Policy 616 – Instructional Materials Selection

1.0 Purpose
The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for selection of all instructional materials.

2.0 Statement of Policy
Selection of instructional materials shall be in alignment with our District vision and support District policies related to curriculum.

3.0 Definition: Instructional Materials
Instructional materials are defined as all print and non-print materials used in the education of students. This includes, but is not limited to: (a) all materials used in the classroom and in extracurricular activities; (b) all materials in media collections--print, non-print, and online resources including recommended web sites and subscription databases.

4.0 Responsibility for Selection
The curriculum review teams and staff are responsible for the selection of instructional materials. Selection of materials adopted district wide will be made with input from teachers, students, administrators, other staff members and community members.

5.0 Criteria for Selection
5.1 Instructional materials shall support and enrich the curriculum as defined in our District policies related to curriculum.

5.2 Selection of instructional materials shall take into consideration the varied interests, abilities, learning styles, and maturity levels of all students.

5.3 Instructional materials shall provide multiple viewpoints on issues so that students may develop the skills of critical analysis and informed decision making.

5.4 Instructional materials shall stimulate growth in knowledge and strive to develop the love of learning.

5.5 In making all instructional materials recommendations, staff will strive to place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice.
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5.6 Instructional materials shall advance implementation of the district’s Equity Vision, address inequities identified in program review, and promote an appreciation of all differences based on respect for self-worth, dignity, and personal value of each individual.

5.6.1 Instructional materials will authentically embed and integrate the representation of historically marginalized groups.

5.6.2 Instructional materials shall reflect diverse cultural values and beliefs of a pluralistic society.

5.7 Instructional materials shall be selected with consideration of, but not limited to, the following:

5.7.1 Evidence of impact on student learning, as available

5.7.2 Standards identified in program design

5.7.3 Accuracy of material

5.7.4 Organization and presentation of content

5.7.5 Timeliness of materials

5.7.6 Readability/appropriateness of reading level

5.7.7 Authenticity

5.7.8 Aesthetic values

5.7.9 Literary appreciation and style

5.7.10 Budgetary constraints

6.0 Instructional materials shall be reviewed on an on-going basis, consistent with District policies related to curriculum.

Legal references: Minn Stat § 120B.10 (Findings; Improving Instruction and Curriculum)
Minn Stat § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement; Striving for the World’s Best Workforce

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