

**SCHOOL POLICIES  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 16**

<b>POLICY</b>	603a	<b>Page:</b> 1 of 3
<b>SERIES</b>	600	Educational Program
<b>SUBJECT</b>	603a	Curriculum Development and Instructional Resources
<b>Adopted</b>		April 24, 2001
<b>Revised</b>		May 11, 2004; August 12, 2014; August 15, 2017; October 12, 2021

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for continuous review and improvement of the district curriculum and instructional resources.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

Curriculum development shall be directed toward the fulfillment of the goals and objectives of the school district education program.

**III. RESPONSIBILITY**

- A. The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for the district curriculum and establishing a long-range curriculum development program; for its development and for determining the most effective way of conducting research on the school district's curriculum needs.
- B. The Superintendent shall determine the timelines and schedule for periodic reviews of each curriculum area.
- C. A district advisory committee shall provide input in curriculum review/development at the request of the Superintendent or designee.
- D. The ongoing process of curriculum development will include:
  - 1. Articulation of courses of study from kindergarten through grade twelve, including minimum objectives.
  - 2. Examination of programs, courses, and curriculum for the purpose of evaluating attainment of district objectives.
  - 3. Addressing the specific particular and special needs of all members of the student community and means to monitor student progress.
  - 4. Integration of required and elective course standards in the scope and sequence of the district curriculum.
- E. The Superintendent or designee shall solicit recommendations from professional staff

on textbooks and other instructional resources. Selected textbooks and instructional resources will:

1. support the goals and objectives of the education programs;
  2. consider the needs, age and maturity of students;
  3. foster respect and appreciation for cultural diversity and varied opinion; and
  4. fit within the constraints of the school district budget.
- F. The Superintendent shall keep the School Board informed of state-mandated curriculum changes, as well as major modifications and discretionary changes to the district curriculum. The School Board shall review and approve an overview of curricular studies within the four core areas of English Language Arts, Math, Science, or Social Studies that result in modifications in curricular outcomes and/or adoption of core instructional resources.
- G. The Superintendent shall have discretionary authority to develop guidelines and directives to implement District policy relating to curriculum development.

#### **IV. RECONSIDERATION OF TEXTBOOKS OR OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES**

- A. Interested persons may request an opportunity to review resources and submit a request for reconsideration of the use of certain textbooks or instructional resources.
- B. The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for the development of guidelines and procedures to identify the steps to be followed to seek consideration of textbooks or other instructional resources.

#### **V. RATIONALE**

The School Board recognizes that selection of textbooks and instructional resources is a vital component of the school district's curriculum.

The School Board recognizes the expertise of the professional staff in the recommendation of textbooks and instructional resources.

The School Board recognizes that statute grants it the authority to make final decisions on selection of all textbooks and instructional resources. While retaining that authority, it delegates to the Superintendent, who must operate with a recognized license, the authority to develop and oversee the process.

#### **Legal References:**

Minn. Stat. § 120B.10 (Findings; Improving Instruction and Curriculum)

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

Minn. Rule 3500.0550 (Inclusive Educational Program)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0640 - 3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts) Minn. Rules

Parts 3501.0700 - 3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics) Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800 -

3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900 - 3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1000 - 3501.1190 (Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1200 - 3501.1210 (Academic Standards for English Language Development)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300 - 3501.1345 (Academic standards for Social Studies)

Note: Policy 603a is a merge of the mandatory policy 603 and the non-mandatory policy 606, and replaces both of those policies. Policy 603 and 606 have been, in essence, deleted as individual policies, and replaced with 603a mandatory policy.