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IJ/KEC
IGAHA
IGAHA-R
IGAHA-E-1, E-2**TEACHING CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES**

The Division supports the presentation and discussion of controversial issues at the school level in an atmosphere that minimizes bias and prejudice. Controversial issues are those where there are significant differences of opinion, for which there are no clear answers and which generally elicits strong emotional responses from individuals. Discussion and study of these topics plays an important role in enabling students to examine evidence, facts and differing points of view as well as enhancing critical thinking skills.

It is the teacher's responsibility to be objective and present varying sides of the issue. It is also the teacher's responsibility to ensure that the selection of appropriate learning resources to support the instruction of controversial issues is made in accordance with Policy IJ/KEC Instructional Materials and Resources.

Instruction that involves controversial issues must:

- be under the direction of a teacher who is familiar with the educational goals of the Province and the Division.
- be appropriate for the age and emotional maturity of the students involved
- be consistent with curricular objectives
- provide an opportunity for students to examine all aspects of the issue and evaluate the viewpoints of others with objectivity and impartiality
- occur in an educational environment which provides students with appropriate, relevant, factual, and accurate resources
- support the student's right to form and express personal points of views and opinions while still respecting the rights of others and abiding by the school and divisional code of conduct.

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