

LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY: 119
SECTION: PROGRAMS
TITLE: CURRENT EVENTS
ADOPTED: April 16, 2018

119. Current Events

Purpose

The Board believes that the consideration of current events has a legitimate place in the instructional program of the schools.

Definition

Properly introduced and conducted, the consideration 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 techniques for formulating and evaluating positions.

Authority

For purposes of this policy, a current event is a topic on which opposing points of view have been promulgated by responsible opinion and not expressly enumerated in the course guide as content of the course of study.

The Board will permit the introduction and proper educational use of current events provided that their use in the instructional program:

is related to the instructional goals of the course of study and level of maturity of the students;

1. does not tend to indoctrinate or persuade students to a particular point of view;
2. encourages fair presentation and open-mindedness;
3. is conducted in a spirit of scholarly inquiry;
4. is initiated by curricular design or by the students themselves; and
5. is not related to the employment status of the teacher and/or other employees of the district.

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 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.

In the discussion of any event, a teacher may express a personal opinion but shall identify it as such and must not express an opinion for the purpose of persuading students to his/her point of view.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations for the management of current events that do not stifle the spirit of free and scholarly inquiry.