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POLICY H. 1

INSTRUCTION

SUBJECT: ADULT EDUCATION

- a) Members of the community are encouraged to participate in adult education courses. The learning process for every individual is a life-long process and, thus, the activities offered by the District should be utilized by each individual in the community to the fullest.
- b) The Adult Education program courses shall be self-supporting. The extent of the program will be determined by the needs and desires of the community and by the amount indicated in the annual budget. Senior citizens over sixty are admitted free to any adult education program.
- c) Courses offered shall be approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee. Instructors shall be approved by the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

Non-Residents

Non-residents may be accepted in Adult Education classes provided:

- a) Residents are given priority;
- b) No increase in the size of the faculty or staff will be necessary in order to accommodate them; and
- c) Their presence will not result in classes containing more than the designated maximum number of participants.

Registration fees for non-residents shall be no higher than those for residents.

Adopted: 7/07/10

POLICY H. 2

INSTRUCTION

SUBJECT: OBJECTION TO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Occasional objections to some materials may be voiced by the public despite the care taken in the selection process and despite the qualifications of person selecting the materials. If a complaint is made, the procedures are as follows:

- a) Listen to the complainant, explain selection procedures, be courteous, and make no commitment;
- b) Refer complainant to the department chairperson, team leader, grade level chairman or the building principal who will attempt to resolve the issue informally.
- c) If an informal resolution is not made, the principal will provide the complainant with a "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials". Upon receipt of this completed form from the complainant, the principal will then appoint a committee composed of a principal, a school library media specialist, a faculty representative, a parent representative, and others, as appropriate. This Review Committee will read, review or listen to the challenged materials in their entirety. An opinion will be based on the materials as a whole, and not on passages taken out of context. The Committee will meet to discuss the challenged materials and prepare a written report containing their recommendations on the disposition of the matter.
- d) The principal will notify the complainant in writing of the Committee's decision within 30 days of receiving the Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials and will forward copies of such notification and the Committee's report to the Superintendent.
- e) The complainant may appeal the decision of the Review Committee by submitting a written request for re-evaluation to the Superintendent within 10 days of receiving notification of the Committee's decision.

- f) The Superintendent will form a Division Review Committee, composed of a library media specialist, two parents, two building administrators, a teacher, and the Superintendent.

The Division Review Committee will read, review or listen to the challenged materials in their entirety. An opinion will be based on the materials as a whole, and not on passages taken out of context. The Committee will meet to discuss the challenged materials and prepare a written report containing their recommendations on the disposition of the matter within 30 days of receipt of the appeal.

The complainant may appeal the decision of the Division Review Committee by submitting a written request for re-evaluation to the Oneonta School Board within 10 days of receiving notification of the Committee's decision. The Superintendent will submit the appeal to the Oneonta School Board within 15 days for final determination of the issue. The School Board may seek assistance from outside organizations such as the American Association of School Administrators, the National School Boards Association, the American Library Association, etc. in making its determination.

The complainant will be notified of the School Board's decision within 30 school days of the appeal to the Superintendent of Schools.

Adopted: 7/07/10

POLICY H. 3

INSTRUCTION

SUBJECT: CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

Controversial issues may be studied as part of the curriculum and teachers shall present these issues in their classrooms in an impartial and objective manner.

Teachers wishing to call upon outside speakers in the presentation of controversial issues are required to obtain the approval of the principal who shall keep in mind the obligation for presenting opposing views as well, and who shall inform the Superintendent prior to the presentation.

It is recognized that parents and citizens of the community have a right to protest to the school administration when convinced that unfair and biased presentations are being made by the teacher. In considering such protests, the Superintendent of Schools shall provide for a hearing so that both parties may fairly express their views. If requested, the Superintendent's decision may be appealed to the Board of Education.

Adopted: 7/07/10

POLICY H. 4

INSTRUCTION

SUBJECT: HOME INSTRUCTION (HOME SCHOOLING)

From time to time, parents will choose to instruct their children at home. The School District will attempt to cooperate with parents who wish to provide home schooling for their children realizing that the child who is educated at home should receive an education in a manner consistent with an educational plan and at least substantially equivalent to that given to students of like age and attainments in the local public schools. The required subjects should be taught in a competent, systematic, and sequential manner, specifically in relation to the required courses as enumerated in Commissioner's Regulation Section 100.10.

Provision of Services to Home-Instructed Students

Regarding Home-Instructed Students:

They are not awarded a high school diploma. A high school diploma may only be awarded to a student enrolled in a registered secondary school who has completed all program requirements set by the Board of Regents, the school or the District.

- a) They are not eligible to participate in interscholastic sports. Commissioner's Regulations mandate that only students enrolled in the public school are allowed to participate in interscholastic sports.
- b) The School District does not permit home-instructed students to participate in intramural and other school-sponsored club activities.
- c) The School District may provide such textbooks and other materials to the extent available to home-instructed students.
- d) The School District is not required to furnish health services.
- e) The School District is not responsible for providing remedial programs.

- f) The School District shall not make available to home-instructed students occupational and vocational programs (career and technical education programs) and programs for the gifted in accordance with the provisions of the “Dual Enrollment Law.”
- g) The School District shall offer a home-instructed student with disabilities the special education services as addressed in the approved Individualized Education Program (IEP) by the Committee on Special Education. However, there is no requirement that such services be provided in the student’s home. Further, the District shall conduct a census and register of students with disabilities who reside in the District in accordance with Education Law and Commissioner’s Regulations.
- h) Students instructed at home shall not be allowed to use school facilities.

Primary responsibility for determining compliance with Commissioner’s Regulations addressing home instruction rests with the Superintendent of Schools of the school district in which a home-schooled student resides.

Education Law Sections 3204, 3205, 3102.1, 3212.2, 3240-42, 3602-cd, and 4402 8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Sections 100.10 and 200.2 (a)

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