

POLICY D23: SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Policy

It is the policy of the Orange Southwest School District (District) to provide students with a broad variety of instructional materials to support individual student learning. As such, instructional practices will include a range of evidenced-based instructional practices that most effectively improve student learning, as required by national and Vermont guidance and locally collected and analyzed student data. Instructional practices will promote personalization for each student, and enable each student to successfully engage in the curriculum and meet the graduation requirements that are aligned with mandated Vermont Standards.^[1]

Implementation

The District shall use the standards issued by the State Board of Education as the basis for the development and selection of curriculum, methods of instruction, locally developed assessments, and the content and skills taught and learned in school.^[2]

The board will ensure the written and delivered curriculum that each school implements the SU/SD's written and delivered curriculum, which will be:^[3]

- a. aligned with the standards approved by the State Board of Education;
- b. coordinated across all grades to prepare students for graduation;
- c. coordinated across the SU/SD, including sending high schools and technical centers;
- d. informed by ongoing review of new research and evidence, changing learning opportunities, and updates to the standards approved by the State Board of Education;
- e. designed to enable all students to achieve the graduation requirements; and
- f. integrated with technology across all disciplines.

¹ See State Board of Education Rule 2120.1

² See State Board of Education Rule 2111

³ See State Board of Education Rule 2120.6 and 16 V.S.A. § 261a(a)(1)

Each school shall enable students to engage annually in rigorous, relevant and comprehensive learning opportunities that allows them to demonstrate proficiency in:^[4]

- a. literacy (including critical thinking, language, reading, speaking and listening, and writing);
- b. mathematical content and practices (including numbers, operations, and the concepts of algebra and geometry by the end of grade 10);
- c. scientific inquiry and content knowledge (including the concepts of life sciences, physical sciences, earth and space sciences and engineering design);
- d. global citizenship (including the concepts of civics, economics, geography, world language, cultural studies and history);
- e. physical education and health education as defined in 16 V.S.A. §131;
- f. artistic expression (including visual, media and performing arts); and
- g. transferable skills (including communication, collaboration, creativity, innovation,

inquiry, problem solving and the use of technology).

Further, each school with a pre-kindergarten early education program shall offer high-quality programs as outlined in State Board Rule 2600.

Administrative Responsibilities

The superintendent or designee will develop procedures addressing access to instructional materials to ensure that each school:^[5]

- a. provides a learning environment with sufficient supplies and infrastructure to allow for learning;
- b. develops, maintains, and expands as needed a collection of print, digital and technology resources, administered by a certified library media specialist;
- c. ensures that the curriculum is supported by necessary digital and print resources;
- d. ensures that students, teachers, administrators and paraprofessionals have access to an organized collection of digital and print materials sufficient and appropriate to support all students in meeting or exceeding the current state and national standards at no cost to the student;
- e. provides students access to the library on a regular basis to use materials for reading, research, and for instruction in the skills needed to select and use information effectively;
- f. provides access to a variety of up-to-date information, assistive, and other technology to support students in meeting or exceeding the standards;
- g. provides broadband Internet service for students and educators to access educational resources;
- h. adopts and implements written policies on electronic resources, acceptable internet usage, and procedures for handling complaints for both staff and students;
- i. supports a schedule that provides opportunities for a library media specialist to collaborate with teachers as they integrate information research skills into their curriculum; and

⁴ See State Board of Education Rule 2120.5

⁵ See State Board of Education Rule 2122.2

- j. ensures that students are afforded the opportunity to learn the skills to locate, evaluate, synthesize, and to present information and ideas within content areas using technology integration.

The superintendent or designee shall ensure the implementation of developmentally appropriate curriculum which is aligned with Vermont's Early Learning Standards in any prequalified public prekindergarten program.^[6]

The superintendent or designee will develop procedures to 1) address the selection of instructional materials within the context of the alignment with mandated state standards and 2) respond to requests for reconsideration of instructional materials. All concerns regarding the selection of instructional materials shall be directed to the superintendent for handling consistent with those procedures.

⁶ See State Board of Education Rule 2606

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<i>Legal Reference(s):</i>	<i>16 V.S.A. §563 (14) (Powers of school boards)</i>
	<i>State Board of Education Rule Series 2000 (Education Quality Standards)</i>
	<i>State Board of Education Rule Series 2600 (Prekindergarten Education)</i>
<i>Cross Reference:</i>	<i>Selection of Library Materials</i>
	<i>Curriculum Development and Coordination (SU)</i>
	<i>Responsible Computer Internet & Network Use</i>