

TEACHING ABOUT CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

Policy 381

Page 1 of 1

To prepare students to be good, caring citizens, critical thinkers and lifelong learners, it may be necessary for students to study and discuss issues that are controversial. Free discussion of such issues is vital to students' learning.

The educator's responsibility is to present topics and issues in an objective, well-informed manner. The district recognizes that any educator has the right to hold his/her own opinions on an issue and to express those opinions. The educator also has the responsibility to inform students that such expression is solely a personal opinion and not a statement of fact.

When addressing controversial issues, the teacher should take into account the relevance to the class and the maturity level and backgrounds of students.

The teacher who is in doubt concerning the advisability of discussing certain issues in the classroom is expected to consult with the building principal.

LEGAL Sections 115.28(31) Wisconsin Statutes □ 118.01 □ 118.019 □ 121.02(1)(h)
REF.: