

Library Media and Instructional Materials Guide

The purpose of this guide is to inform stakeholders of the opt-out and objection process of library media/instructional materials. The House Bill and Policies mentioned are referenced in the right column.

House Bill HB1069

The bill includes provisions designed to protect children in public schools. The bill includes requirements for age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate instruction for all students in prekindergarten through grade 12.

The bill prohibits district school boards from imposing or enforcing requirements that personnel or students be referenced with pronouns that do not correspond with biological sex as defined in the bill, subject to specified exceptions.

The bill enhances the process for transparency and review of library and classroom materials available to students in public schools and the process for parents to limit student access to materials and make objections to materials. The bill requires the suspension of materials alleged to contain pornography or obscene depictions of sexual conduct, as identified in current law, pending resolution of an objection to the material. A district school board must also discontinue the use of any material the board does not allow a parent to read aloud.

The bill requires that meetings of committees to resolve objections must be noticed and open to the public, and provides an appeals process through a special magistrate.

Each district school board must adopt a policy regarding an objection by a parent or a county resident to the use of a specific material, which clearly describes a process to handle all objections and provides for resolution. The process must provide the parent or resident the opportunity to proffer evidence to the district schoolboard (HB 1069).

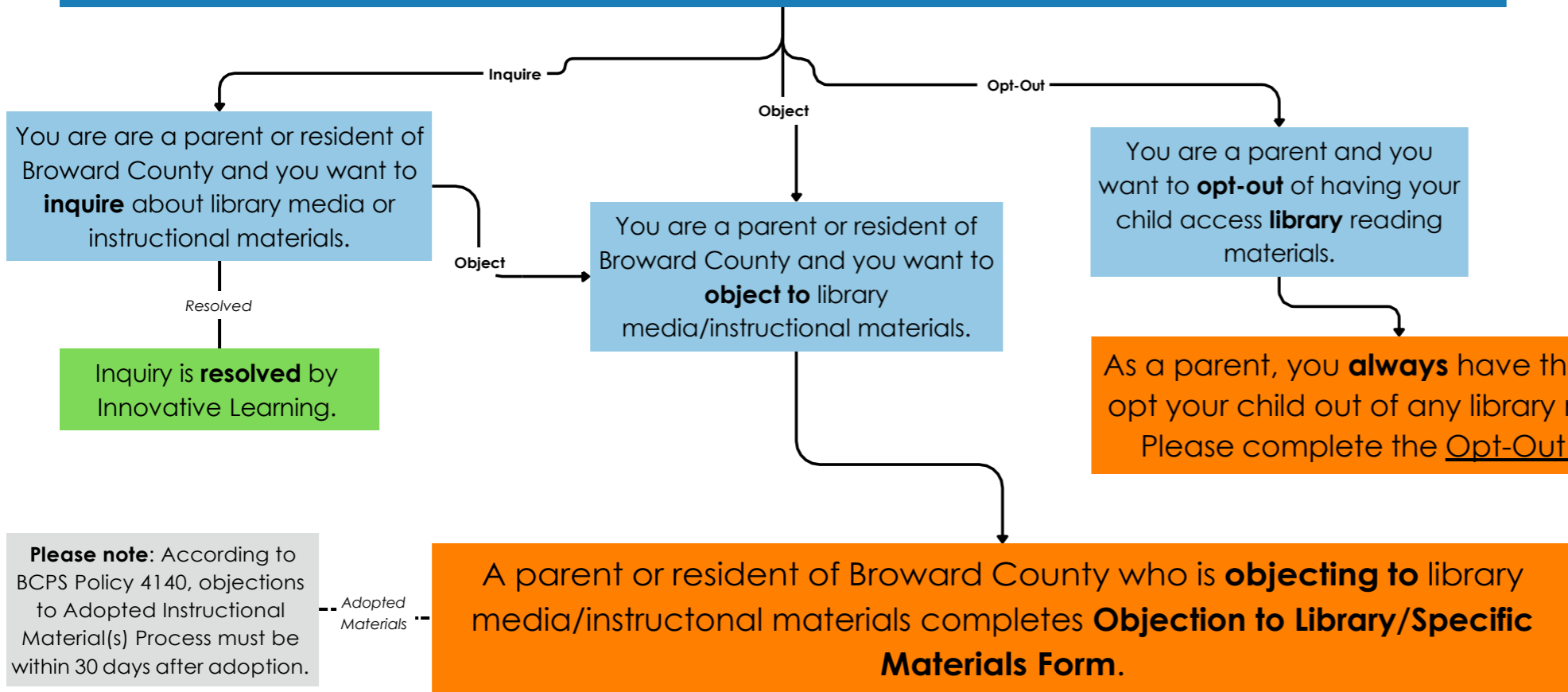
BCPS Policy 4120

Policy 6317 was sunsetted on 9/13/2022 and embedded into new Policy 4120, which aligns with state statutes and the current Library Media Innovative Learning Commons spaces. In addition, the revised policy addresses the objection review process. The newly adopted district policy 4120, confirmed on June 13, 2023, states that the Superintendent establish a committee that will serve as the Superintendent's Review Committee (SRC). This body's implementation and function process is outlined on pages 8 and 9, Section three of Policy 4120. There are three prongs to creating the (SRC) body based on committee membership number, parent representation with currently enrolled student(s) in BCPS, and membership that reflects the cultural and economic diversity of Broward County Public Schools.

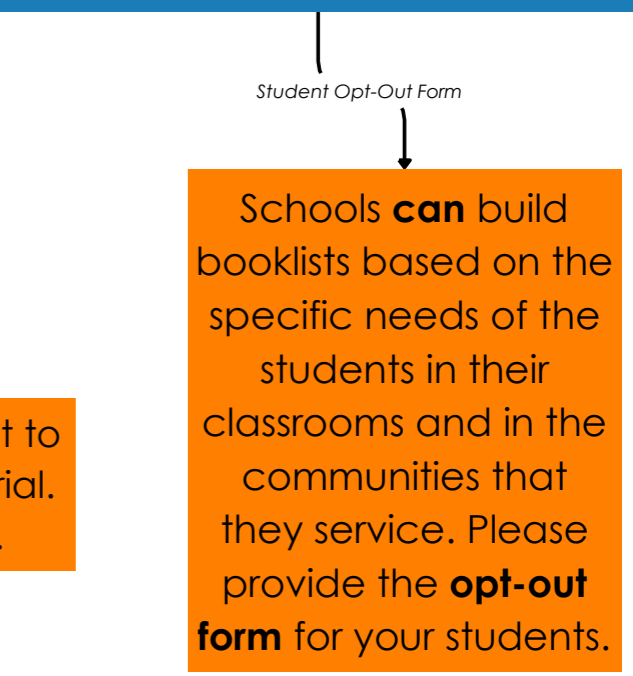
BCPS Policy 4140

Policy 4140 supports the goal of the Board to provide students with the appropriate instructional materials, and equipment, necessary to ensure that each student will be able to pursue a course of study to realize full academic potential. The updated Policy 4140 aligns to State statutes and has been revised to address the objection review process that extends beyond the original 30-day protest period after a new adoption.

Process for parents or residents of Broward County that would like to inquire about, opt-out of, or object library media or instructional materials.



Process for teachers that want to provide supplemental materials for their students.



SUPERINTENDENT'S REVIEW COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Recommended composition of the Superintendent's Review Committee should include the following:

- Superintendent/Superintendent Designee
- The Innovative Learning Director/The Library Media Curriculum Supervisor
 - Elementary and Secondary Learning Directors/Designee(s)
- A principal representative (North, Central, and South areas)
 - A Teacher Representative
 - The School Board Student Representative
- A parent representative (North, Central, and South area); must have a student in Broward County Public Schools.
 - An external stakeholder

Each member represented in this body should be from a diverse social, economic, and/or ethnic background. Each member should sit on this body for a period of no longer than a year. It should be composed of odd numbers.

Appeal Option 2

If the parent/resident disagrees with the district school board on the objection to the use of a specific material, a parent/resident may request the Commissioner of Education to appoint a special magistrate who is a member of the Florida Bar in good standing and who has at least 5 years of experience in administrative law (HB 1069).

Appeal Option 1

If a parent/resident disagrees with the determination made by the Superintendent's Review Committee, then they may request inclusion on the School Board agenda.