Curriculum Development & Evaluation

Adopted: 12/08/1998 **| Last Revised:** 09/01/2026 **| Last Reviewed**: 09/01/2026

The Board of Education is committed to providing a research-based, sequential curriculum which promotes high levels of student achievement and emphasizes the development of basic skills, problem solving, and decision making. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent or designee, the Board of Education shall adopt a written curriculum which describes, for each subject area and grade level, the content objectives which are to be taught in all district schools.

The district's curriculum shall be aligned with the district's strategic plan in reference to student learning, Board policies, academic content standards, state curriculum frameworks, state and district assessments, graduation requirements, school and district improvement plans, local control and accountability plan (LCAP), and, when applicable, related legal requirements.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a process for curriculum development, selection, and/or adaptation which utilizes the professional expertise of teachers, principals, and district administrators representing various grade levels, disciplines, special programs, and categories of students as appropriate. The process may provide opportunities for input from students, parents/guardians, representatives of local businesses and postsecondary institutions, and other community partners.

The curriculum development and evaluation process shall be coordinated with the process specified in Board Policy and Rule 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials, for selecting and evaluating instructional materials for use in district schools.

When presenting a recommended curriculum for adoption, the Superintendent or designee shall provide research, data, or other evidence demonstrating the proven effectiveness of the proposed curriculum. Additionally, the Superintendent or designee shall present information about the resources that would be necessary to successfully implement the curriculum and describe any modifications or supplementary services that would be needed to make the curriculum accessible to all students.

Any instructional materials recommended by the Superintendent or designee to implement the curriculum shall be factually accurate and reflect the adopted curriculum and standards reflected in Education Code 60200, and be consistent with accepted standards of professional responsibility, rather than advocacy, personal opinion, bias, or partisanship.

Additionally, any textbook or book, instructional material, supplemental material, other curriculum for classroom instruction, or other resources in a school library, shall not be recommended by the Superintendent or designee to implement the curriculum if the use would subject a student to unlawful discrimination as specified in Education Code 220.

Any textbook or other instructional material shall not be recommended by the Superintendent or designee to implement the curriculum if it contains any matter reflecting adversely upon persons on the basis of race or ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, nationality, or sexual orientation, or because of a characteristic listed in Education Code 220, or that violates Education Code 243, 244, 51500, or 60044.

The Board shall establish a review cycle for regularly evaluating the district's curriculum in order to ensure continued alignment with state and district goals for student achievement. At a minimum, these reviews

shall be conducted whenever the State Board of Education adopts new or revised content standards or the curriculum framework for a particular subject or when new law requires a change or addition to the curriculum.

In addition, the Board may require a review of the curriculum in one or more subject areas as needed in response to student assessment results; feedback from teachers, administrators, or parent/guardians; new research on program effectiveness; or changing student needs.

Policy Reference Disclaimer:
These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

Legal References:

STATE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS
5 CCR 4000-4091 School improvement programs
5 CCR 4400-4426 Improvement of elementary and secondary education
EDUCATION CODE
220 Prohibition of discrimination
221.5 Equal opportunity
243 Prohibition of discrimination; instructional materials
244 Prohibition of discrimination; instructional materials
35160 Authority of governing boards
35160.1 Broad authority of school districts
51050-51057 Enforcement of courses of study
51200-51263 Required courses of study
51500-51540 Prohibited instruction
51705-51879.9 Authorized classes and courses of instruction
52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan
60000-60443 Instructional materials
GOVERNMENT CODE
3543.2 Scope of representation
PENAL CODE
11166.5 Employment; statement of knowledge of duty to report child abuse or neglect

MANAGEMENT RESOURCES
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
Content Standards for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade 12
Curriculum Frameworks for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade 12
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICATION
Guidance to School Officials re: Legal Requirements for Providing Inclusive Curricula and Books, Legal Alert, Jan. 2024
CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATION
Instructional Materials Adoptions: State and local governing board processes, roles, and responsibilities, Governance Brief, Feb. 2024
CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Instructional Materials Adoption: Local governing board responsibilities, Fact Sheet, Feb. 2024
State Roles, Responsibilities, and Process for Instructional Materials Adoption, Feb. 2024
Defining High-Quality Instructional Materials for Mathematics to Meet the Needs of English Learners, July 2025
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLICATION
Guidance for Local Instructional Materials Adoption, March 2024
WEBSITES
CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services https://legalservices.csba.org/#

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development http://www.ascd.org/
Association of California School Administrators http://www.acsa.org/
California Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development http://www.cascd.org/
California Department of Education, Curriculum and Instruction Resources http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci
CSBA http://www.csba.org/

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Revised:	06/19/2015 (technical)
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