

CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility for the development, assessment and continuous improvement of the educational program of its schools. To this end, the Board is committed to establishing and maintaining a coordinated curriculum management process that:

- Defines how the district's curriculum is developed and approved;
- Ensures that the curriculum is taught and tested;
- Provides for the ongoing review and evaluation of the curriculum.

For purposes of this policy, "curriculum" means a series of planned instruction that is coordinated, articulated and implemented to result in achievement of specific knowledge and skills, and application of such knowledge and skills by all students.

Curriculum Development

The Board views a centralized curriculum articulated among and between grade levels as essential to an effective instructional program designed to meet the learning standards established by the state and the Board.

The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for the development of a written curriculum designed to meet identified student needs. He shall establish procedures for curriculum development that provide for the effective participation of administrators, teaching staff, students, parents, community members and the Board.

The curriculum shall:

- Comply with state mandates regarding course offerings and essential knowledge and skills.
- Focus on the content standards of each discipline and ensure that what students learn is rigorous, challenging and represents the most important learning for students.
- Provide sufficient flexibility to meet individual student needs at each stage of development.
- Reflect current research, best practices and technological advancements within the disciplines
- Promote congruence among the written, taught and assessed content.

Curriculum Implementation

Implementation of the curriculum rests primarily with the teaching staff. In carrying out this responsibility, the teaching staff shall work to ensure continuity between the written, taught and tested curriculum. The building principal shall be responsible for the management of the implementation of the aligned curriculum at the building level. The building principal shall carry out this management function through activities including analyzing student assessment data; making classroom observations of teachers; and providing opportunities for teachers to discuss and share ideas and strategies.

The district's curriculum for each subject or course shall be communicated to the teaching staff in a written curriculum guide developed annually by the Superintendent or designee. Such guides will provide the necessary information to direct instruction and ensure continuity among and between grade levels. The guides shall also include a description of the essential knowledge and skills for the course, instructional philosophy, appropriate sequence, and correlation of major resources. Curriculum guides shall be made available to parents and community members upon request to promote understanding of district goals and objectives.

Curriculum Review

The Board recognizes the need for and the value of a systematic, ongoing program of curriculum evaluation that includes collecting and analyzing data about student achievement. Such a program is essential to evaluate program effectiveness in each content area and to make judgments about resource allocation. The Superintendent or designee shall develop guidelines to evaluate the instructional program to ensure its continued effectiveness. The Superintendent may conduct pilot programs deemed necessary to the continuing improvement of the instructional program

The Superintendent shall report his findings regarding the effectiveness of the instructional program to the Board periodically and, if necessary, shall recommend changes to the district's curriculum.

Date Adopted: 12/7/04