Merchantville Board of Education 130 South Centre Street Merchantville, NJ 08109	File Code : 6142.12 Adopted : 04/17.1984 Revised : 10/25/2016 Reviewed : 07/15/2024

Career Education

The board of education believes that constructive attitudes and concepts involving the dignity of all kinds of work belong in the curriculum from the beginning grades. Therefore, in fulfillment of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, the board shall develop and implement a comprehensive guidance and counseling system that is designed to provide students opportunities to enhance career awareness, exploration, preparation, and decision-making skills necessary for success in the workplace. The board shall ensure that educational programs shall continuously expose pupils to the nature of the wide variety of careers available. The 21st Century Life and Careers Student Learning Standard shall be infused into the curriculum throughout the grades in age appropriate activities. When any hands-on experience requires use of power tools, etc., all eye protection and other appropriate safety regulations shall be observed.

Career Education and Counseling

The board shall develop and implement a comprehensive guidance and academic counseling program for all students to facilitate career awareness, exploration, and preparation in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.2. This program shall:

A. Be linked to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards;

B. Be infused throughout the K-8 curriculum;

C. Be supported by professional development programs;

D. Take into consideration the American School Counselor Association's National Standards for School Counseling Programs;

E. Provide developmental career guidance and academic counseling linked to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards designed to:

1. Assist students in making and implementing informed educational and career choices, including opportunities to change career focus;
2. Support students' academic attainment, career development, and personal/social development;
3. Develop the student's understanding of the relationship between academic attainment, career development, and personal/social development;

4. Encourage students to create and maintain portfolios consisting of student accomplishments in academic and career oriented work;

F. The board shall ensure that students with disabilities (age 14 or younger), if determined appropriate by IEP, have career and academic counseling coordinated with transitional services in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.7;

G. The board shall develop and implement curriculum and instructional methods that:

1. Are integrated with technological literacy;
2. Provide all students with an understanding of the career application of knowledge and skills learned in the classroom; and
3. Provide all students with the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to real or simulated career challenges.

H. The board will develop and implement for all students a system of career development activities that:

1. Offers the opportunity to explore career interests within, one or more of the Career Clusters (listed below) that are linked to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards;
2. Allows district boards of education to select the appropriate format for offering career-development activities based on district resources, community needs and student interest;
3. Allows the board to select an appropriate delivery format that may include an integrated curriculum based on the New Jersey Student Learning Standards or specialized programs that reflect the needs of students and the community; and
4. Instills the concept of the need for continuous learning throughout one's life.

I. The board shall offer all high school students the opportunity to actively explore career interests by participation in structured learning experiences that are linked to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards:

1. Structured learning experiences should give students opportunities to demonstrate and apply a high level of academic attainment and to develop career and personal/social goals;
2. Interested students may voluntarily select structured learning experiences that are co-curricular or extra-curricular activities and taking place within the school district, at a work site, or in the community;

3. The board shall ensure students participating in school-sponsored, paid, or unpaid external structured learning experiences are supervised by school personnel and conform to federal and state law.

The board directs the chief school administrator or his or her designee to take reasonable measures to expand student awareness of and encourage participation in fields that are non-traditional for their sex, and to expand both access to and success in high-growth fields for both men and women.

Career and Technical Education Programs

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING SECTION IS FOR DISTRICTS THAT OPERATE APPROVED CAREER TECHNICAL PROGRAMS AND/OR SEND STUDENTS TO COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

For purposes of this policy, "career and technical education" means organized educational activities that: offer a sequence of courses that provide individuals with the coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in current or emerging professions; provide technical skill proficiency, an industry-recognized credential, a certificate, or an associate degree; may include prerequisite courses (other than a remedial course) that meet the requirements of this definition; and include competency-based applied learning that contributes to the academic knowledge, higher-order reasoning and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, technical skills, and occupation-specific skills, and knowledge of all aspects of an industry. To ensure that all students have access to career and technical instruction:

A. The existence of the same career and technical education program at this district shall not negate a student's right to apply to and, if accepted, attend a county vocational school, subject to the following limitations:

1. The board shall not be responsible for the tuition and transportation costs of any resident student admitted to the vocational school within this county, when the district's vocational school (pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:54-5 et seq.), offers the same program as the county vocational school where the student has been admitted. A program shall be deemed the same if it is approved by the Department Education and is assigned the same Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code, and meets or exceeds all applicable program performance standards; and

2. The board shall not be responsible for the tuition, transportation costs, and nonresident fee (where applicable) of any resident student admitted to a county vocational school outside this county when the district's vocational school (pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:54-5 et seq.), or the local county vocational school, offers the same program as the non-resident county vocational school where the student has been admitted. A program shall be deemed the same, for purposes of this section, if it is approved by the Department in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:19-3.1 and 3.2, is assigned the same Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code, and meets or exceeds all applicable program

performance standards.

B. The chief school administrator shall allow county vocational schools and their designated representatives' reasonable opportunity, during school hours, to present information about the county vocational schools' programs to students in local districts in grades six through 12. The district may not in any manner inhibit student access to such information.

Career and Technical Instruction

Career and technical instruction shall be designed to prepare individuals:

A. For life skills and paid employment as skilled workers or technicians or paraprofessionals in recognized occupations and in new or emerging job markets;

B. For enrollment in advanced or highly skilled career and technical education programs;

C. For making informed and meaningful occupational choices; and

D. To achieve and combination of the above objectives.

Levels of Performance

The board of education shall meet the levels of performance prescribed by the Department of Education in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:19-5.1, in the following areas:

A. For secondary students, and postsecondary students in two- and four-year institutions of higher education:

1. Academic attainment in reading/language arts;
2. Technical skill attainment;
3. Student graduation rates;
4. Academic attainment in mathematics;
5. Placement-employment, postsecondary education, or advanced training, or military service;
6. Non-traditional student participation; and
7. Non-traditional student completion.

B. For postsecondary students in county vocational school districts:

1. Technical attainment;
2. Credential, certificate, or degree attainment;
3. Placement-employment, further education, or military service;
4. Retention-education, employment, or military service;
5. Non-traditional student participation; and
6. Non-traditional student completion.

All students shall have equal and bias-free access to career and technical education programs and a full range of possible occupational, professional, and career and technical education choices including careers in the science and technology industries and nontraditional careers, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional/sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, pregnancy, disability, English proficiency, immigration status, housing status or socioeconomic status.

The board of education shall strive to make continuous and significant improvement in career and technical achievement of career and technical education students, and levels of performance shall be objective, quantifiable, and measurable. The board shall also identify in the local plans the level of performance targeted for each of the core indicators of performance.

All pupils participating in career and technical education programs supervised by this board or in shared-time programs are considered to be regularly enrolled in the school(s) of this district, and subject to the policies and rules of this board, including rules regarding attendance for those periods when they are not assigned to outside work projects or other classes.

Key Words

Career Education, Career and Technical Education, Technical Education

Legal References:

N.J.S.A. 18A 11-1: General mandatory powers and duties
N.J.S.A. 18A 38-36 Employment certificates to part-time pupils; revocation
N.J.S.A. 18A 40-12.1 Protective eye devices required for teachers, pupils and visitors in certain cases
N.J.S.A. 18A 40-12.2 Rules prescribing kinds, types and quality of devices
N.J.S.A. 18A 54-20: Powers of board
N.J.S.A. 18A 54E-1 et seq: Adopt a School Program
N.J.A.C. 6A 7-1.7 Equality in school and classroom practices
N.J.A.C. 6A 8-2.2 Authority for the State Plan for Career and Technical Education
N.J.A.C. 6A 8-3.2 Career education and counseling
N.J.A.C. 6A 8-5.1 Graduation requirements
N.J.A.C. 6A 9B-1.1 Scope
N.J.A.C. 6A 9B-9.4 21st century life and careers, and career and technical education endorsements and authorizations
N.J.A.C. 6A 9B-11.3 Career and technical education
N.J.A.C. 6A 9B-14.19 Cooperative education coordinator – hazardous occupations
N.J.A.C. 6A 9B-14.20 Cooperative education coordinator

N.J.A.C. 6A 9B-14.21 Requirements for interstate reciprocity
N.J.A.C. 6A 19-1.1 et seq Purpose and scope
N.J.A.C. 6A 19-1.2 Definitions
N.J.A.C. 6A 19-2.1 Administration of career and technical education programs and programs of study
N.J.A.C. 6A 19-2.3 Access to county vocational schools
N.J.A.C. 6A 19-3.1 Program requirements
N.J.A.C. 6A 19-5.1 Performance targets and core indicators
N.J.A.C. 6A 19-5.2 Program evaluation and reporting
N.J.A.C. 6A 19-6.1 Applicability and implementation of safety and health standards for career and technical education
N.J.A.C. 6A 19-6.5 Reporting requirements
N.J.A.C. 6A 19-6.7 Storage of flammable and combustible materials
N.J.A.C. 6A 23A-17.4 Method of determining tuition rates for county vocational-technical schools
N.J.A.C. 6A 26-12.1 Facilities maintenance requirements
N.J.A.C. 6A 26-12.2 Policies and procedures for school facility operation
N.J.A.C. 6A 26-12.5 Eye protection in schools
N.J.A.C. 6A 30-1.1 Purpose and scope

Cross References

3220 - Sample Policy: State Funds, Federal Funds
3516 - Sample Policy: Safety
5142 - Sample Policy: Pupil Safety
5145. 4 - Sample Policy: Equal Educational Opportunity
6010 - Sample Policy: Goals and Objectives
6121 - Sample Policy: Nondiscrimination, Affirmative Action
6141 - Sample Policy: Curriculum Design, Development
6142. 2 - Sample Policy: English as a Second Language, Bilingual Programs