

Article 29A of NC Statute 115C (similar to [this](#))
Policy Prohibiting Age-Inappropriate Books

§ 115C-407.1. Policy prohibiting age-inappropriate books in K-12 schools.

- (a) Not later than May 1, 2026, local boards of education shall adopt, implement, and enforce a written policy prohibiting at all times the presence of any age-inappropriate books by any person in school buildings, in school facilities, on school campuses, and in or on any other school property owned or operated by the local school administrative unit. The policy shall further prohibit the presence of any age-inappropriate books by persons attending a school-sponsored event at a location not listed in this subsection when in the presence of students or school personnel or in an area where age-inappropriate books are otherwise prohibited by law.
- (b) The policy shall include at least all of the following elements:
 - (1) Adequate notice to students, parents, the public, and school personnel of the policy.
 - (2) Posting a highly visible sign in each school library prohibiting at all times the presence of any age-inappropriate books by any person in and on school property.
 - (3) Requirements that school personnel enforce the policy.
- (c) The policy shall utilize the five-point [Universal Book Content \(UBC\) Rating System](#) as a useful national tool to identify which books are age-appropriate.
 - (1) To determine the rating of any book, see the [NCPEP](#) organization's webpage.
 - (2) If a book is not listed, it is assumed to be age-appropriate for all K-12 students.
 - (3) If a school or parent would like to double-check on an unlisted book, they should make a written submission to NCPEP.
 - (4) If a school or parent would like to double-check a listed book's rating, they should make a written submission to NCPEP.
 - (5) Any book rated 4 or 5 shall not be in any school buildings, facilities, or campuses.
 - (6) Any book rated 3 shall not be in any middle-school or elementary school buildings, facilities, or campuses.
 - (7) Any book rated 2 shall not be in any elementary school buildings, facilities, or campuses.
 - (8) For any middle-school school buildings, facilities, or campuses any book rated 2 shall be clearly physically marked on the cover: "UBC 2-Rated Book".
 - (9) For any high-school school buildings, facilities, or campuses any book rated 3 shall be clearly physically marked on the cover: "UBC 3-Rated Book".
 - (10) The terms and conditions herein are intended to be consistent with [G.S. 14-190.13](#) and [G.S. Chapter 114A](#).
- (d) If there are any conflicts with [G.S. 14-190.15](#), the provisions herein take precedence.
- (e) The North Carolina Pavement Education Project (NCPEP) shall work with local boards of education to provide assistance with the implementation of this policy. Nothing in this section, [G.S. 143-595](#) through [G.S. 143-601](#), or any other section prohibits a local board of education from adopting and enforcing a more restrictive policy on the use of age-inappropriate books (or other materials) in school buildings, facilities, campuses, or at school-related or school-sponsored events, and in or on school property.