

PK-12 Curriculum Council

The tool for articulation is common language, consistency and coherence

Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Learning

Purpose of the PK-12 Curriculum Council

The Curriculum Council is a standing committee charged with supporting the phases of curriculum development, review and renewal. The Council engages in collaborative decision-making to:

- Determine the need for curricular review and renewal
- Review current educational trends and research
- Review and advise on instructional practices and approaches to curriculum
- Review instructional physical and digital resources
- Advise on implementation and communication plans

The Council meets monthly to ensure that all students are engaged in learning through a rigorous, inter-disciplinary, meaningful, yet flexible curriculum designed to prepare them for college, work and the world, inclusive of and aligned with State and National Standards, GPS Vision of the Graduate and critical elements of personal learning.

This document outlines the rationale, roles and responsibilities, and structure for evaluating, selecting, developing, implementing and communicating the curriculum in the Greenwich Public School District. The three key components of this system include:

1. *Curriculum Council*, a standing body of stakeholders representative of the district;
2. *Curriculum Cadres*, charged with carrying engaging in the evaluation, selection, development or renewal based on the specific curriculum phase of development and improvement; and
3. Board of Education Liaisons, elected board representatives as advisors to the council

All work of the PK-12 Curriculum Council supports C.G.S. 10-220, 10-221 and GPS Policies and procedures outlined in policy 6120, 6140, 6141, 6142.

Roles and Responsibilities

Lead roles and responsibilities of each council member

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Membership

Overview of council representation of teachers, administrators, coaches and board members.

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Curriculum Council Organization

Overview of the organization and structure of the council

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2019-20 Calendar

**Curriculum Council will meet at least once a month from
3:30 – 5:00pm**

September 17

October 14

November 12

January 7, 2020

March 10

April 21

May 19

Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities of each Curriculum Council member include the following at any given phase of curriculum development and improvement:

- Serve as a content and process specialist;
- Recommend professional reading materials to members, as appropriate;
- Arrange school visits as needed to research best practices;
- Lead discussion groups around content or instruction as appropriate;
- Seek out specialists, as appropriate, to provide input for professional discussion in the content area,
- Insure the committee incorporates ways in which technology improves instruction in the content area;
- Share responsibility for the timely completion of the products of the committee members, materials/textbook selection, professional learning, and implementation;
- Lead discussion on qualities in text/materials which are needed to support quality instruction;
- Participate in the evaluation and identification of materials recommended for adoption;
- Examine issues related to differentiated instruction.

Curriculum Council Milestones

The 2018-19 Curriculum Council came together to talk through key issues relating to curriculum. Each member provided insight and perspective to support each other and the district. Key decisions were made on new courses for 2019-20 implementation at GHS, reviewed 75 teacher recommended digital tools and resources, and decided to make the national pledge to Go Open and begin the review and use of Open Educational Resources (OER) for multiple grades and content.

All members reviewed the Summer Curriculum Institute Action Plan to advise on the implications for administrators, teachers, students and parents.



Curriculum Council Membership

The representatives of the Curriculum Council should expect to serve on the council for a 2-3-year term. The membership should include:

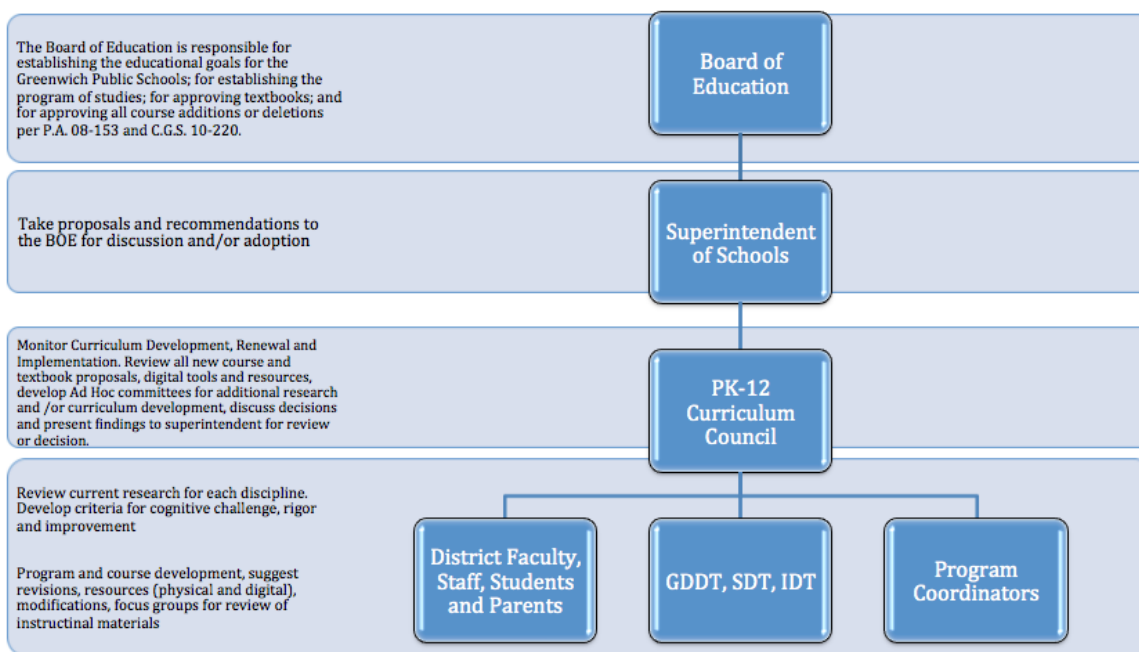
- Teacher representative(s) from each school, with attention to a balance between primary and upper elementary, secondary departments, and specialists (including instructional coaches, SPED, Literacy, ESL and ALP).
- Secondary administrative representation
- Elementary administrative representation
- Special education/PPS administration representation
- PK-12 Program Coordinators
- GHS Program Associates
- Board of Education liaison
- Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction (Committee Chair)
- Director of Education Technology

PTAC Curriculum Chairs to be invited when appropriate

The CAO will serve as chair and lead facilitator of the Council. Membership is strictly voluntary. Membership will be rolling to stagger membership and provide additional opportunities for GPS staff to be members.

PK-12 Curriculum Council Organization

The PK-12 Curriculum Council organizational/governance structure is comprised of four interdependent bodies: Board of Education, Superintendent of Schools, Curriculum Council, and district or school based committees. The key contributions and functions are listed in the chart below. Membership of



The PK-12 Curriculum Council, in partnership with all committees and structures, work to provide feedback, alignment and awareness to the Office of Academics, Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Learning. The school-based teams provide critical insight on implementation and communication needs of GPS Educators.



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