SALT LAKE ARTS ACADEMY	**Salt Lake Arts Academy**	Version 1
	Policy Title: Instructional, Supplemental, and Sensitive Materials Policy	Effective Date: 2.24.2025

Salt Lake Arts Academy (SLArts) follows the guidelines set forth in R277-469, R277-628, and 53G-5-404.

Curriculum and Instructional Materials

1. Systematically arranged content in text, digital, Braille and large print, and audio formats which may be used within the state curriculum framework for courses of study by students in district schools; examples include textbooks, workbooks, reading materials, computer software, online or internet courses, videos, and multiple forms of communication media. These materials may be used by students, teachers, or both as principal sources of study to cover any portion of the course.
2. Curriculum Materials are selected by Department-level Committees and approved by the Salt Lake Arts Academy Board, who also serve as members of our Curriculum Committee.
    - The members of the Curriculum Committee include members of administration, Board members, teachers, and other school and personnel as appropriate according to assignment and subject matter expertise.
3. Supplemental Instructional Materials are approved by members of our Leadership Team and Department-level Committees.
4. Intervention materials are approved by our Student Support Team.
    - Intervention materials are selected by Department-level Committees as needed.
5. Teacher-selected materials are selected by individual teachers for use as part of a particular lesson or lessons. It is recommended that teachers have a colleague or members of our Leadership Team review materials to ensure appropriateness for student use in the classroom.
    - Presentations from individual classroom guest speakers should adhere to the Instructional materials selection criteria.
    - Instructional material deemed inconsistent with the CSD Instructional Materials Selection Criteria may be removed by the Principal or Superintendent for review by the Department of Instructional Supports.

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1. Salt Lake Arts Academy recognizes that one of the fundamental purposes of education is to teach youth how to think and take a position when confronted with alternative choices. Therefore, schools have an obligation to allow students a forum for examination and discussion of controversial issues which arise in connection with the instructional program. An issue shall be considered controversial if it is socially unresolved, generates highly divergent opinions, and may be considered an unsuitable curriculum topic by some members of the community.

   Controversial issues are not intended to be part of the regular school curriculum. If and when controversial issues arise out of the normal student/teacher interaction and discussion, employees shall adhere to the following regulations:

   a. Controversial issues may be introduced into the curriculum for one or more of the following expected student outcomes.
   b. Learning to analyze current political, economic and social problems of major concern.
   c. Learning to differentiate fact from opinion and/or propaganda.
   d. Learning to identify and analyze prejudice.
   e. Learning to form and express personal opinions in a courteous, respectful manner without jeopardizing peer, teacher, or school relationships.
   f. Learning respect for the concept of majority and minority opinion and the resulting impact on the societal process.
   g. Learning to draw intelligent conclusions from facts which may serve as a basis for forming personal opinion.

h. The proposed lesson is appropriate to the grade level and subject of the class where it is to be presented.

6. School assemblies or events utilizing guest lecturers or live presentations for the student-body shall be reviewed and approved by our Leadership Team and Department-level Committees.
7. Student-led, teacher-led, and principal-led assemblies during the school day will adhere to applicable instructional materials selection criteria.
8. Sex Education Materials are selected and approved in accordance with state law and framework established by the State Board of Education.

Review of Instructional Materials for Sensitive Material

1. Sensitive material is prohibited in the school setting. A school may not adopt, distribute, provide a student access to, or maintain in the school setting sensitive materials, or permit a speaker or presenter in the school setting to display or distribute sensitive materials.
2. If a parent/legal guardian of a student believes instructional materials meet the definition of a "sensitive material," the parent/legal guardian will contact the principal to complete a Materials Review Form (Appendix A).
3. Pursuant to Utah Code 53G-10-103, upon receipt of a Material Review Form (Appendix A), the Leadership Team will make a determination if the allegation presents a plausible claim that the challenged instructional material constitutes sensitive material and will forward the allegation to the Curriculum Committee for a sensitive material review.
    - The Principal will facilitate removal of the challenged material from any school setting until completion of the objective sensitive materials review.
4. A sensitive material review will include:
    - an Objective Sensitive Material Review by our Curriculum Committee; and

- only if the Curriculum Committee determines it does not constitute objective sensitive material under the non-discretionary standards as described in Utah Code 76-5c-208 (1)(a)(i)(ii), or (iii).
- If the panel determines the instructional material constitutes Objective Sensitive Material as described in Utah Code 76-5c-208:
    1. The instructional material constituting Objective Sensitive Material will be reported to the State Board of Education;
    2. The instructional material will be inaccessible to students in any school setting and the instructional materials will be restricted pending review pending an appeal to the Board or action by USBE.
- An objective sensitive material review will occur within ten (10) school days of submission of a Material Review Form (Appendix A).

5. Subjective Sensitive Material Review: If the Curriculum Committee determines an instructional material does not constitute objective sensitive material, Salt Lake Arts Academy will complete a Subjective Sensitive Material Review, which includes reflective members of the school community. During the Subjective Sensitive Material Review, the instructional material will be accessible only with parent consent.
    - This review includes reading the entire instructional material, and making a determination if the instructional material contains pornographic or indecent material under the following factor-balancing standards: Material that is ”harmful to minors” in Utah Code 76-5c-101; or material that is pornographic under 76-5c-102; or material that include certain fondling or other erotic touching under 76-5c-208 (1)(a)(iv).
    - If the review by Salt Lake Arts Academy determines the instructional material constitutes subjective sensitive material, the instructional material will be inaccessible to students in the school setting, and the District will communicate to the State Board Salt Lake Arts Academy’s final determination regarding

the instructional material. Instructional material title will be inaccessible to students in any school setting pending an appeal to the Board or action by USBE.

- If the Subjective Sensitive Material Review determines the instructional material does not constitute Subjective Sensitive Material, the instructional will be retained in the school's curriculum.

6. The subjective sensitive material review will be conducted within forty-five (45) school days.
    - The Curriculum Committee may request to the Board for a waiver of the forty-five (45) school day time-line if the number of requests for review exceeds the Curriculum Committee's capacity.
7. An individual (i.e., employee, student, parent/legal guardian of student and member of the Board) may appeal a Committee's decision regarding a sensitive material review to the Board.

Appeal to the Board

1. If an individual is not satisfied with a sensitive material review/challenge, regardless of whether the instructional material was removed or retained, they may appeal (Appendix B) to the Board within fifteen (15) calendar days of a sensitive materials determination.
2. Upon receipt of an appeal (Appendix B) to the Board, the Board will schedule a review of an appeal within 45 days.
    - The individual submitting an appeal (Appendix B) to the Board will provide a written statement offering a rationale for why an instructional material should be removed or retained.
    - The Board will be provided a copy of:
        1. the individual's written statement;
        2. the Material Review from the Curriculum Committee; and
        3. the Subjective Sensitive Material Review.
3. The Board shall vote in a Public Board meeting to decide the outcome of sensitive material review appeal, identifying:

- The Board's rationale for the decision to remove or retain the instructional material; and
- The Board's determination on each component of the statutory and any additional policy standards the Board uses to reach the Board conclusion.

4. The Board decision will be communicated to the State School Board.
    - If the instructional material is to be removed, it will be inaccessible to students in any school setting and the instructional material will be deselected from Salt Lake Arts Academy's curriculum.

Sensitive Materials Threshold and Utah State Board of Education (USBE)

Sensitive Materials Threshold and Utah State Board of Education (USBE)

1. Sensitive Materials Threshold: Pursuant to state Law, (H.B. 29, 2024), the requirement to remove a given instructional material from student access statewide applies if the following number local education agencies (LEAs) makes a determination that given instructional constitutes objective sensitive material:
    - At least three school districts; or
    - At least two school district and five charter schools,
2. Pursuant to state law, if the above threshold is met, the state school board (USBE) shall aggregate allegations and LEA determinations; and no later than 10 days after the day on which the threshold occurs, communicate to all LEAS to remove the relevant challenged instructional material.
3. Pursuant to state law, upon receipt of communication from the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) that a given instructional material constitutes objective sensitive material by at least three school districts, or at least two school districts and five charter schools, the District will remove the given instructional material from student access in accordance with state law and hold pending further action by USBE.

- Titles identified as Objective Sensitive Material and meeting the threshold for statewide removal are prohibited on school property. These titles should not be brought to school or used for classroom activities, assignments, or personal reading while on school property.

4. If the above sensitive material threshold is met for a given instructional material, in additional to making the communication above to remove the given instructional material, the state board may:
    - Place the material on the agenda of a public board meeting within 60 days after the day on which the state board (USBE) makes a communication to LEAs;
    - At the specified state board meeting, vote to overturn the application of the requirement to remove a given material from student access statewide.
    - If the state board (USBE) votes to overturn the application of the statewide removal, the statewide removal no longer applies. If a statewide mandate no longer applies, an LEA may choose to return the given material to student access.
        1. Salt Lake Arts Academy has determined to not give deference to sensitive material reviews conducted by other educational entities, and will return the given instructional material to student access in the school's curriculum.

Religious Belief or Right of Conscience

1. A school may not in any aspect of school:
    - require or incentivize a student to affirm or deny the student's or student's parent's religious belief or right of conscience;
    - engage a student in a practice that violates or is contrary the student's or parent's religious belief or right of conscience; or
    - penalize or discriminate against a student for refraining from participation due to the student's or the student's parent's

religious
belief or right of conscience.

2. Request for Alternative Curriculum:
    - If a student refrains from participating in any aspect of school that violates the student's or the student's parent's religious belief or right of conscience, the school shall promptly notify student's parent if the secondary student makes a request may offer an alternative that does not violate the student's or the student's parent's religious belief or right of conscience.
    - A school may not require the student or the student's parent to explain, defend, or justify the student's or the student's parent's religious belief or right of conscience.
3. A student's parent may waive the student's participation in any aspect of school that violates the student's or the student's parent's religious belief or right of conscience.
4. A student's academic or citizenship performance may not be penalized if the secondary student or the student's parent chooses to exercise a religious right or right of conscience in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Appendix A: Materials Review Form

Title:

Author:

School:

Review Request initiated by:

Telephone:

Address:

City:

Zip:

Email:

1) Does your child attend this school? Yes No

2) Was this material recommended, assigned, or made available through the students' school? If so, where?

3) What concerns you about this material? Please provide examples, page numbers, links, or any other information to help in locating or identifying content of concern. Please attach any images or other corroborating evidence.

4) What action are you requesting the committee to consider?

Signature:

Date:

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****************Below is for internal use only****************

LEA Appointed Committee Convener/Facilitator: Determined by

_____ (LEA's Name) Administration

Suggested Review Timeline:

Appendix B: Appeal Request Form

Instructions:
A requestor will submit the Appeal Form along with a copy of the School's decision within 15 business days of receiving the decision of the School.

Requestor Information:
1. Date:
2. Legal Name of Guardian:
3. Address:
4. E-mail:
5. Phone Number:
6. School:
7. School Decision Date:

The submission of an Appeal Form will receive a receipt of notice of submission within ten (10) school calendar days. The receipt of submission will include an estimated time-line for a determination of the appeal to be completed within a reasonable time period.

Challenged Material Information:
1. Title:
2. Author:
3. Publisher and date of publication:
4. School where title can be accessed:

Please provide a written statement setting forth your rationale to appeal the School Committee's decision regarding the title (attach additional pages as needed):

Requestor's Signature: _____

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