

INSTRUCTIONAL SOFTWARE

The Talbot County Board of Education recognizes that instructional software and web-based instructional programs have the potential to enrich the instructional program for Talbot County students.

- I.** Instructional software and web-based instructional programs used in the classroom as support materials or as the primary means of delivering instruction must meet the following criteria.
 - A. All materials must be appropriate for the age level and instructional level of the students who will use them. If rated, the materials must meet the criteria established for instructional media Policy Code 9.19-AR.
 - B. All materials should contain material that directly aligns with the Talbot County Essential Curriculum and the Maryland Content Standards.

- II.** Instructional software and web-based instructional programs should be used as an integral part of the Talbot County Instructional Process. Therefore, teachers should use the following procedures.
 - A. The appropriate curriculum specialist should approve software or web-based programs that are to be used by teachers for intervention or enrichment purposes. The teacher should make clear the instructional objectives the materials meet and the amount of instructional time that the program requires to be effective. The teacher will establish a clear means of evaluating the effectiveness of the materials.
 - B. Programs, both software and web-based, that will be used as a primary means of delivering instruction to whole classes or large groups of students should be reviewed under the same standards that apply to new textbook adoptions.
 - C. Students should know the objective for using the materials and should be proficient in using the materials before being allowed to work independently. Students should complete activities after using the materials that allow an evaluation of the effectiveness of the software or web-based program.

- III.** Teachers who use instructional software or web-based instructional programs should assure that these materials promote diversity and are free of bias and stereotyping of any sort.

-END-