

# WALLINGFORD- SWARTHMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: CURRENT EVENTS

ADOPTED: January 22, 2001

REVISED:

119. CURRENT EVENTS	
1. Purpose	<p>The Board believes that consideration of current events has a legitimate place in the educational program of the schools.</p> <p>Properly introduced and conducted, consideration 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.</p>
2. Definition	<p>For purposes of this policy, a <b>current event</b> is a topic on which opposing points of view have been promulgated by responsible opinion and is not expressly enumerated in the course guide as appropriate for the course of study.</p>
3. Authority	<p>The Board shall permit the introduction and proper educational use of current events, provided that their use in the instructional program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is related to the course's instructional goals and the students' level of maturity.</li> <li>2. Does not tend to indoctrinate or persuade students to a particular point of view.</li> <li>3. Encourages balanced presentations and open mindedness.</li> <li>4. Is conducted in a spirit of scholarly inquiry.</li> </ol> <p>The Board recognizes that some deviation from the assigned course guide is necessary in the free exchange of the classroom. However, the Board specifies for the guidance of the Superintendent and staff that any discussion of current events in the classroom shall be conducted in an unprejudiced and dispassionate manner and shall not disrupt the educational process.</p>
4. Delegation of Responsibility	<p>In the discussion of any event, a teacher may express a personal opinion; but s/he shall identify it as such and must not express such an opinion for the purpose of persuading students to his/her point of view.</p>