

Title: Curriculum Development, Implementation and Assessment

Curriculum development is an ongoing process in the Council Bluffs Community School District and consists of research, design and assessment. The research includes the studious inquiry and critical investigation of the various content areas for the purpose of revising and improving curriculum and instruction based on relevant information pertaining to the discipline. This study is conducted both internally, including what and how the District is currently doing at the local level, and externally, including a review of what national standards, professional organizations, recognized experts, and current research say relative to the content area. Curriculum development design includes the deliberate process of planning and selecting the standards and instructional strategies that will improve the learning experiences for all students. The Superintendent is responsible for the curriculum development process and will submit curriculum recommendations to the Board for final approval.

A systematic approach to curriculum development, which includes careful research, design and articulation of the curriculum, serves several purposes:

- Focuses attention on the content standards of each discipline and ensures the identified learnings are rigorous, challenging, and represent the most important learnings for students • Increases the probability that students will acquire the desired knowledge, skills and dispositions, and that schools will be successful in providing appropriate learning experiences
- Facilitates communication and coordination and
- Improves classroom instruction.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for curriculum development and for determining the most effective method of conducting research and design activities. A curriculum framework shall describe the processes and procedures that will be followed in researching, designing and articulating each curriculum area. This framework will, at a minimum, describe the processes and procedures for the following curriculum development activities:

- Study the latest, trends, research, and expert advice regarding the

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content/discipline; • Study the current status of the content/discipline;

- Identify content standards, benchmarks and grade level expectations for the content/discipline;
- Describe the desired learning behaviors, teaching, and learning environment related to the content/discipline;
- Identify differences in the desired and present program, and develop a plan for addressing the differences;
- Communicate with internal and external groups regarding the content area; • Involve staff, parents, students and community members in curriculum development decisions;
- Verify integration of local, state, and/or federal mandates; and
- Verify through assessment how the standards and benchmarks of the content/discipline support each of the broader student learning goals, and provide a K-12 continuum that builds on the prior learning of each level.
- Ensure proposed curriculum complies with applicable laws;

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to keep the Board apprised of necessary curriculum revisions, progress of each content area related to curriculum development activities, and to develop administrative regulations for curriculum development including recommendations to the Board.

## Cross References:

103, 402, 602, 604, 605, 615.

## Legal References:

Iowa Code §§ 256.7, 279.74(HF802)  
279.8, 280.3.14 603.1, 603.2  
281 I.A.C. 12.8(1)(c)(1).

Approved: Apr. 25, 1989

Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised: Feb. 28, 2006

May 11, 2010

May 26, 2015

July 26, 2016

March 24, 2020

December 13, 2022