



Denver Public Schools EL7 - Instructional Materials Selection & Adoption Monitoring Report

August 2023

Board policy is indicated in **bold** typeface throughout.

I hereby present my monitoring report on your Executive Limitations policy EL-7, "Instructional Materials Selection & Adoption" according to the schedule set out. I certify that the information contained in this report is true, and represents compliance with all aspects of the policy unless specifically stated otherwise.

Signed *Alex Nanno*, Superintendent

Date 8/31/2023

Policy Statement:

Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption

The Superintendent shall not fail to recommend the instructional materials and textbook programs to be used in the district to the Board for approval. The Superintendent shall not fail to make these recommendations based on developed and/or purchased curriculum that is rigorous, culturally-responsive, rooted in equity, and that elevates the rich diversity of the district and its students as outlined in Ends Policy 1.1 and in the Know Justice, Know Peace Resolution, Black Excellence Resolution, Special Education Inclusive Practices Resolution, Safe and Welcoming Schools Resolution, LGBTQIA + Inclusion Resolution, and Modified Consent Decree.

Accordingly, the Superintendent shall not fail to:

1. Obtain appropriate input from the following groups as instructional materials are reviewed: teachers who will use the materials, administrators and other staff members who are involved in developing the educational program, and students, parents, families and community members;
2. Recommend textbooks and instructional materials that advance the achievement of the Board's Ends policies and contribute toward continuity, integration, and articulation of the curriculum by course and program;
3. Consider the needs of all learners when recommending textbooks and instructional materials;
4. Include, insofar as possible, culturally, racially and linguistically diverse materials which depict and reflect a pluralistic society;
5. Provide for review, examination of materials or textbooks upon request by a parent/guardian; and
6. Develop and implement appropriate policies ensuring access to and utilization of electronic means of communication.

LEGAL REFS.: Colo. Const. Art. IX, Sect. 15 (Board has control of instruction within the district)

C.R.S. 22-32-109 (Board duty to determine educational program and prescribe textbooks)

C.R.S. 22-32-110 (Board power to exclude immoral or pernicious materials and books)

C.R.S. 22-54-105 (budgeting for instructional supplies and materials)

Monitoring Method:

Monitoring Data:

Monitoring Frequency:

Definitions:

- **Culturally, Racially and Linguistically Diverse Materials** - instructional materials and coursework that are representative and inclusive of the diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, and languages of students

Reasonable Interpretation

One of the most important duties of the Board of Education is to vote to approve the selection and adoption of curricula materials. During this 22/23 school year, education has come under attack. In some states, banning courses which reflect the rich diverse history of this nation has become the norm. Other states are attacking the contents of Critical Race Theory. DPS is committed to the principles of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. As such, it is my duty and responsibility to make recommendations to the Board which are in alignment with the values and goals expressed in the Ends policies. In order to be in compliance with this Executive Limitation, I will need to accomplish the following:

1. All textbook and instructional materials to be used by DPS will be in alignment with being rigorous, culturally-responsive, rooted in equity, and elevates the rich diversity of the district and its students as outlined in Ends Policy 1.1 and in the Know Justice, Know Peace Resolution, Black Excellence Resolution, Special Education Inclusive Practices Resolution, Safe and Welcoming Schools Resolution, LGBTQIA + Inclusion Resolution, and Modified Consent Decree.brought forward to the Board for approval.
2. The following groups will have input into the selection of textbooks and instructional materials:
 - a. teachers who will use the materials,
 - b. administrators and other staff members who are involved in developing the educational program,
 - c. students,
 - d. parents, families and
 - e. community members;
3. I will ensure that any recommendations of textbooks and instructional materials advance the achievement of the Board's Ends policies and is articulated and aligned by course and program.
4. I will consider the needs of all learners in making recommendations of textbooks and instructional materials.
5. I will include, insofar as possible, culturally, racially and linguistically diverse materials which depict and reflect a pluralistic society.
6. I will establish a process for parents/guardians to review/examine materials upon request.
7. I will establish or maintain administration policies which will leverage the use of electronic means of communication for this policy.

Standard - RI Must-haves

- The standard of measurement for one or more parts of the policy
- The level of achievement on the standard for one or more parts of the policy
- The rationale for the standard of measurement for one or more parts of the policy
- The rationale for the level of achievement on the standard for one or more parts of the policy
- Is the interpretation reasonable?
- Is the data sufficient to support compliance?

Outcome

Compliance with Executive Limitation 7 will be achieved for 22/23 when the following measures are in the affirmative and has evidence of such:

| Measure | Family of Schools/District Run Schools | Report Timing | Justification |
|---|--|---------------|---|
| 1. All textbook and instructional materials to be used by DPS will be in alignment with being rigorous, culturally-responsive, rooted in equity, and elevates the rich diversity of the district and its students as outlined in Ends Policy 1.1 and in the Know Justice, Know Peace Resolution, Black Excellence Resolution, Special Education Inclusive Practices Resolution, Safe and Welcoming Schools Resolution, LGBTQIA + Inclusion Resolution, and Modified Consent Decree brought forward to the Board for approval. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation |
| 2. The following groups will have input into the selection of textbooks and instructional materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - teachers who will use the materials, - administrators and other staff members who are involved in developing the educational program, - students, - parents, families and - community members; | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation |
| 3. Ensure that any recommendations of textbooks and instructional materials advance the achievement of the Board's Ends policies and is articulated and aligned by course and program. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation |
| 4. Take reasonable steps to consider the needs of all learners in making recommendations of textbooks and instructional materials. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation |
| 5. Include, insofar as possible, culturally, racially and linguistically diverse materials which depict and reflect a pluralistic society. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation |
| 6. Establish a process for parents/guardians to review/examine materials upon request. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation |
| 7. Establish or maintain administration policies which will leverage the use of electronic means of communication for this policy. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Demonstrates compliance with Executive Limitation |

Aggregation Methodology

I will be successful if I meet 75% of the weighted targets above.

Evidence of Outcomes Achieved

Goal: Demonstrate Compliance with this Executive Limitation

August Measures

| Measure | Family of Schools/ District Run Schools | Timing | Compliant? YES/NO |
|---|---|--------|----------------------|
| 1. All textbook and instructional materials to be used by DPS will be in alignment with being rigorous, culturally-responsive, rooted in equity, and elevates the rich diversity of the district and its students as outlined in Ends Policy 1.1 and in the Know Justice, Know Peace Resolution, Black Excellence Resolution, Special Education Inclusive Practices Resolution, Safe and Welcoming Schools Resolution, LGBTQIA + Inclusion Resolution, and Modified Consent Decree brought forward to the Board for approval. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Yes |
| 2. The following groups will have input into the selection of textbooks and instructional materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - teachers who will use the materials, - administrators and other staff members who are involved in developing the educational program, - students, - parents, families and - community members; | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Yes |
| 3. Ensure that any recommendations of textbooks and instructional materials advance the achievement of the Board's Ends policies and is articulated and aligned by course and program. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Yes |
| 4. Take reasonable steps to consider the needs of all learners in making recommendations of textbooks and instructional materials. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Yes |
| 5. Include, insofar as possible, culturally, racially and linguistically diverse materials which depict and reflect a pluralistic society. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Yes |
| 6. Establish a process for parents/guardians to review/examine materials upon request. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Yes |
| 7. Establish or maintain administration policies which will leverage the use of electronic means of communication for this policy. | District Run Schools (Not charters) | August | Yes |

Summary

The district is compliant with all aspects of EL-7 within this monitoring report.

1. Instructional Materials Requirements: The district curriculum selection and purchasing process includes feedback from educators and school leaders. Specifically, curricular teams engage in the established request for proposals (RFPs) process, which has formalized requirements around teacher and leader feedback. The Culturally Responsive Education team developed culturally sustaining audit tools with each curriculum team; audit tools are used to inform RFPs and analysis of proposals. Multilingual Education (MLE) participates in all curriculum review processes to ensure Consent Decree alignment. Teams also use the audit tools ([example for Humanities](#)) to inform revisions to mitigate bias in curricular resources, and consistently review our curricular resources to ensure they are aligned with state standards and policies.

2. Input in selection of resources: Teams (including MLE) partners with teachers, leaders, and central office staff to engage in the adoption review committee for all curricular adoptions. Humanities have also participated in community events and student feedback loops on curriculum.

3. Instructional Materials advance Board's Ends: The district teams select standards-based and research-backed curricular resources to ensure students have a rigorous educational experience. The district strives for aligned curricula that support the cross grade level connections and collaboration. Culturally sustaining audits tools are used by teams to analyze instructional materials in alignment with Know Justice, Know Peace (KJKP) resolution.

4. Reasonable Steps to Consider all Learners: Our curriculum review processes include explicit reviews for supports for accessing grade level content (i.e., supports for Multilingual Learners, improving readers, or other students groups). We also ensure Spanish language parity in curricular resources. Content teams follow all board policies and required guidelines when engaging in the RFP process.

5. Pluralistic Society: The Culturally Responsive Education team developed culturally sustaining audit tools with each curriculum team; audit tools are used to inform RFPs and analysis of proposals. MLE participates in all curriculum review processes to ensure Consent Decree alignment. Teams also use the audit tools ([example for Humanities](#)) to inform revisions to mitigate bias in curricular resources, and consistently review our curricular resources to ensure they are aligned with state standards and policies.

6. Parent/Guardian requests: The Academics team is working to expand and systematize our processes to engage families in curricular review in partnership with our Family and Community Engagement team. When requested, the district provides curricular materials to families.

7. Administrative Policy: Policy [KB](#) and Regulation [KB-R](#) outline the district's responsibilities for community engagement. [Policy EGAEA](#) and its regulation outline the district's electronic communications policies for staff.

Additional Resources

None

Explanatory notes for preparing a monitoring report

Non-compliance:

N/A