

**PORTRAYAL OF VIOLENCE**

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**PREAMBLE**

The Burnaby School Board wishes to promote and contribute to a safe and secure environment for students and the community at large. The district endorses the use of constructive means to resolve conflicts, the presentation of peaceful role models and views education as the means to achieve a peaceful and harmonious human environment.

**POLICY**

**THE BOARD DISCOURAGES THE USE OF MEDIA, ILLUSTRATIVE MATERIAL, OR FORMS OF BEHAVIOUR WHICH PORTRAY VIOLENCE AS ACCEPTABLE. IN THE SELECTION AND PRESENTATION OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, STAFF SHALL CONSIDER WHETHER THE PORTRAYAL OF ACTS OF VIOLENCE MAY CONTRIBUTE TO AN ATTITUDE OF ACCEPTANCE – IN WHICH CASE A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE ILLUSTRATION OR MODEL IS TO BE SELECTED.**

**OBJECTIVES**

1. To promote constructive means of conflict resolution.
2. To counteract and seek to eliminate the use of media that portray violence as an acceptable norm.
3. To support and encourage educational projects and programs that enhance a peaceful harmonious community.

**REGULATIONS**

1. When any member of the staff of a school has reasonable basis to believe that a portrayal of violence has an adverse effect that person may:
  - a. Report the situation, including a description of the portrayal of violence and its potential effect to the principal, or
  - b. Document the situation objectively and propose to the principal, or any other person in a position responsible for the context in question, an alternative or more constructive response than the behaviour being questioned.
2. Principals and staff responsible for the selection of instructional material shall take cognizance of the Board's position on the portrayal of violence and wherever possible

opt for more appropriate material or seek to ensure presentation only in a constructive and appropriate context (i.e., material dealing with war while not edited, can be placed in an appropriate historical and value context).

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Date Adopted: 1990-06  
Date(s) Revised:

Cross References:  
Statutory:  
Other: Policy 5.10, 6.45