

### **PUBLIC COMPLAINTS**

The Board endorses the policy of the National School Boards Association, “that factual materials relating to both sides of controversial issues of local, state, national, and international importance should be presented in the classrooms...”. The Board in accepting its responsibility to have controversial issues and/or materials examined in the schools expects that its entire professional staff, administrators, and teachers will assure that the issues to be examined or material to be used are appropriate to the curriculum; appropriate to the maturity level of the students; and are presented in an unbiased, balanced way.

The Board also recognizes its responsibility to and the rights of citizens who are concerned over controversial issues and/or materials. These rights include the right to expect the impartial presentation of controversial issues; the right to secure information from school officials; and the right to file formal protests with the full expectation that they will receive a courteous and prompt reply. Individual citizens do not have the right, however, to suppress the study or examination of issues about which they hold strong opinions or beliefs.

Constructive criticism of the school is welcomed. The Board has, however, confidence in its professional staff and desires to support their actions, in order that they be free from unnecessary, spiteful, or negative criticism and complaint. Therefore, whenever a complaint is made directly to the Board as whole or to a Board Member as an individual, it will be referred to the school administration for study and possible solution. The Board will be informed of the administration’s response to the complaint.

Adopted 8/28/78  
Reviewed 12/14/87  
Adopted 1/10/96  
Reviewed 6/27/05  
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