

TITLE School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish broad curriculum, instruction and assessment parameters that align with the district's strategic plan for racial equity and also encompass state and federal legislation and guidelines.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

St Louis Park Public Schools strives to provide an equitable, rigorous, and comprehensive educational experience that is defined by academic standards and implemented through an aligned curriculum for students in kindergarten - grade 12. The school district will deliver the standards and curriculum, in alignment with Minnesota Academic Standards, at identified grade levels through classes and/or courses, using an anti-racist and culturally responsive framework.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Instruction" means methods of providing learning experiences that enable students to meet state and district academic standards and graduation requirements.
- B. "Curriculum" means district or school adopted programs and written plans for providing students learning experiences that lead to expected knowledge and skills.
- C. "Assessment" means multiple tools used to gather information about the student's performance on the standards taught.
- D. "Academic Standards" describes the concepts, processes and skills students will learn and the level to which they must be mastered.

IV. STUDENT PERFORMANCE GOALS

- A. Academic standards will require that all students demonstrate knowledge and skills needed to succeed in a changing global environment. These skills include:
 - 1. reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing in the English language;
 - 2. mathematical and scientific concepts;
 - 3. locating, organizing, communicating and evaluating information and developing methods of inquiry (i.e. problem solving);
 - 4. creative and critical thinking, decision making and study skills;
 - 5. work readiness skills;
 - 6. global and cultural understanding within historical, economic, and geographic contexts.

- B. Each student will have the opportunity and will be expected to develop and apply essential knowledge that enables that student to:
1. live as a responsible, productive citizen and consumer within local, state, national and global political, social, and economic systems;
 2. bring many perspectives, including historical, to contemporary issues;
 3. develop an appreciation and respect for democratic institutions;
 4. communicate and relate effectively in languages and with cultures other than the student's own;
 5. practice stewardship of the land, natural resources and environment;
 6. use a variety of tools and technology to gather and use information, enhance learning, solve problems, and increase human productivity.
- C. School practices and instruction will be directed toward developing within each student a positive self-image and a sense of personal responsibility for:
1. establishing and achieving personal and career goals;
 2. adapting to change;
 3. leading a healthy and fulfilling life, both physically and mentally;
 4. living a life that will contribute to the well-being of society;
 5. becoming a self-directed learner;
 6. exercising ethical behavior.
- D. Students will be given the opportunity to acquire human relations skills necessary to:
1. appreciate, understand, and accept human diversity and interdependence;
 2. address human problems through team effort;
 3. resolve conflicts with and among others;
 4. function constructively within a family unit;
 5. promote a multicultural, gender-fair, disability-sensitive society.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota Students)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.12 (Reading Proficiently no Later than the End of Grade 3)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.30, Subd. 1 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.35, Subd. 3 (Student Academic Achievement and Growth)

Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subd. 8 (Employment; Contracts; Termination)

Minn. Stat. § 122A.41, Subd. 5 (Teacher Tenure Act; Cities of the First Class; Definitions)

Minn. Stat. § 123B.147, Subd. 3 (Principals)

Minn. Stat. § 125A.56, Subd. 1 (Alternate Instruction Required)

20 U.S.C. § 5801, et seq. (National Education Goals 2000)

20 U.S.C. § 6301, et seq. (Every Student Succeeds Act)