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7050 Curriculum Development (Cf. 5140)

7050

The Board, believing that “student academic achievement” is the number one priority and purpose of the District, hereby adopts this policy.

The administration, with the cooperation of the certified staff, shall develop a comprehensive curriculum K-12 which is based on valid educational research and which encompasses a philosophy of education compatible with the needs of the student, the resources of the District, and the State of Michigan.

The administration shall evaluate the curriculum of the District in view of the Board’s goals and objectives on a periodic basis. The findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the staff shall be transmitted to the Board.

Technology

The Board supports the use of computers and related technology to enhance classroom instruction. The use of computers and related technology should significantly increase the opportunity for the expansion of student reasoning and thinking ability, the improvement of the management and delivery of instruction to all students and other uses in support of the Board approved curriculum.

Resources

The administration is encouraged to utilize any available resource in the development of a comprehensive curriculum.

Distance Learning

The administration is encouraged to explore the possibilities of various "distance learning" instructional tools to enhance the curricular offerings of the District including, but not limited to: Teleconferencing, web based instruction, satellite transmissions, and interactive CD-ROM's. Any such distance learning efforts will be appropriately piloted before being incorporated into the curriculum on a regular basis. All distance learning efforts will comply with applicable collective bargaining agreements.

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7050 Curriculum Development (Cf. 5140)

7050-2

Personnel (Cf. 2560, 1220)

The Board encourages the use of District personnel as well as resource personnel from outside the District in the development of comprehensive curriculum and related materials.

Materials

The Board recommends that the administration utilize and develop materials, which will aid in the development of curriculum to be approved by the Board for use in the District.

Financial (Cf. 3200)

The Board encourages the Superintendent to investigate, continuously, the availability of other-than-District funds to defray expenses incurred in the development of a District-wide curriculum.

Planning

The Board advocates a policy of continuous curriculum study. The Superintendent is encouraged to utilize resource personnel in a manner consistent with Board policies. The Superintendent is also encouraged to use District patrons and students in a manner consistent with these policies.

The Superintendent shall have the responsibility to organize the certified staff in appropriate committees to plan, study, modify, change, or develop a District-wide curriculum.

Research

The administration shall develop a research and evaluation program, which will provide the Board with data to be used in the development of curriculum areas. The use of research findings of other agencies, departments, colleges, and universities is encouraged by the Board.

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7050 Curriculum Development (Cf. 5140)

7050-3

Pilot Projects

The use of pilot projects is encouraged by the Board before District-wide implementation of any curriculum area is initiated.

All instructional material, including teacher's manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary instructional material which will be used in connection with any research or experimentation program or project, shall be available for inspection by the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student engaged in such program or project. For the purpose of this policy, research or experimentation program or project means any program or project in any applicable program designed to explore or develop new unproved teaching methods or techniques.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the administration can take whatever measures are required to ensure the integrity and validity of tests given under the pilot program.

Pilot Project Evaluation

Before any pilot project proposal is submitted to the Board for approval, an evaluation format shall be developed and included with the pilot project proposal. (Cf. 8940 *et seq.*)

Federal Compliance

To comply with the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act, the Superintendent will, in writing, inform the professional staff of the federal requirements concerning sex education and the prohibitions and restrictions concerning distribution of contraceptives or materials that encourage sexual activities. The District will comply with federal guidelines concerning age appropriate sex education.

The Superintendent will ensure that any programs for limited-English proficient (LEP) students have a primary goal of mainstreaming those students into the regular classrooms, and that those programs emphasize English language instruction.

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7050 Curriculum Development (Cf. 5140)

7050-4

Curriculum Adoption

No course of study shall be eliminated or new course added without approval of the Board, nor shall any basic alteration or reduction of a course of study be made without such approval.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: 20 USCA 7906 (NCLB); MCL 380.1282

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7050-R Curriculum Development

7050-R

The administration shall have the responsibility to seek out available resources for use by the certified staff in the development of District-wide curriculum.

Personnel (Cf. 2560, 1220)

The Superintendent shall submit to the Board the proper budget requests for payment of fees and honorariums for the use of resource personnel at a reasonable time before the services of such personnel are utilized by the District.

Research

The Superintendent may budget for educational research and evaluation programs, accelerate implementation of such programs, encourage evaluation of technological advances in education, support the use of tools or techniques to enhance the teacher's effectiveness or productivity, and develop a reasonably detailed budgeting system that includes periodic reviews designed to assist the Board in policy planning and general oversight of the operation of the curriculum in the District.

Pilot Projects

The Superintendent is encouraged to investigate the availability of outside funds to be used in financing any pilot project in the District.

Where feasible, and prior to the full-scale adoption of such programs, innovative instructional programs may undergo pilot testing so that it may be understood how they may function fully. Programs approved for pilot testing by the Board may:

1. Be planned to extend over a specific period of time, after which the extension or continuation of the program shall take positive Board action;
2. Include a detailed description of the evaluative procedures to be used in order to determine the effectiveness and/or success of the program;
3. Provide for an updating procedure to keep the Board informed of its progress; and
4. Provide for a plan of public information in order that the public may be aware of the program, its purpose, and its progress.

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7050-R Curriculum Development

7050-R-2

Pilot Project Evaluation

The administration will develop evaluation instruments to be used in any pilot project. Such instruments may include, but shall not be limited to, the following areas: type and form of data to be gathered; personnel to be used in the project; anticipated costs of the project; anticipated input in terms of hardware and software; anticipated outcomes in terms of student productivity, student achievement, teacher utilization and productivity, building use, non-certified staff use; and standard tests to be administered, if any.

Curriculum Adoption

The administration shall submit plans for changes in the curriculum, to an appropriate Board committee for study, and any recommendations of said committee shall be presented to the Board for action.

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7052 Multicultural Education

7052

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 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 guidelines for comprehensive and accurate instructional material;
- (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;
- (e) Determine the impact of curricular materials with a multicultural perspective on student knowledge, appreciation, and respect for their own and others' cultures; and
- (f) 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 17, 2010

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7052-R Multicultural Education

7052-R

The prime responsibility for ensuring multicultural experiences within each school rests with the building Principal who will set the tone for acceptance of diverse populations as well as monitor the presentations of teachers and their classroom settings as they relate to multicultural issues. The Principal will further serve as a contact for providing resource persons and materials to the teaching staff.

Multicultural activities should be taught in an interdisciplinary manner, incorporating the activities into existing curricular activities. Classroom activities and displays of instructional materials should represent groups that exist in the classroom as well as groups not represented within the class.

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7060 Curriculum Guides and Course Outlines

7060

The Board approves the curriculum, which is designed to accomplish the mission and goals of the District. Every course shall have a written curriculum guide or course outline based upon the mission and goals and the Michigan Curriculum Framework and Grade Level Content Expectations/High School Content Expectations.

Approved: June 17, 2010
LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1282

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7060-R Curriculum Guides and Course Outlines

7060-R

Curriculum guides and course outlines shall be based on the following criteria:

1. A challenging academic program shall be provided for all students,
2. Courses of study shall be articulated from kindergarten through twelfth grade,
3. Minimum objectives shall be identified for each course and subject, and at the elementary level shall be identified by grade level,
4. Enrichment and supplemental objectives appropriate for all students shall be identified for each course and subject, and
5. Procedures and materials for evaluating the attainment of learning objectives shall be provided.
6. Support the Michigan Curriculum Framework and Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE's)/High School Content Expectations (HSCE's).

The administration shall monitor the use and effectiveness of the District's curriculum and recommend to the Board necessary revisions and modifications.

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7110 Core Curriculum

7110

The Board shall establish and periodically reconsider the core curriculum for the District. Any new course offered in the District should be approved by the Superintendent, and shared with the Board, in advance of the school year in which the courses are to become operative.

Elementary Program

The District's elementary grades are established as grades K - grade 5.

Core Curriculum

The core curriculum in the District's elementary school(s) or magnet school(s) is comprised of the following subject areas: Math, Reading, Social Studies and Science.

Supplemental Curriculum

The Board shall supplement the elementary core curriculum by providing instruction in the following areas as the financial resources of the District permit: Art, Music, and Physical Education.

Evaluation

The Superintendent shall develop an evaluation process to ensure that the measurable performance objectives are achieved by the District's students based on the Michigan Curriculum Framework and Grade Level Content Expectations.

Middle/Junior High School

The District's middle/junior high school grades are established as grades 6 through 8.

Core Curriculum

The core curriculum in the District's middle/junior high school and/or magnet school(s) is comprised of the following subject areas: English, Math, Social Studies, and Science.

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7110 Core Curriculum

7110-2

Supplemental Curriculum

The Board shall supplement the middle/junior high school core curriculum by providing instruction in the following areas as the financial resources of the District permit: Fine Arts, Foreign Language, and Technology.

Evaluation

The Superintendent shall develop an evaluation process to ensure that the measurable performance objectives are achieved by the District's students based on the Michigan Curriculum Framework and Grade Level Content Expectations.

Senior High School

The District's senior high school(s) grades are established as grades 9 through 12.

Core Curriculum

The core curriculum in the District's senior high school(s), alternative school(s), and/or magnet school(s) is comprised of the following subject areas: English, Math, Social Studies, and Science.

Supplemental Curriculum

The Board shall supplement the high school core curriculum by providing instruction in the following areas as the financial resources of the District permit: (See the senior high school course catalog for supplemental curriculum courses.)

Evaluation

The Superintendent shall develop an evaluation process to ensure that the measurable performance objectives are achieved by the District's students based on the Michigan Curriculum Framework and the High School Content Expectations.

Co-curricular Activities

Co-curricular activities should be used as a means of developing a wholesome attitude and good human relations, as well as knowledge and skills.

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7110 Core Curriculum

7110-3

The Board supports such co-curricular activities and may attempt to make them available on a voluntary basis to all students. The purpose of such activities shall be compatible with the Board's curriculum goals, District and school mission.

Each school, under the direction of the Principal and subject to approval by the Superintendent, may place a co-curricular activities program, suited to the needs of the students, in that particular building. Parent(s)/Guardian(s), students and faculty should be utilized in determining the type and range of activities to be offered.

Participation in co-curricular activities is considered a privilege, carrying with it the responsibility of good behavior in school. Failure on the part of any student to meet this responsibility renders him/her liable to suspension from representing the school, participating in the activity, and/or holding class organizational office.

The building level administrators, subject to approval by the Superintendent, shall be responsible for the organization of all student activities and shall provide adequate supervision, administer student finances, and approve all student activities with the assistance of delegated members of the faculty.

In planning the program of activities, the Superintendent and staff shall take into consideration the breadth of activities offered through other community organizations.

Approval

All new co-curricular activities and organizations shall be approved by the building Principal and/or Superintendent. Activities, which may require the expenditure of general school funds, shall require Board approval.

Evaluation

Each activity shall be evaluated at least annually to determine if its purposes are being fulfilled and if it is meeting the needs of the students of that particular building.

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7110 Core Curriculum

7110-4

Student Funds

Funds remaining in accounts of student organizations, which have been inactive for one year, or in accounts of classes, which have been graduated for one year, shall be transferred by the Board to accounts of other co-curricular organizations or to the particular building's student fund or transferred as directed by the building Principal.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 257.811; 380.1151-1153; 380.1155; 380.1157; 380.1166; 380.1169-1170; 380.1278; 380.1282; 380.1289; 380.1316; 380.1502; 380.1506; 380.1507; 388.1761; 380.1804; 380.1806; 380.1813 (Homebound and Hospitalized); R 325.1-52; 325.898; 325.1491 and 388.301-399; OAG, 1977-1978, No 5291, p 420 (April 12, 1978); OAG, 1979-1980, No 5659, p 648 (February 28, 1980)

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7110-R Core Curriculum

7110-R

Work-Study Programs

Participation by students in a work-study program will be handled by the administration on an individual basis.

Co-curricular and Extracurricular Activities

The Principal shall coordinate the extracurricular program or designate a staff member to assume this responsibility.

All new extracurricular activities shall be approved by the building Principal and recommended to the Superintendent for his/her approval. All recommendations to the Superintendent shall include a statement of purpose of the activity, potential membership to be served, and potential financial obligations, which the Board might have to assume from general school funds.

A faculty sponsor shall be appointed for each activity within the provisions of the master agreement.

Membership and participation in all activities shall be voluntary and limited to students enrolled in the schools. Students shall have the right to participate in all extracurricular activities without discrimination.

Activities sponsored by outside agents shall be carefully reviewed and approved by the Superintendent for participation if they are co-sponsored by the school. Secondary Principals must be certain that such outside-sponsored activities do not conflict with standards and criteria established by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

Every effort should be made to keep extracurricular activities from unduly interfering with the regularly scheduled school day and to provide a balanced program of appropriate academic studies and activities for each student.

The administration shall develop rules and regulations covering extracurricular activities in individual buildings. Such rules shall list responsibilities of students and advisors or chaperones.

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7110-R Core Curriculum

7110-R-2

All activities sponsored by school groups must be adequately supervised and all Board policies and administrative regulations regarding student and teacher conduct, use of facilities, use of transportation, and all other applicable policies and regulations shall be followed.

Homebound Instruction

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) shall request homebound instruction from the Superintendent or designee. An application form will be forwarded to the family physician for his/her recommendation and signature.

The application is then returned to the Superintendent and the Superintendent obtains a teacher for the student.

The Superintendent then notifies the Principal of the building in regard to the status of the student and supplies him/her with the name of the homebound teacher.

The Principal then notifies the student's teacher and supplies the teacher with the student's status and the name of the homebound teacher.

The re-entering of the student to regular classes discontinues the homebound instruction.

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7115 Sex Education

7115

Pursuant to state law, sex education may be provided by the District but must be an elective class. In order to offer this instruction, a Sex Education Advisory Board must be established. Students will not be permitted to take the class unless the student's parent/guardian is notified in advance of the course and its contents, is given an opportunity to review course materials, is allowed to observe the instruction, and is notified of the right to have the student excused from the class. (See "Parent/Guardian Notification" below.)

Sex Education Advisory Board

The Sex Education Advisory Board (hereinafter "Advisory Board") shall recommend materials and methods to the Board of Education in compliance with current statutory requirements as defined in MCL 380.1507. All instruction and materials shall be age-appropriate and medically accurate. Prior to the adoption of any revision to materials or methods of instruction in sex education, the Board of Education shall hold two public hearings. The hearings shall be held at least 1 week apart and shall be posted pursuant to MCL 380.1201.

The Advisory Board shall minimally include the constituencies described in 380.1507(5) (parents/guardians, educators, pupils, clergy, and community health professionals.) One half of the members shall be parents/guardians who have at least one child attending a school operated by the District, and a majority of those parent/guardian members shall be individuals not employed by a school District. The Board of Education shall recommend a process for selecting Advisory Board members that reflects, reasonably, the District population. One of the co-chairs leading the Advisory Board shall be a parent/guardian.

The Advisory Board must establish goals and objectives for pupil knowledge and skills designed to reduce rates of sexual activity, pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, review materials and methods and make implementation recommendations to the Board of Education.

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7115 Sex Education

7115-2

The recommendations shall incorporate the required content of MCL 380.1507b and such other material as the Advisory Board finds to be pedagogically sound. It is recommended that the District align the curriculum to the content recommendations in the State Board of Education Policy to Promote Health and Prevent Disease and Pregnancy (September 2003). Every two years, the Advisory Board shall evaluate, measure, and report upon attainment of the goals and objectives. The report shall be made available to the parents/guardians of the District.

To comply with the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act and Michigan Statutes, the Superintendent will, in writing, inform the professional staff of the federal requirements that apply to sex education and the prohibitions and restrictions covering distribution of contraceptives or materials that encourage sexual activities. The District will comply with federal and state guidelines concerning age appropriate sex education.

Parent/Guardian Notification

Sex education is not to be provided to any student under the age of 18 unless the parent/guardian is notified in advance of the instruction and the content of the instruction. Parents/Guardians are to be given an opportunity to review materials to be used and to have their child excused from the instruction by filing an annual or continuing written notice that the child is to be excused from the class. If a parent/guardian files a continuing written notice to exclude their child from sex education classes, present or future, the student shall not be enrolled in a sex education class at any time unless the parent/guardian submits a new, written authorization for that enrollment.

Any student is to be excused without penalty or loss of academic credit, from attending class sessions in which the instruction is provided.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1282; 380.1507; 380.1507b; 380.1169; 388.1506; 380.1766; 388.1766a; 20 USCA 7906 (NCLB); State Board of Education Policy to Promote Health and Prevent Disease and Pregnancy (September 2003.)

Section 7000 – Instructional Program

7115-R Sex Education

7115-R

The Sex Education Advisory Board shall establish program goals and objectives and ensure that materials and instruction in sex education emphasize abstinence and are age-appropriate and medically accurate, and that the curriculum:

- A. Discusses the benefits of abstaining from sex until marriage and the benefits of ceasing sexual activity if the pupil is currently sexually active,
- B. Includes a discussion of the possible emotional, economic, and legal consequences of sex,
- C. Stresses that unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases are serious possibilities of sex that are not preventable fully except by abstinence,
- D. Advises pupils of the laws pertaining to their responsibility as parents/guardians to children born in and out of wedlock,
- E. Ensures that pupils are not taught in a way that condones the violation of the laws of this state pertaining to sexual activity,
- F. Teaches pupils how to say “no” to sexual advances and that it is wrong to take advantage of, harass, or exploit another person sexually,
- G. Teaches refusal skills and encourages pupils to resist pressure to engage in risky behavior,
- H. Teaches that the pupil has the power to control personal behavior. Pupils shall be taught to base their actions on reasoning, self-discipline, a sense of responsibility, self-control, and other ethical considerations such as respect for self and others,
- I. Provides instruction on healthy dating relationships and on how to set limits and recognize a dangerous environment,
- J. Provides information for pupils about how young parents can learn more about adoption services and about the provisions of the safe delivery of newborns law, and

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7115-R Sex Education

7115-R-2

- K. Includes information clearly informing pupils that having sex or sexual contact with an individual under the age of 16 is a crime punishable by imprisonment and that one of the other results of being convicted of this crime is to be listed on the sex offender registry on the Internet for up to 25 years.

Parent/Guardian Notification

The District will provide appropriate written notification of the sex education class to be provided to their child. This notification will inform the parent/guardian of the written notification they should submit to the building Principal if they wish to direct that their child not be enrolled in a sex education class.

Complaint Process

Pursuant to MCL 388.1766a, a parent or guardian of a pupil who believes that the District has violated specific laws that govern HIV or sex education (380.1169; 380.1506; 380.1507; 388.1766a) may file a written complaint with the Superintendent or chief administrator of the District. The written complaint must set forth specifically the nature of the alleged violation and the facts upon which the complaint is based. The Superintendent must investigate and provide, within 30 days of the complaint, a written report of her/his findings to the complainant. If violations are discovered the written report shall describe each violation and set forth the corrective action that will be taken to ensure that there are no further violations. A complainant who believes, based upon the report, that the District still does not comply with the law may appeal the findings to the Intermediate School District. If the complainant believes, based upon the Intermediate School District report, that the local school District still does not comply with the law, they may appeal the findings of the Intermediate School District to the State Superintendent for Public Instruction. (See 388.1766a.)