

### 2240 CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

For purposes of this policy, a controversial issue is a topic subject to interpretation as obscene, profane, doctrinaire or grossly inappropriate, each in relation to the level of maturity of the pupils.

The Board will permit the introduction and proper educational use of controversial issues provided that their use in the instructional program is approved in the appropriate course guide. When controversial issues have not been specified in the curriculum guide, the Board will permit the instructional use of only those issues which have been approved by the Principal beforehand.

The Board recognizes that some deviation from the assigned curriculum guide may be necessary in the free exchange of the classroom. However, the Board specifies for the guidance of the Superintendent and, through administrative directive, the guidance of the staff, that any discussion of controversial issues in the classroom shall be conducted in an unprejudiced and dispassionate manner and shall not:

1. Disrupt the educational process;
2. Fail to match the maturity level of pupils; and
3. Be unrelated to the goals of the Board and the appropriate curriculum guide.

In the decision of any such issue, a teacher may express a personal opinion, but shall identify it as such, and must not express such an opinion for the purpose of persuading pupils to his/her point of view.

Adopted: 03 January 2013

