

602.00 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT, INSTRUCTION, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

DEFINITIONS

1. "Instruction" means methods of providing learning experiences that enable students to meet state and district academic standards and graduation requirements.
2. "Curriculum" means district or school-adopted programs and written plans for providing students learning experiences that lead to expected knowledge and skills.

SYSTEMS ACCOUNTABILITY (1)

1. The district will establish a system to review and improve instruction, curriculum, and assessment which will include input by students, parents or guardians, and local community members to meet the Minnesota academic standards. The school district will be accountable to the public and the state through annual reporting.
2. Systems Accountability procedures are intended to ensure student, parent or guardian, and local community member participation in planning for instruction and curriculum affecting academic standards.
3. A district curriculum advisory committee shall provide assistance at the request of the superintendent. The advisory membership shall be a reflection of the community and, to the extent possible, shall reflect the diversity of the district and its learning sites, and shall include representation from parents or guardians, teachers, support staff, students, community residents, and administration.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES (2)

1. Curriculum development and instructional practices shall be directed toward the fulfillment of the goals and objectives of the education program of the school district.
2. The district will establish a long-range curriculum development program that will provide for periodic reviews and continuous improvement of each curricular area.
3. District curriculum adoptions will occur on a staggered schedule for fiscal responsibility and ease of implementation.
4. The ongoing process of curriculum development will:
 - Provide for articulation of courses for students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12;

- Identify minimum objectives for each course and at each elementary and junior high / middle school grade level;
- Use research-based instructional strategies;
- Provide for continuing evaluation of programs for the purpose of attaining school district objectives;
- Provide a process for ongoing monitoring of student progress;
- Integrate academic standards in the scope and sequence of the district curriculum;
- Be multicultural, intercultural, non-racist, non-sex-biased, gender and disability-fair;
- Meet state and federal education requirements.

SELECTION, ADOPTION, AND REVIEW OF CURRICULAR AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS (3)

1. The district will have in place procedures and guidelines to establish an orderly process for the review and recommendation of textbooks and other curricular and instructional materials by the professional staff. Such procedures and guidelines shall provide opportunity for input and consideration of the views of students, parents or guardians, and other interested members of the school district community. This procedure shall be coordinated with the school district's curriculum development effort and may utilize advisory committees.
2. In reviewing curricular and instructional materials, the professional staff shall select materials which:
 - Support the goals and objectives of the educational programs;
 - Consider the needs, ages, and maturity of students;
 - Foster respect and appreciation for cultural diversity and varied opinions; and
 - Fit within the constraints of the school district budget.
3. The district will have in place a procedure for review of concerns or complaints of students and parents or guardians regarding the curriculum or instructional materials used.

COURSE ADDITION, DELETION, REVISION, OR INTEGRATION

1. The district's curricular offerings will have the flexibility for change that may be necessary due to:
 - Increasing or declining enrollment;
 - New direction brought by the school district or school goals, outcomes, and/or mission statement;
 - Refinement / modification of the existing curriculum as a result of the continuous improvement planning process or changes in learner outcomes; or
 - Changes needed to accommodate academic standards requirements.

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION PROGRAM (4)

1. The school district will maintain a program and process of evaluation, including standardized testing, which will provide information about student learning and educational program effectiveness. This process will meet state requirements and provide appropriate feedback about the educational progress of each student to the parents or guardians and to the staff to inform instructional decisions.
2. The assessment and evaluation process will incorporate a plan to evaluate how testing procedures impact any particular student groups.
3. In accordance with state law, the district will annually adopt and publish a test administration plan including the state-mandated tests in accordance with Minnesota law.
4. The school district will assess student performance in elementary, middle, junior, and senior high school academic standards while taking into consideration individual student needs as mandated by state and federal law.
5. The district will establish guidelines and procedures to assess student achievement, formatively and summatively, in all academic areas. The guidelines will address remediation, acceleration, or continuous progress needs for student achievement.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

- (1) Minn. Rule § 3501.0160 District Reporting Requirements
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 Subd 3 District Advisory Committee
- (2) Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 Subd 9 Curriculum
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02b Educational Expectations for Minnesota's Students
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021 Subd 1 and 1a Required Academic Standards
Minn. Stat. § 120B.023 Benchmarks
Minn. Stat. § 120B.024 Graduation Requirements; Course Credits
Minn. Stat. § 120B.10 Findings; Improving Instruction and Curriculum
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 Subd 1 and 2 School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement
Minn. Stat. § 120B.22 Elective Standards
Minn. Rule § 3500.0550 Inclusive Educational Program
Minn. Rules § 3501.0010-3501.0180 Reading and Mathematics
Minn. Rules § 3501.0200-3501.0290 Written Composition
Minn. Rules § 3501.0505-3501.0550 Academic Standards for Language Arts
Minn. Rules § 3501.0700-3501.0745 Academic Standards for Mathematics
Minn. Rules § 3501.0800-3501.0815 Academic Standards for the Arts
Minn. Rules § 3501.0900-3501.0955 Academic Standards in Science

- (3) Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 Subd 9 Curriculum
- (4) Minn. Stat. §120B.11 Subd Biennial Evaluation; Assessment Program
Minn. Stat. § 120B.35 Student Academic Achievement and Growth

20 U.S.C. § 5801 - Purpose

20 U.S.C. § 6301 – No Child Left Behind

CROSS REFERENCES:

- Policy 601.00 Educational Programming
- Policy 602.01 Multicultural, Intercultural, Non-Racist, Non-Sex-Biased,
Gender and Disability Fair Education
- Policy 510.00 Graduation
- Policy 510.01 Students: Promotion and Retention