

Section 10-17.2. Complaints about learning resources; writing required; submitted to committee. —

A. The selection of learning resources is delegated to the professionally trained personnel employed by Suffolk Public Schools. Despite the care taken in selecting suitable learning resources for and despite the qualifications and expertise of persons involved in that selection process, it is recognized that objections to materials will be made by the public. It is therefore the policy of the School Board to provide channels of communication and a fair procedure for members of the community to follow in expressing and resolving their concerns about learning resources including instructional used in teaching the curriculum.

B. Complaints about learning resources shall be presented in writing in accordance with the regulations of Suffolk Public Schools. The standards and procedures for review shall be consistently applied in recognition of the respective rights and responsibilities of all concerned. Materials shall be considered for their educational suitability and shall not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

C. Challenges which are not resolved at the building level shall be submitted to a challenged materials committee for review and recommendation to the superintendent or superintendent's designee. The decision of the superintendent or superintendent's designee may be appealed to the School Board or reviewed at the School Board's request for an on-the-record review. The decision of the School Board will then be final. (Adopted January 12, 1995; Revised June 9, 2016; Ordinance Number 15/16-118; Effective Date: July 1, 2016)

Legal Authority - Virginia Code § 22.1-253.13:7.C.2 (1950), as amended.