

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

In order to achieve its annual instructional goals, the Board of Education supports a collaborative approach to district curriculum development. Such an approach must recognize the interrelation of a "core" curriculum and effective instructional processes, as well as interdisciplinary applications and articulation of programs among grade levels.

A "core" curriculum will include basic content area knowledge and related skills, with the realization that such information needs continuous updating. Curricula will also be designed to encourage transferable concepts/skills, including critical thinking skills. The Board is committed to providing district students and staff with appropriate instructional materials to implement curricula.

The Superintendent of Schools shall work with other district administrators to integrate current educational theory and research on curricula design, and successful instructional strategies practiced by comparable districts. Parents and members of the community are also encouraged to provide feedback on district curricula and instruction. The Superintendent will consult with Building Principals, teachers, students and the community to promote a continuing review and upgrading of such curriculum. To this end, the Superintendent shall periodically invite community input which shall be considered in evaluating and revising district curricula.

Curriculum changes shall consider the results of state and local testing/classroom evaluations, reflect minimum state requirements, and address further needs of the community and student population. The Board expects administrators and staff to work together in evaluating the educational program and recommending changes or additions in courses, programs, instructional methodology, and/or staff development activities which are necessary to implement such changes and/or additions.

The Board will receive regular reports on curriculum-related matters, such as instructional programs, the work of curriculum committees, and periodic evaluation of specific curriculum areas. The Superintendent will also be responsible for implementing curriculum studies, including pilot projects, as authorized by the Board.

Ref: Education §§1709(3); 1711(5)

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