

AVON GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: CURRENT EVENTS

ADOPTED: April 15, 1997

REVISED: February 22, 2018

119. CURRENT EVENTS	
1. Purpose	The Board believes that 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. All of these practices and processes provide training in these life-long skills, and support students to become informed, aware and engaged citizens.
2. Definition	For purposes of this policy, a current event is defined as a topic on which opposing points of view have been promulgated by responsible opinion and is not expressly enumerated in the course guide as content of the course of study.
3. Authority	Teachers may introduce and utilize current events, provided that their use in the instructional program: <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 balanced presentations and open-mindedness. 4. Is conducted in a spirit of scholarly inquiry.
Delegation of Authority	<p>The Board recognizes that some deviation from the assigned curriculum map may be necessary in the free exchange of the classroom. However, the Board specifies that any discussion of current events in the classroom shall be conducted in an unprejudiced and dispassionate manner and not disrupt the education process.</p> <p>In discussing current events or controversial issues, a teacher may express a personal opinion only if it is designated as such and does not serve to influence or persuade students to her/his point of view. Further, it is the student’s right to:</p>

119. CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Study issues which have political, economic, or social significance on which, at his/her level, s/he should begin to have an opinion.2. Have free access to all relevant information, including the materials that circulate freely in the community.3. Study under competent instruction in an atmosphere of freedom from bias and prejudice.
--	---