

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY: INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

DATE ADOPTED: April 2, 2024

PURPOSE

It is the policy of the Colchester School District (District) to provide students with a broad variety of instructional materials to support student learning and promote equitable access to learning for all students.

Instructional materials provide opportunities for each student to successfully engage in curriculum, meet graduation requirements aligned with Vermont standards, and promote opportunities for personalization.

Library Materials promote student learning and areas of individual interests, provide equitable access to learning for all students, and build a lifelong enjoyment of reading.

DEFINITIONS

Instructional Materials are the materials and supplies for academic, social-emotional, and physical learning in classrooms.

Library Materials include all materials considered part of the library collection, including but not limited to print, digital, and media production resources. Library materials may be found in both physical and virtual library spaces, as well as classroom libraries.

CSD Community Member is a resident of Colchester or a guardian of a student enrolled in the District.

IMPLEMENTATION

Instructional materials are critical to equitable learning for all students. Instructional materials shall be made available to students, selected by professional staff in accordance with the following criteria and procedures.

The District shall use the state standards approved by the State Board of Education and the District's Equity Policy as the basis for the development and selection of curriculum, methods of

Date Warned:	February 16, 2024
First Reading:	February 20, 2024
Second Reading:	March 5, 2024
Third Reading:	April 2, 2024

instruction, locally developed assessments, and the content and skills taught and learned in school.

The board will ensure the written and delivered curriculum that each school implements the District's written and delivered curriculum, which will be:

- A. Aligned with the standards approved by the State Board of Education;
- B. Coordinated across all grades to prepare students for graduation;
- C. Coordinated across the District;
- D. Informed by ongoing review of new research and evidence, changing learning opportunities, and updates to the standards approved by the State Board of Education;
- E. Designed to enable all students to achieve the graduation requirements;
- F. Integrated with technology across all disciplines; and
- G. Aligned with the District's *Equity Policy* and commitment to equitable learning for all students.

ACCESS TO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Each school shall enable students to engage annually in rigorous, relevant and comprehensive learning opportunities that allows them to demonstrate proficiency in the following areas, as defined in the State Board of Education Rule Series 2000 (Education Quality Standards).

- A. Literacy (including critical thinking, language, reading, speaking and listening, and writing);
- B. Mathematical content and practices (including numbers, operations, and the concepts of algebra and geometry by the end of grade 10);
- C. Scientific inquiry and content knowledge (including the concepts of life sciences, physical sciences, earth and space sciences and engineering design);
- D. Global citizenship (including the concepts of civics, economics, geography, world language, cultural studies and history);
- E. Physical education and health education as defined in 16 V.S.A. §131;
- F. Artistic expression (including visual, media and performing arts); and
- G. Transferable skills/Colchester School District Essential Expectations (including communication, collaboration, creativity, innovation, inquiry, problem solving and the use of technology).

Further, each school with a pre-kindergarten early education program shall offer high-quality instructional materials for pre-kindergarten programs as outlined in State Board Rule 2600.

ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

The superintendent or designee will develop procedures addressing access to instructional materials to ensure that each school:

- A.** Provides a learning environment with sufficient supplies and infrastructure to allow for learning;
- B.** Develops, maintains, and expands as needed, instructional materials that include a collection of print, digital and technology resources;
- C.** Ensures that the curriculum, aligned to state standards and the District's Equity Policy, is supported by necessary digital and print resources;
- D.** Ensures that students, teachers, administrators and paraprofessionals have access to an organized collection of digital and print instructional materials sufficient and appropriate to support all students in meeting or exceeding the current state and national standards;
- E.** Provides students access to the instructional materials on a regular basis, to use materials for reading, research, and for instruction in the skills needed to select and use information effectively;
- F.** Provides access to a variety of up-to-date information, assistive, and other technology to support students in meeting or exceeding the standards;
- G.** Provides broadband internet service for students and educators to access educational resources;
- H.** Adopts and implements written policies on electronic resources, acceptable internet usage, and procedures for handling complaints for both staff and students;
- I.** Provides opportunities for library media specialist to collaborate with teachers as they integrate information research skills into their curriculum; and
- J.** Ensures that students are afforded the opportunity to learn the skills to locate, evaluate, synthesize, and to present information and ideas within content areas using instructional materials;
- K.** Incorporates principles of equity within instruction materials, ensuring alignment with the District's Equity Policy; and
- L.** Ensure the implementation of developmentally appropriate curriculum which is aligned with Vermont's Early Learning Standards in any pre qualified public prekindergarten program.

The superintendent or designee will develop and implement procedures to:

- A.** Address the selection of instructional materials within the context of the alignment with mandated state standards and equitable access to those materials;
- B.** Develop procedures to address selection, deselection, donations, and reconsideration of instructional materials; and
- C.** Respond to requests for reconsideration of instructional materials.

CSD community members may request reconsideration of an instructional material. All concerns regarding the selection of instructional materials shall be directed to the superintendent for handling consistent with those procedures.

Legal Reference

16 V.S.A §261a(a)(1)

State Board of Education Rule Series 2000 (Education Quality Standards)

State Board of Education Rule Series 2600 (Prekindergarten Education)

Resources

Equity Policy (CI), [Colchester School District Policy Manual](#)