

Curriculum and Instructional Materials

Section I of School Board Policy governs Instruction in Powhatan County Public Schools. Several of the key policies governing curriculum development and instructional materials are listed, linked, and summarized below.

Curriculum Development - [Policy IF](#)

The curriculum is a coherent and comprehensive plan for teaching and learning built upon a framework that promotes continuity and the cumulative acquisition and application of skills. The curriculum shall state clearly and specifically what students are expected to know and be able to do by grade level and course. Powhatan County School Board curricula shall meet or exceed the requirements of the Code of Virginia and regulations of the Virginia Board of Education and, at a minimum, shall be aligned to the Standards of Learning.

Instructional Materials - [Policy IIA](#)

The Powhatan County School Board is responsible for the selection and use of instructional materials. The superintendent or superintendent's designee creates and updates, as necessary, guidelines and procedures for the selection of instructional materials. The guidelines and procedures are designed to ensure that appropriate instructional materials are selected and provide an opportunity for the professional staff and community to participate and be informed on the selection and use of instructional materials. Parents may inspect, on request, any instructional material used as part of their student's curriculum.

Guidelines for Selection and Review of Instructional Materials - [Policy IIA-R](#)

The primary objective in the selection of instructional materials is to provide those materials which support and enrich the instructional program. Powhatan County Public Schools (PCPS) will provide a wide range of materials on different levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal, and representing different points of view. Since there are varying points of view represented in a collection, the inclusion of an item does not necessarily mean that the school or library advocates or endorses contents of that item.

Textbook Selection - [Policy IIAA](#)

The School Board may adopt textbooks, including print or electronic media, for student use that serve as the primary curriculum basis for a grade-level subject or course from the list of textbooks approved by the Board of Education. The School Board may also adopt books which are not on the state-adopted list in accordance with the Board of Education regulations.

Supplementary Materials - [Policy IIB](#)

Materials used by students under the guidance of teachers to extend, expand, and supplement basal materials constitute an integral part of the instructional program. Supplemental materials are those items which are used to assist the teaching and learning process and include such items as magazines, newspapers, charts, pictures, certain workbooks, kits, videos, film strips, and games. Materials selected for supplemental use relate directly to the established objectives of the course or content area in which they are used. The School Board delegates the responsibility for the selection and use of supplemental materials to the individual schools. Teachers must carefully review materials prior to use and exercise a high degree of professional judgment in their selection and use of supplemental materials, to ensure that the use of such materials serves to both support and complement the basic educational objectives within the specific subject areas and classrooms.