

## Instruction

### Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials

The Governing Board desires that district instructional materials, as a whole, present a broad spectrum of knowledge and viewpoints, reflect society's diversity, and enhance the use of multiple teaching strategies and technologies. The Board shall adopt instructional materials based on a determination that such materials are an effective learning resource to help students achieve grade-level competency and that the materials meet criteria specified in law. Textbooks, technology-based materials, and other educational materials shall be aligned with academic content standards and the district's curriculum to ensure that they effectively support the district's adopted courses of study.

The Board shall select instructional materials for use in grades TK-8 that have been approved by the State Board of Education (SBE) or have otherwise been determined to be aligned with the state academic content standards adopted pursuant to Education Code 60605 or the Common Core Standards adopted pursuant to Education Code 60605.8. (Education Code 60200, 60210)

The Board's priority in the selection of instructional materials is to ensure that all students are provided with standards-aligned instructional materials in the core curriculum areas of English/language arts, mathematics, science, and history-social science.

### Review Process

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a process by which instructional materials shall be reviewed for recommendation to the Board. Toward that end, he/she may establish an instructional materials review committee to evaluate and recommend instructional materials.

The review process shall involve teachers in a substantial manner and shall encourage the participation of parents/guardians and community members. (Education Code 60002)

In addition, the instructional materials review committee may include administrators, other staff who have subject-matter expertise, and students as appropriate.

If the district chooses to use instructional materials for grades TK-8 that have not been adopted by the SBE, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that a majority of the participants in the district's review process are classroom teachers who are assigned to the subject area or grade level of the materials. (Education Code 60210)

Individuals who participate in the selection or review of instructional materials shall not have a conflict of interest, as defined in administrative regulation, in the materials being reviewed.

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The committee shall review instructional materials using criteria provided in law and administrative regulation, and shall provide the Board with documentation supporting its recommendations.

All recommended instructional materials shall be available for public review.

The district may pilot instructional materials, using a representative sample of classrooms for a specified period of time during a school year, in order to determine how well the materials support the district's curricular goals and academic standards. Feedback from teachers piloting the materials shall be made available to the Board before the materials are adopted.

Public Hearing on Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

The Board shall annually conduct one or more public hearings on the sufficiency of the district's textbooks and other instructional materials. (Education Code 60119)

The hearing shall be held on or before the end of the eighth week from the first day students attend school for that year. (Education Code 60119)

The Board encourages participation by parents/guardians, teachers, interested community members, and bargaining unit leaders at the hearing. Ten days prior to the hearing, the Superintendent or designee shall post a notice in three public places within the district containing the time, place, and purpose of the hearing. The hearing shall not take place during or immediately following school hours. (Education Code 60119)

At the hearing(s), the Board shall determine, through a resolution, whether each student in each school, including each English learner, has sufficient textbooks or instructional materials which are aligned to the state content standards adopted pursuant to Education Code 60605 or the Common Core Standards adopted pursuant to Education Code 60605.8 and which are consistent with the content and cycles of the state's curriculum frameworks. Sufficiency of instructional materials shall be determined in each of the following subjects: (Education Code 60119)

1. Mathematics
2. Science
3. History-social science
4. English language arts, including the English language development component of an adopted program

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In making these determinations, the Board shall consider whether each student has sufficient textbooks and/or instructional materials to use in class and to take home. However, this does not require that each student have two sets of materials. The materials may be in a digital format as long as each student, at a minimum, has and can access the same materials in the class and to take home as all other students in the same class or course in the district and has the ability to use and access them at home. However, the materials shall not be considered sufficient if they are photocopied sheets from only a portion of a textbook or instructional materials copied to address a shortage. (Education Code 60119)

The Board shall also make a determination that all students within the district who are enrolled in the same course have "identical" standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials from the same adoption cycle, as defined in Education Code 1240.3 and 60119. (Education Code 1240.3, 42605)

If the Board determines that there are insufficient textbooks or instructional materials, it shall provide information to classroom teachers and to the public setting forth, for each school in which an insufficiency exists, the percentage of students who lack sufficient standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials in each subject area and the reasons that each student does not have sufficient textbooks or instructional materials. The Board shall take any action, except an action that would require reimbursement by the Commission of State Mandates, to ensure that each student has sufficient materials within two months of the beginning of the school year in which the determination is made. (Education Code 60119)

## Complaints

Complaints concerning instructional materials shall be handled in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

## Legal Reference:

## EDUCATION CODE

- 220 Prohibition against discrimination
- 1240 County superintendent, general duties
- 1240.3 Definition of sufficiency for categorical flexibility
- 33050-33053 General waiver authority
- 33126 School accountability report card
- 35272 Education and athletic materials
- 42605 Tier 3 categorical flexibility
- 44805 Enforcement of course of studies; use of textbooks, rules and regulations
- 49415 Maximum textbook weight
- 51501 Nondiscriminatory subject matter

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60000-60005 Instructional materials, legislative intent  
60010 Definitions  
60040-60052 Instructional requirements and materials  
60060-60062 Requirements for publishers and manufacturers  
60070-60076 Prohibited acts (re instructional materials)  
60110-60115 Instructional materials on alcohol and drug education  
60119 Public hearing on sufficiency of materials  
60200-60210 Elementary school materials  
60226 Requirements for publishers and manufacturers  
60350-60352 Core reading program instructional materials  
60400-60411 High school textbooks  
60510-60511 Donation for sale of obsolete instructional materials  
60605 State content standards  
60605.8 Common Core Standards  
60605.86-60605.88 Supplemental instructional materials aligned with Common Core Standards  
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5  
9505-9530 Instructional materials

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Flexibility Provisions in the 2008 and 2009 State Budget: Policy Considerations for Governance Teams, Budget Advisory, March 2009

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

01-05 Guidelines for Piloting Textbooks and Instructional Materials, September 2001

Standards for Evaluating Instructional Materials for Social Content, 2000

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Association of American Publishers: <http://www.publishers.org>

California Academic Content Standards Commission, Common Core Standards:

<http://www.scoe.net/castandards>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

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Criteria for Selection and Adoption of Instructional Materials

In recommending textbooks or other instructional materials for adoption by the Governing Board, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that such materials:

1. Are aligned to any applicable academic content standards adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE) pursuant to Education Code 60605 and/or Common Core Standards adopted pursuant to Education Code 60605.8

For grades TK-8, the Superintendent or designee shall select instructional materials from among the list of materials adopted by the SBE and/or other materials that have not been adopted by the SBE but are aligned with the state academic content standards and/or the Common Core Standards. (Education Code 60200, 60210)

(Education Code 60400)

2. Do not reflect adversely upon persons because of their race or ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, nationality, sexual orientation, occupation, or other characteristic listed in Education Code 220, nor contain any sectarian or denominational doctrine or propaganda contrary to law (Education Code 51501, 60044)
3. To the satisfaction of the Board, are accurate, objective, current, and suited to the needs and comprehension of district students at their respective grade levels (Education Code 60045)
4. With the exception of literature and trade books, use proper grammar and spelling (Education Code 60045)
5. If the materials are technology-based materials, are both available and comparable to other, equivalent instructional materials (Education Code 60052)
6. Meet the requirements of Education Code 60040-60043 for specific subject content
7. Support the district's adopted courses of study and curricular goals
8. Contribute to a comprehensive, balanced curriculum

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9. Demonstrate reliable quality of scholarship as evidenced by:
  - a. Accurate, up-to-date, and well-documented information
  - b. Objective presentation of diverse viewpoints
  - c. Clear, concise writing and appropriate vocabulary
  - d. Thorough treatment of subject matter
10. Provide for a wide range of materials at all levels of difficulty, with appeal to students of varied interests, abilities, and developmental levels
11. Include materials that stimulate discussion of contemporary issues and improve students' thinking and decision-making skills
12. Contribute to the proper articulation of instruction through grade levels
13. Include high-quality teacher's guides
14. Meet high standards in terms of the quality, durability, and appearance of paper, binding, text, and graphics

Conflict of Interest

To ensure integrity and impartiality in the evaluation and selection of instructional materials, any district employee who is participating in the evaluation of instructional materials shall not accept any emolument, money, or other valuable thing or inducement to directly or indirectly introduce, recommend, vote for, or otherwise influence the adoption or purchase of any instructional material (Education Code 60072)

Sample copies of instructional materials are accepted from this prohibition.  
(Education Code 60075)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)