

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

The District's learning environment shall reflect diverse cultural traditions and contributions so that students may develop a broader knowledge base and have a sense of respect for and tolerance of culturally diverse peoples, their customs, and historic legacy.

The Board recognizes the rights of students in the Grand Rapids educational community to learn within an environment that respects individual differences and cultural diversity.

It is, therefore, the policy of the Board to provide education that is multicultural, gender-fair, and anti-bias. Further, it is the Board's policy to initiate and maintain appropriate procedures, design suitable programs, and provide instructional experiences that:

1. develop academic excellence in all students;
2. foster awareness of and respect for the rights, duties, and responsibilities of each individual as a member of a multicultural, non-sexist, and anti-bias society;
3. promote awareness and appreciation of cultural diversity and competence; and
4. will lead to a more humane and democratic society;

The Superintendent shall:

- (a) Develop a process to include a multicultural perspective into standard curriculum development for all subject areas;
- (b) Develop procedures and guidelines for textbook selection that include multicultural evaluation criteria;
- (c) Whenever possible, develop supplementary and/or text material when commercially available material fails to meet District multicultural evaluation materials;
- (d) Provide training and in-service to expand the knowledge and background of administrative and teaching staff in the use of materials which contain a multicultural perspective; and

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7052 Multicultural, Gender-Fair, and Anti-Bias Education

7052-2

- (e) Provide administrative guidelines to direct the development of a multicultural perspective, monitor student and staff involvement in the process, and assess the results in terms of in-service and materials developed and selected.

Approved: June 29, 2009