

TEXTBOOK SELECTION, ADOPTION AND PURCHASE

Selection of Textbooks

The Regional School Board may adopt textbooks, including print or electronic media, for student use that serves as the primary curriculum basis for a grade-level subject or course from the list of textbooks approved by the Board of Education. The Regional School Board may also adopt books which are not on the state-adopted list in accordance with the Board of Education regulations.

In approving textbooks, the Regional School Board

- appoints evaluation committees to review and evaluate textbooks,
- gives notice to parents that textbooks under consideration will be listed on the school's website and made available at designated locations for review by any interested citizens,
- creates opportunities for persons reviewing such textbooks to present their comments and observations to the Regional School Board,
- creates procedures to ensure appropriate consideration of citizen comments and observations and
- establishes and makes known selection criteria.

Textbooks Approved by the Board of Education

The Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Regional Board may either enter into written term contracts or issue purchase orders with publishers of textbooks approved by the Board of Education. Such written contracts or purchase orders are exempt from the Virginia Public Procurement Act (Va. Code § 2.2-4300 et seq.) The contract price shall not exceed the lowest wholesale price at which the textbook or textbooks involved in the contract are currently bid under contract anywhere in the United States. If, subsequent to the date of any contract entered into by the Regional School Board, the prices of textbooks named in the contract are reduced or the terms of the contract are made more favorable to purchase anywhere in the United States or a special or other edition of any book named in the contract is sold outside of Virginia at a lower price than contracted in Virginia, the publisher shall grant the same reduction or terms to the Regional School Board and give the Regional School Board the option of using such special or other edition adapted for use in Virginia and at the lowest price at which such special edition is sold elsewhere and the contract shall so state.

Contracts and purchase orders with publishers of textbooks approved by the Board of Education shall require the publisher to furnish an electronic file of the textbook in the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standards (NIMAS) format that will then be deposited in the National Instructional Materials Access Center (NIMAC) from which accessible versions of the particular textbook may be produced for students with print disabilities, as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1474. Publishers shall deliver the NIMAS file of the textbook on or before the date of delivery of the regular text version.

Contracts and purchase orders with publishers of textbooks approved by the Board of Education for use in grades 6-12 shall allow for the purchase of printed textbooks, printed

textbooks with electronic files, or electronic textbooks separate and apart from printed versions of the same textbook. The Regional School Board may purchase an assortment of textbooks in any of the three forms listed above.

The Regional School Board shall order directly from the respective publishers the textbooks needed to supply the public schools in the school division. The publishers shall ship the textbooks to the Regional School Board. The purchase price of such textbooks shall be paid directly to the publishers by the Regional School Board.

Locally-Approved Textbooks

In approving textbooks that have not been approved by the Board of Education, the Regional School Board will also include a correlation of the content to the Virginia Standards of Learning in the content area and an analysis of strengths and weaknesses of the textbook in terms of instructional planning and support when the textbooks pertain to Virginia Standards of Learning subjects.

The publishers of such textbooks shall

- provide the Regional School Board with certification that the content of the textbook is accurate and
- sign an agreement with the Regional School Board to correct all factual and editing errors found at its own expense.

The purchase of textbooks other than those approved by the Board of Education is not exempt from the Virginia Public Procurement Act.

Adopted: May 15, 2014

Amended: October 18, 2018

Amended: August 19, 2021

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-238, 22.1-241.

Cross Refs.: Pol 7014.1 Purchasing Procedures
Pol 3005 Instructional Materials
Pol 7013 Commercial, Promotional, and Corporate Sponsorships and Partnerships