File: KLB

## PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS ABOUT CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES, LEARNING RESOURCES, INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS, AND OTHER MATTERS

The King George County School Board encourages open communication between the School Division and the school community on all matters relating to the operation of the public schools, including concerns about learning resources, instructional materials, and controversial issues.

The King George County School Board recognizes that not all parents and guardians will agree on the age-level designation and/or appropriateness of books, resources, or some curricular topics. It is a priority for the King George County School Board to allow the parents and guardians of the students in our schools to make decisions about controversial materials or topics for their students. The superintendent will create procedures and guidelines for parents / guardians to request alternate assignments when there are concerns with the content of a particular assignment.

The card catalog for each library is available on the school website for parents/guardians and the community to review. The superintendent will create procedures and guidelines to allow parents / guardians to determine their student's access to specific books.

The King George County School Board recognizes that members of the community who do not have children enrolled in the school may have concerns pertaining to King George County Schools regarding a variety of matters ranging from community safety, traffic, or curriculum for example. These concerns should be directed to the school superintendent's office in writing. It will be the responsibility of the superintendent or designee to respond to these concerns.

Any challenges or concerns about books, resources or instructional materials should be addressed in writing to the school principal by the parent or guardian of the student or to the superintendent by King George County residents who do not have students enrolled in King George County Schools.

Parents / guardians and community members have the right to appeal any decisions regarding challenges, complaints, or other concerns. Appeals of the school principal's decision should be directed to the superintendent, and appeals of the superintendent's decision should be directed to the School Board. Decisions regarding public complaints and challenges should be made in writing to the complainant.

A complaint form (Policy Manual KL-F) is available (not required) for use when filing a complaint.

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Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-253.13:7.

Cross Refs.: IIA Instructional Materials

IGAH Family Life Education

INB Teaching About Controversial Issues

KL Public Complaints

KQ Commercial, Promotional and Corporate Sponsorships and

Partnerships