

## INSTRUCTION

### Curriculum Design/Development/Evaluation

Curriculum Development is a dynamic and continuous process by which a school system plans, implements, and evaluates its educational programs. Curriculum guides the teaching/learning process by defining what is to be learned, how it is to be learned, and how the students' understanding of the content will be assessed. Through the use of a well articulated curriculum, teachers are able to ensure that every student will encounter a planned, on-going, and systematic program of instruction. The written curriculum must be a working document that is reviewed on a regular and on-going basis, and modified to meet the learning needs of the students.

The Board of Education will have a planned and systematic process to develop and review curriculum in order to maintain programs consistent with quality standards. In keeping with its responsibility to govern the substance and assure the quality and relevance of the instructional program, the Board of Education will review and take formal action on all recommendations for entirely new services and/or program offerings. Such recommendations will be presented by the Superintendent to the Board of Education, which acts as a Curriculum Committee of-the-whole. The Board of Education recognizes its obligation to oversee the curriculum development/revision process and acknowledges its statutory responsibility to recommend, develop, revise, and approve all curriculums for the school district. The Board will also review and take formal action on all modifications which represent a significant change in the direction for a given program or subject area; which will have an impact on the continuity or coordination of another program or subject area; which will require a substantial increase in resources, either immediately or in the foreseeable future; or which will have high visibility and interest in the public eye.

Responsibility for the specific content, sequence and organizational framework of the curriculum shall rest with the Superintendent and his/her delegated agent(s) on the staff. Principals and staff members in positions of curriculum leadership shall be responsible for keeping the Superintendent, and through him/her the Board of Education, informed of less significant changes as they take place.

To assure that the Board of Education members have a sufficient and appropriate amount of time to understand, consider and discuss programs and/or subject area curriculums following a presentation, action will not be requested to approve/adopt until the next regular meeting after it is presented to them.

In order to assure the Board of Education is in a position to make informed decisions about the curriculum, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Superintendent shall meet by September 1 annually for the purpose of establishing curriculum goals for the school year. Said goals will be shared with the Board of Education annually at the regular September Board of Education meeting. The Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Superintendent shall meet by February 1 each year for the purpose of formally reviewing progress being made toward achieving the curriculum goals. The update will be shared with the Board of Education at the February Board of Education meeting. The Director of Curriculum and Instruction and the Superintendent shall meet by May 15 each year to review progress made toward achieving the curriculum goals and to draft curriculum goals for the next school year. The update will be shared with the Board of Education at the regular June Board of Education meeting. The draft goals will be formalized when the Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Superintendent meet by September 1.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

- 10-16b Prescribed courses of study.
- 10-16c et seq. re family life education.
- 10-17 English language to the medium of instruction.
- 10-17 et seq. Bilingual education.
- 10-17 Course in United States history, government and duties and responsibilities of citizenship.
- 10-18a Contents of textbooks and other general instructional materials.
- 10-18b et seq. Firearms safety program.
- 10-19 Effect of alcohol, nicotine or tobacco and drugs to be taught. Training of personnel. Evaluation of programs by alcohol and drug abuse commission and department of education.
- 10-19a et seq. re Substance abuse prevention team.
- 10-24 Course in motor vehicle operation and highway safety.
- 10-21 et seq. Vocational education and cooperation with business.
- 10-220 Duties of boards of education as amended by PA 08-153
- 10-221a High School graduation requirements

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