



Capital School District

Board of Education Policy

Section: Instruction
Title: Instructional Program Shared Decision Making
Policy #: 600-05
Date Approved: 12/05/12
Date Revised: 9/19/12

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE:

The primary purpose of the Capital School District education program is to produce knowledgeable graduates, prepared with competitive skills, to become successful, responsible citizens in a global society. The Board of Education is committed to the development of each individual student regardless of cultural or social background, educational experience, or ability. The District recognizes the uniqueness of the individual and recognizes the right of the learner and his/her parent or guardian to give input into their child's education experiences.

OBJECTIVES OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

The District will utilize the state standards and grade level expectations developed in partnership with the Department of Instruction relating to academic achievement and vocational education as a basis for program development. Each school in the Capital School District will develop a school plan with instructional goals and objectives to insure that the curricular goals established by the District are meaningfully developed within each school. A representative team within the school along with parent and community representatives will assist with the development of a school plan and make recommendations for activities and improvements. It is expected that all staff members will, in turn, formulate objectives to be utilized in their classrooms that will assist in the attainment of school objectives and the district's goals.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Since the academic success of all students is contingent on their knowledge and understanding of state standards, all teaching staff is expected to use the state standards, grade level expectations and the District curriculum as the centerpiece for developing goals and objectives for instruction. Teachers may introduce politically, religiously and otherwise controversial material, provided that said material is relevant to the course content and is presented objectively and impartially.

SHARED DECISION MAKING

The Board endorses the concept of shared decision-making in the district and schools. The Policy of the Capital School District in shared decision-making reflects the following:

- The central focus of shared decision-making is the continuous improvement of teaching and learning.
- Shared decision making will be based on supporting data and research.

- Shared decision making is the mutual agreement and practice of the processes to operate the District democratically.
- Those affected by a decision should be involved in making the decision.
- Involvement in shared decision-making may be direct or representative.
- Levels of impact on a decision may range from advisory to direct.
- Responsibility for decisions should be shared in proportion to the level of their impact, depending on whether one's role is as an advisory or a direct decision maker.
- Training may be needed in order for all stakeholders, including the Board of Education, parents, certified and non-certified school employees, community members, and, as appropriate, students, to be effectively involved in shared decision-making processes.