

INSTRUCTION

Controversial Issues

The district shall offer courses of study which will afford learning experiences appropriate to the level of student understanding. The instructional program shall respect the right of students to face issues, to have free access to information, to study under teachers in situations free from prejudice and to form, hold, and express their own opinions without personal prejudice or discrimination.

Teachers shall guide discussions and procedures with thoroughness and objectivity to acquaint students with the need to recognize opposing viewpoints, the importance of fact, the value of judgment and the virtue of respect for conflicting opinions. Teachers will exercise professional judgment in determining the appropriateness of the issue to the curriculum and the maturity of the students. When in doubt regarding appropriateness, the matter should be referred to the principal.

The district shall respect the right of parent(s) or guardian(s) to be informed of controversial issues. Instruction which may be considered to be of a controversial nature should be well planned with enough time to allow parent(s) or guardian(s) who object to voice their opinions directly to the principal.