

Policy Guide

Policy No. 119Section PROGRAMSTitle CURRENT EVENTSAdopted AUGUST 21, 1989Last Revised AUGUST 20, 2024

POLICY NO. 119 CURRENT EVENTS		
Section 1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>The Board believes that the consideration of current events has a legitimate place in the educational program of the schools. Properly introduced and conducted, discussion of such events can help students learn to identify important issues, explore fully and fairly all sides of an issue, weigh carefully the values and factors involved, and develop skills for formulating and evaluating positions and opinions.</p>	
Section 2	<p><u>Definition</u></p> <p>A current event is defined as a topic not expressly enumerated in the course guide as content of the course of study.</p>	
Section 3	<p><u>Authority</u></p> <p>The Board will permit the introduction and proper educational use of current events, provided that their use in the instructional program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is related to the course's educational goals and the students' level of maturity. 2. Does not tend to indoctrinate or persuade students to a particular point of view. 3. Encourages fair presentations and open-mindedness. 4. Is conducted in a spirit of scholarly inquiry. 	Pol. 106

<p>Section 4</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NO. 119 CURRENT EVENTS</p> <p>5. Is not related to the employment status of the teacher and/or other district employees.</p> <p>The Board recognizes that some deviation from the assigned course guide is necessary in the free exchange of the classroom. However, the Board specifies for the guidance of the Superintendent and staff that any discussion of current events in the classroom or school environment shall be conducted in an unprejudiced and dispassionate manner and shall not disrupt the educational process, fail to match the maturity level of students, nor be unrelated to the goals of the District and the appropriate course guide.</p> <p>In the discussion of any event, a teacher may express a personal opinion, but shall identify it as such, and must not express such an opinion for the purpose of persuading students to their point of view.</p> <p><u>Delegation of Responsibility</u></p> <p>The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations to assist teaching staff members in developing techniques for the management of current events that do not stifle a spirit of free and scholarly inquiry.</p> <p>Previously Revised: February 16, 1998</p> <p>References:</p> <p>PA School Code – 24 P.S. 510</p> <p>Board Policy – Pol. 106</p>	<p>Pol. 106</p>
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