

Curriculum Design and Evaluation

Development

The Board shall appoint an instructional design team (IDT) to assess curricular needs, review curricular inclusions, and make curricular recommendations on expansion and improvement. The IDT shall be comprised of Assistant Superintendents for the elementary and secondary schools; Director for curriculum, instruction, teacher development, and assessment (CITA), principal representatives, and teacher representatives including but not limited to staff developers, and instructional coaches as appointed annually by the Superintendent and approved by the Board.

The curriculum shall include all components/subjects mandated by law and shall provide for the needs of all students. The curriculum/curricular programs shall at least contain the following components:

1. Content standards, which shall, at a minimum, be based upon state standards.
2. Performance objectives and assessments, which shall, at a minimum, be based upon state standards. The objectives should highlight core skills and knowledge that the majority of students are expected to acquire. They must provide clear direction to instructors and be concrete enough to allow documentation of student growth.

Curriculum proposals shall demonstrate consistency with the district's mission and education goals, contain a justification for the proposed program, describe conditions and resources necessary to meet performance standards and programming needs, and shall contain an implementation procedure and timeline. Furthermore, because the Board believes in curriculum integration, curriculum proposals should contain an explanation of the manner and degree to which this philosophy is incorporated in the proposed program.

Experimental Programs and Projects

In addition to the appointment of the IDT, in order to foster curriculum development, the Board may allocate a portion of the operating budget through the enhancement process to be used as creative and innovative project funds. Under this program, teaching and administrative staff may propose experimental, pilot, and creative programs and projects via the established New Resource and Pilot Request procedure. The committee shall review such proposals and make recommendations to the Board based on feasibility and suitability. The Board will review recommendations and approve or decline adoption.

Evaluation

Annually, by a deadline established by the Board, the IDT shall complete an evaluation of the current curriculum and submit recommendations to the Board for action. Evaluation will be performed in order to determine the need for modification to or elimination of current curricular programs and offerings and the need for new curricular offerings and programs.

The curriculum committee may use at least the following indicators during this evaluation process:

1. Testing programs such as national standardized general achievement tests, nationally standardized tests in specific subject areas, and tests administered by other agencies;
2. Study of school achievement records;
3. Study of performance assessments;
4. Study of students' dropout records;
5. Utilization of out-of-system services; participation in regional research studies; contracted evaluation services;
6. Teacher and parent evaluation of student achievement and curricular needs;
7. Recommendations by teachers and/or administrators;
8. Evaluation by other agencies.

All board action on curriculum matters will be taken in accordance with the district's policy on curriculum adoption.

The District has adopted a separate procedure related to complaints about instructional material and resources. This policy shall not supersede or govern that procedure.

Complementary Documents

- BBBB, School Board Committees
- GAAB, Curriculum Adoption
- GAAC, Review and Complaints about Instructional and Resource Material
- GAAC-BR, Procedure for Reviewing Complaints about Instructional/ Resource Material