

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7050 Curriculum Development

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The Board, believing that “student academic achievement” is the number one priority and purpose of the District, hereby adopts this policy.

The administration, with the cooperation of the certified staff, shall develop a comprehensive curriculum Pre-K-12 which is based on valid educational research and which encompasses a philosophy of education compatible with the needs of the student, the resources of the District, and the State of Michigan.

The administration shall evaluate the curriculum of the District in view of the Board’s goals and objectives on an ongoing basis. The findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the staff shall be transmitted to the Board.

Technology

The Board supports the use of technology to enhance classroom instruction. The use of technology should significantly increase the opportunity for the expansion of student reasoning and thinking ability, the improvement of the management and delivery of instruction to all students and other uses in support of the Board approved curriculum.

Resources

The administration is encouraged to utilize available resources in the development of a comprehensive curriculum.

Personnel (Cf. 2560)

The Board encourages the use of District personnel as well as resource personnel from outside the District in the development of comprehensive curriculum and related materials.

Materials

The Board recommends that the administration utilize and develop materials, which will aid in the development of curriculum to be approved by the Board for use in the District.

Financial (Cf. 3200)

The Board encourages the Superintendent to investigate, continuously, the availability of other-than-District funds to defray expenses incurred in the development of a District-wide curriculum.

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Planning

The Board advocates a policy of continuous curriculum study. The Superintendent is encouraged to utilize resource personnel in a manner consistent with Board policies. The Superintendent is also encouraged to use District patrons and students in a manner consistent with these policies.

The Superintendent shall have the responsibility to organize the certified staff in appropriate committees to plan, study, modify, change, or develop a District-wide curriculum.

Research

The administration shall develop a research and evaluation program, which will provide the Board with data to be used in review and enhancement of curriculum. The use of research findings of other agencies, departments, colleges, and universities is encouraged by the Board.

Pilot Projects

The use of pilot projects is encouraged by the Board before District-wide implementation of any curriculum area is initiated.

All instructional material, including teacher's manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary instructional material which will be used in connection with any research or experimentation program or project, shall be available for inspection by the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student engaged in such program or project. For the purpose of this policy, research or experimentation program or project means any program or project in any applicable program designed to explore or develop new unproved teaching methods or techniques.

Unless prohibited from doing so, the administration can take whatever measures are required to ensure the integrity and validity of tests given under the pilot program.

Pilot Project Evaluation

Before any pilot project proposal is submitted to the Board for approval, an evaluation format shall be developed and included with the pilot project. (Cf. 8940 *et seq.*)

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Federal Compliance

To comply with the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act, the Superintendent will, in writing, inform the professional staff of the federal requirements concerning sex education and the prohibitions and restrictions concerning distribution of contraceptives or materials that encourage sexual activities. The District will comply with federal guidelines concerning age appropriate sex education.

The Superintendent will ensure that any programs for English language learner students have a primary goal of mainstreaming those students into the regular classrooms, and that those programs emphasize the acquisition of the English language.

Approved: June 29, 2009

LEGAL REF: 20 USCA 7906 (NCLB); MCL 380.1282

