

## CHAPTER 4.00 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

### OBJECTION TO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

4.171

1. Introduction. School Board Rule 4.171 describes the process for contesting the use of a particular textbook or instructional material used in District schools adopted by the School Board. Pursuant to Florida Statute 1006.28, St. Johns County residents as defined by Florida Statute 1006.28(1)2(b) and parents of children enrolled in District schools have standing to object to the use of particular instructional materials in accordance with the procedure provided by this rule.
2. Procedure. The following procedure shall be followed when a parent or St. Johns County resident (“Complainant”) objects to an instructional material:
  - a. The objecting parent shall register his/her concerns in writing with the principal of the school where his or her child attends. The principal shall forward the complaint to the Director for Instructional Resources and Media Services.
  - b. The objecting resident shall register his/her concerns in writing with the Director for Instructional Resources and Media Services.
  - c. The complaint shall include the following information:
    - (i) Author, compiler, or editor of the work;
    - (ii) Publisher;
    - (iii) Title;
    - (iv) Reason for objection;
    - (v) Page number of each item of concern; and
    - (vi) The Complainant’s signature, address, email address and telephone number.
  - d. The Director for Instructional Resources and Media Services shall forward the complaint to the Superintendent’s office.
  - e. A committee shall be appointed by the Superintendent to review the objection. The Director for Instructional Resources and Media Services shall be responsible for the organization of the committee.
    - (i) The following shall compose a review committee for elementary schools:

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- a) The Director of Instructional Resources and Media Services or designee;
  - b) Elementary media specialist;
  - c) Elementary principal;
  - d) A curriculum supervisor;
  - e) Three (3) instructional staff members at the elementary level; and
  - f) Two (2) parents of elementary age students.
- (ii) The following shall compose a review committee for secondary schools:
- a) The Director of Instructional Resources and Media Services or designee;
  - b) Secondary media specialist;
  - c) Secondary principal;
  - d) A curriculum supervisor;
  - e) Three (3) instructional staff members at the secondary level; and
  - f) Two (2) parents of secondary age students.
- f. The Complainant shall have an opportunity to address the committee.
- g. The committee shall make its recommendation to the Superintendent within fifteen (15) days. The Superintendent shall make a final decision within five (5) days of receipt of the District committee's recommendation.
3. Appeal. The complainant may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the School Board within thirty (30) days. The School Board shall conduct a hearing and render the final decision on the Complainant's concern within sixty (60) days.

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**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:**

**1001.41; 1001.42; 1001.43, F.S.**

**LAWS IMPLEMENTED:**

**1006.28, F.S.**

**HISTORY:**

**Adopted: 01/11/05**

**Revision Date(s): 10/14/14; 01/09/18**

**Renumbered: 10/14/14**

**Formerly: 4.17 Challenged Materials**