academic goals.
  
- B. The Superintendent authorizes the Deputy Superintendent to designate the professional staff charged with reviewing prospective learning materials and resources.

**Legal References:**

Minn. Stat. §123B.02 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)

Minn. Stat. §123B.09 Subd. 8 (Boards of Independent School Districts: Duties)

Minn. Rules §3500.0550 (Inclusive Educational Program)

**Cross References:**

MPS Policy 5000 (Equal Educational Opportunity)

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MPS Policy 6200 (Curriculum)  
MPS Policy 6276 (Curriculum Evaluation)  
MPS Policy 6250 (Controversial Issues)  
MPS Policy 6260 (Academic Freedom)  
MPS Policy 6411 (Learning Materials and Resources)

MPS Regulation 6411 B (Review Committee and Procedures)  
MPS Regulation 6411 C (Use of Video in the Classroom)