

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education (The Board) considers the oversight of curriculum development, maintenance, and approval one of its primary responsibilities. Curriculum shall be an organized plan of instruction that is coherent, vertically aligned in and across grade levels and subjects according to required state and District-approved standards, not curricular instructional resources and materials. Curricular materials are selected to support the educational plan of instruction, not supplant it. The coherent PK-12 curriculum shall be designed to enable students to meet or exceed state District-adopted academic standards for student performance and to meet the needs of all students with a variety of educational programs and instructional strategies.

Ongoing development, review and evaluation of the curriculum plan of instruction PK-12 is necessary if the District is to meet the academic needs of the students in its schools. The Board expects its staff to regularly review and evaluate the educational program, to recommend modifications of practice, changes in curriculum design, and the addition of new curricular resources/courses to the educational program.

Curriculum development, review and evaluation shall be the responsibility of the District staff.

Curriculum development, review and evaluation shall be guided by such factors as:

1. Studies and information concerning the academic needs of students in the District
2. Current research, theory and proven practices
3. Consideration of achievement results, educational equity, and instructional practices
4. Analysis and alignment to updated District-adopted academic standards

To be successful, curriculum design and development shall be a cooperative enterprise involving District staff, using all available resources. The District may provide opportunities for release of staff to help in curriculum development through such devices as workshops, student groups and assistance from professional consultants. Teachers are expected to participate on curriculum committees and in the process of curriculum development.

After development, review and/or evaluation by a curriculum committee, all revisions resulting in the elimination or extensive alteration of the current curriculum plan of study, programs, or courses, shall be presented by the Superintendent/designee to the Board for its consideration and action.

The proposed curriculum, programs, or courses of study, including the addition or deletion of courses at the secondary level and associated materials, shall be made available to the public in accordance to policy IJJ.

Once an updated curriculum plan of instruction has been designed and approved, schools will be given one school year to transition and make necessary adjustments to current programming and practices to ensure alignment and coherence.

The Curriculum and Instruction Office will be the office that is primarily responsible for maintaining an accurate, current course catalog of all active secondary courses and any inactive courses within the past 5 years.

Applicable approved course additions will be registered with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) within one month of final Board approval.

- Curriculum & Instruction submits applicable new courses and course change information to the NCAA (ncaa.org) after Board approval.
- NCAA will review the course documentation and respond directly to Curriculum & Instruction with its decision.
- The Content Facilitator will coordinate all appeals to the NCAA for unapproved courses.

Authority to approve changes in course coding:

The Curriculum and Instruction Director may direct the revision of course codes, their associated numbering systems, their associated subject and departmental coding, their credit and weighted values, and their descriptions whenever substantive changes are not involved in the curriculum and general course offerings provided to students. Although additions and deletions might be involved in such changes, those changes would only be allowed without the Board's express approval if those changes are primarily intended to simplify, correct mistakes and/or improve data and reporting systems. (Example: the code ABCMath should be changed to MathABC).

Adopted September 1972

Revised January 1985

Revised June 1988

Revised November 1992

Revised March 31, 1993

Revised June 1996

Reviewed January 2010

Revised February 11, 2015

Revised June 14, 2017

Revised February 9, 2022

LEGAL REFS.: 1 CCR 301-1, Rules 2202-R-3.13 (1)
C.R.S. 22-7-1013 (Arts)
C.R.S. 22-7-1118 (Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness-Grad Guidelines)
C.R.S. 22-7-407
C.R.S. 22-32-109(1)(t)

CROSS REFS.: AD, School District Vision, Mission, and Strategic Planning
IHA, Basic Instructional Program
IJJ and IJJ-R, Instructional Resources Selection, Adoption, Acquisition, and Discarding
ILBA, District Program Assessments
ILBB, State Program Assessments

CONTRACT REF.: CSEA Master Agreement