

**FOSTER-GLOCESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
GLOCESTER, RI**

HANDLING OF CRITICISM OF TEXTBOOKS/LIBRARY BOOKS

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines whereby any parent or citizen having a criticism of a textbook or library book used by the Foster-Glocester Schools, shall have the right to offer challenge through an orderly procedure as established herewith.

PHILOSOPHY:

The school committee believes that in spite of the care and caution used by the staff in the selection and purchase of reading materials essential to the fulfillment of the instructional program, there may be an occasional book or item of instructional material selected which appears unacceptable to a parent(s) or taxpayer(s), and in recognition thereof, this policy is established'

POLICY STATEMENT:

Any parent who has a concern about the subject, content or language contained within a school textbook or library book should first register the complaint with the appropriate teacher or school librarian verbally with the expectation that a discussion of the concern will result in parental satisfaction as to the appropriate use and consideration of the book.

If, however, this informal conference fails to bring forth a satisfactory resolution, cause shall be established for reducing the complaint to writing and submitting same to the appropriate building administration on a form as provided by the District and available in each building principal's office.

1. The principal shall be responsible to see that any books that might be questionable to the public are reviewed by the department or grade level where the book is being used.
2. Upon receipt of the completed written form by the department/grade level staff, the targeted book is to be reexamined to determine whether the criticism or direction in the use of the book is valid.
3. If the review decision is that the criticism is valid, the book shall be removed and the objector so advised.
4. If the decision is that the criticism is determined to be unwarranted or inappropriate, the department representative, the teacher or librarian involved and the principal will meet with the objecting adult(s) to provide the reasoning for such decision.

5. Should the problem not be resolved to the satisfaction of either party, the parties involved will meet with the superintendent, his/her designated representative, any other administrator or school committee members, as the superintendent deems appropriate.
6. The school committee, as representatives of the community, will be responsible for any necessary final judgment(s).

First Reading: March 3, 1998
Second Reading: April 13, 1998
Adopted: April 13, 1998