

SELECTION AND EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The County Board of Education desires that Santa Cruz County Office of Education's (COE's) 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 County 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 materials meet criteria specified in law. Textbooks, technology-based materials, and other educational materials shall be aligned with academic content standards and the COE's curriculum to ensure that they effectively support the COE's adopted courses of study.

The County Board shall select instructional materials for use in K-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 County Board shall adopt instructional materials for grades 9-12 upon determining that the materials meet the criteria specified in law and administrative regulation. (Education Code 60400)

The County 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.

Public Hearing on Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

The County 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 County Board encourages participation by parents/guardians, teachers, interested community members, and bargaining unit leaders at the hearing. Ten days prior to the hearing, the County Superintendent or designee shall post a notice in three public places within the county 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 County 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
5. Foreign language
6. Health

The County Board shall also determine the availability of science laboratory equipment, as applicable to science laboratory courses offered in grades 9-12. (Education Code 60119)

In making these determinations, the County 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 student in the same class or course in the district has the ability to use and access them at home. However, the materials shall not be considered sufficient if they are photocopies sheets for only a portion of a textbook or instructional materials copied to address a shortage. (Education Code 60119)

The County Board shall also make a determination that all students within the COE schools 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)

However, the COE may purchase the newest adopted instructional materials for students in schools ranked in deciles 1-3 of the base Academic Performance Index in any one of the past three school years without necessarily purchasing these materials for use in other district schools. (Education Code 1240.3)

If the County 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 County 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 regulations.

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

44805 Enforcement of course of studies; use of textbooks, rules and regulations

49415 Maximum textbook weight

51501 Nondiscriminatory subject matter

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 instructional materials

60200-60210 Elementary school materials

60226 Requirements for publishers and manufactures

60240-60252 State Instructional Materials Fund

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

Adopted: 11/20/2014