

## CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The Board of Education encourages and supports professional staff investigation of innovative curriculum, improved instructional strategies, and efforts to develop and improve programs.

The Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services shall be responsible to the Superintendent of Schools for leading efforts in the areas of curriculum, instruction, and staff development. The Assistant Superintendent shall work with other district administrators to integrate current educational theory and research on curricula design, and successful instructional strategies practiced by comparable districts. Teachers and program directors are directed to use state syllabi, supplemental materials and handbooks for general curricular guidelines; however, the Board encourages instructional staff to create individualized, flexible curriculum guides and original instructional materials. Such materials shall reflect a sensitivity to district students, their concerns, learning styles, and changing developmental abilities/needs.

Parents and members of the community are also encouraged to provide feedback on district curricula and instruction. The Superintendent will consult with Building Principals, teachers, students and the community in order to promote a continuing review and upgrading of such curriculum. To this end, the Superintendent shall periodically invite community input which will be considered in evaluating and revising district curricula.

Curriculum changes will take into consideration the results of state and local testing/classroom evaluations, reflect at a minimum the requirements of the state, and address further needs of the community and student population. No basic course of study shall be eliminated or new courses added without the approval of the Board, nor shall any significant alteration or reduction of a course of study be made without such approval.

The Board expects administrators and staff to work together in evaluating the educational program and recommending changes or additions in courses, programs, instructional methodology, and/or staff development activities which are necessary to implement such changes and/or additions.

At its meetings, the Board will hear regular reports on curriculum-related matters, such as instructional programs, the work of curriculum committees, and periodic evaluation of specific curriculum areas. The Superintendent will also be responsible for implementing curriculum studies, including pilot projects, as authorized by the Board.

Ref: Education Law §§1709(3); 1711(5)

Adoption date: June 4, 2002

Effective: July 1, 2002