

**DISTRICT CODE: 603
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

Policy reflects Minnesota statute and aligns with other District 270 policies.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for continuous review and improvement of the school curriculum as defined in Policy 601.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Curriculum development shall be directed toward the fulfillment of the goals and objectives of the education program of the School District. Local, State, and National Standards shall be used to guide curriculum development.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The superintendent or designee shall be responsible for curriculum development and for determining the most effective way of conducting research on the School District's curriculum needs and establishing a long range curriculum development program. Timelines shall be determined by the superintendent or designee that will provide for periodic reviews of each curriculum area.
- B. The Education Services Advisory Committee (ESAC) shall provide assistance at the request of the superintendent or designee in reviewing curricular, instruction, and assessment concerns and development. ESAC membership will reflect the diversity of the community and, to the extent possible, shall include parents, students, designated certified professional staff, and community residents.
- C. Within the ongoing process of curriculum development, the Teaching, Learning, and Assessment departments shall:
 - 1. Provide for articulation of courses of study from kindergarten through grade twelve.
 - 2. Identify standards and benchmarks at each elementary grade level and secondary course.

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3. Provide for continuing evaluation of programs for the purpose of attaining school district objectives.
 4. Develop/select curriculum that enables all students to affirm their own cultural roots, value diversity, and respect persons of different backgrounds in order to prepare students for citizenship in a global society.
 5. Use assessment data to monitor student progress and to guide instruction.
 6. Integrate required and elective course standards and graduation requirements in the scope and sequence of the district curriculum.
 7. Meet requirements of all local Board Policies, and comply with all federal and state academic practices and requirements established by law.
 8. Provide ways to meet the special needs of all members of the student community.
 9. Use scientifically based educational research to inform and guide changes to existing curriculum.
 10. Evaluate and allocate resources based on financial feasibility and cost effectiveness.
 11. Develop a local literacy plan to have every child reading at or above grade level no later than the end of grade 3, including English learners, and teachers providing comprehensive, scientifically based reading instruction consistent with law.
- D. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent or designee to inform the School Board of all state-mandated curriculum changes, as well as to periodically present recommended discretionary modifications for School Board review and approval.
- E. The superintendent or designee shall have discretionary authority to develop guidelines and directives to implement school board policy relating to curriculum development.

Approved: April 1987

Revised: January 22, 2004

Revised: November 3, 2005, April 28, 2011, October 13, 2015, December 18, 2018