

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

The Governing Board recognizes that district-wide desired learnings, benchmarks and performance standards are necessary to clarify for students, parents/guardians and staff what students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level and in each area of study. The Board shall adopt high standards in student achievement that challenge all students to reach their full potential and ensure consistency of expectations among the district’s schools and classrooms.

District standards shall be developed through a process that involves staff, students, parents/guardians and community members. Standards shall be based on an assessment of the skills that students will need in order to be successful in higher education and the workplace, including basic skills, problem-solving abilities and conceptual thinking. Special care shall be taken to ensure the proper articulation of standards among district schools.

District standards shall guide Board and staff decisions regarding the curriculum to be adopted, the sequential courses of study to be offered, and the assessments to be given. Staff shall continually assess students progress toward meeting the standards and shall offer remedial assistance as needed. The standards shall also provide a basis for evaluating the instructional program and, as required by law, for evaluating teacher performance.

While desiring district standards to be specific and comprehensive, the Board does not intend that these standards be so extensive as to describe everything that will be taught in the classroom. Staff shall have sufficient time and flexibility to determine the best instructional methods to use in preparing students to meet the standards.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that district standards are regularly reviewed and updated as necessary in order to reflect changes in skills that will be needed by students and to ensure continuing support for the standards.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

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| 44662 | Evaluation of certificated employees |
| 51003 | Statewide academic standards |
| 51215 | Adoption of standards of proficiency in basic skills |
| 60605 | Adoption of statewide academically rigorous content and performance standards |