

INSTRUCTION – CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

The professional staff will not use class time to express an individual viewpoint or deal with matters unrelated to course of study or regular school program. This does not preclude the inclusion of controversial subjects pertinent to the course.

While it is recognized that the curriculum can include subjects which shall be judged controversial by the teacher, we must also recognize that parents have certain rights in determining whether or not their children will be exposed to these subjects.

Parents shall receive advance notification when controversial subjects are to be dealt with in the classroom. This notice must contain at least the following information:

1. Dates when the issue will be addressed in the classroom.
2. Its relation to the approved curriculum.
3. Reasonable description of items to be included in the classroom presentation and discussions, and the materials to be used.
4. Identification of outside agencies which will be involved in making classroom presentations.
5. Indication that parents are welcome to view and/or attend any class presentation of potentially controversial subjects.
6. A section for the parent to sign and return to the school indicating that they have read the description of the proposed activity, and refuse to allow the involvement of their child(ren) in the activity.

Should parent(s)/guardian(s) refuse to allow their child(ren) to participate in the activity, alternate arrangements must be made for the child during the period of instruction.

Principals are responsible for making certain that all members of their building teaching staff are aware of and conform to these requirements.