

Descriptor Term: CURRICULUM DESIGN

Descriptor Code: IDA

Rescinds: IDA

Board Approved: 8/3/2015

Previously Approved: 8/28/2006

It will be the responsibility of the Superintendent of the Gulfport School District to supervise the development of the District curriculum and to submit it to the Board of Trustees for its consideration and approval. The curriculum will comply with all regulations set forth in Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards and all other relevant Mississippi Department of Education documents. It will serve as the basis for implementing the instructional management plan for the District each year.

The curriculum will be research-based, will support best practices, and will clearly define expectations for student learning. The District will ensure that curriculum is designed so that the following are accomplished.

1. the curriculum provides equitable and challenging learning experiences that ensure all students have sufficient opportunities to develop learning, thinking, and life skills that lead to success at the next level;
2. curriculum, instruction, and assessment throughout the system are monitored and adjusted systematically in response to data from multiple assessments of student learning and an examination of professional practice;
3. teachers throughout the district engage student in their learning through instructional strategies that ensure achievement of learning expectations;
4. District and school leaders monitor and support the improvement of instructional practices of teachers to ensure student success;
5. the District operates as a collaborative learning organization through structures that support improved instruction and student learning at all levels;
6. teachers implement the system's instructional process in support of student learning;
7. mentoring, coaching and induction programs support instructional improvement consistent with the system's values and beliefs about teaching and learning;
8. the District and all of its schools engage families in meaningful ways in their children's education and keep them informed of their children's learning progress;
9. the District designs and evaluates structures in all schools whereby each student is well known by at least one adult advocate in the student's school who supports that student's educational experience;
10. grading and reporting are based on clearly defined criteria that represent the attainment of

content knowledge and skills and are consistent across grade levels and courses;

11. all staff members participate in a continuous program of professional learning; and
12. the District and its schools provide and coordinate learning support services to meet the unique learning needs of students.

Reference: SACS-CASI, AdvanceED Standards for Quality School Systems 2011