THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

PROGRAM
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Curriculum Content

2200 CURRICULUM CONTENT

The Board of Education will provide the instruction and services mandated by law and rules, and the financial resources as necessary for the implementation of a thorough and efficient system of free public education and such other instruction and services as the Board deems appropriate for the thorough and efficient education of the pupils of this district. The Board shall annually approve a list of all programs and courses that comprise the district's curriculum and shall approve any subsequent changes in the curriculum in accordance with Policy No. 2220.

For purposes of the 2000 policy series, the following definitions will apply:

“Alteration” means any change in content, or a course of study adopted by the Board of Education pursuant to Policy #2220, including changes in (1) rationale or description, (2) scope and sequence, (3) required activities as documented in the adopted curricula, (4) instructional materials or (5) evaluation techniques, which can reasonably be anticipated to change any objectives/proficiencies (intended to be used interchangeably) so adopted by the Board of Education pursuant to Policy #2220.

“Course” is an organization of content and related learning experiences within the subject areas that are offered for the instruction of students.

“Curriculum” is a framework of the skills and knowledge that students are to learn.

“Curriculum Guide/Course of Study” – Used interchangeably, these terms refer to the description, learning objectives, scope and sequence, sample activities and instructional strategies as well as the assessments that comprise the subject areas taught in the district.

“Program” means an organization of curricula and courses across the grade levels in which a subject area is implemented; e.g. Language Arts is a kindergarten to grade twelve program, while Business Technology is a grade nine to grade twelve program.

In accordance with law, the curriculum shall, at a minimum, include the curricular mandates of N.J.S.A. 18A - Education and N.J.A.C. 6 - Education and all of the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Student Learning Standards and Cumulative Progress Indicators and the courses required by Policy No. 5460 and N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5 for high school graduation.

The Superintendent is responsible for implementing the curriculum approved by the Board.

The Board directs that the curriculum be consistent with the educational goals and objectives of this district and the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Student Learning Standards, and be responsive to identified pupil needs. The Superintendent shall, in consultation with teaching staff members, ensure the effective articulation of curriculum across all grade levels and among the schools of this district. The Superintendent shall further ensure the alignment of the written, taught and tested curriculum in all subject areas and for all grade levels to a wide variety of assessment measures aimed at improving student achievement and learning.
The district’s curriculum and instructional programs shall be systematically defined and regularly evaluated K-12, and clearly communicated to the school community:

1. The schools shall have high expectations and clear goals for student learning which shall be communicated regularly to students, staff, and the community at large.

2. Student progress toward these goals shall be monitored and reported frequently to students, parents, and planners. Outstanding student effort and achievement in all areas of school life shall be encouraged and recognized regularly. Extra-curricular activities shall exist to supplement the instructional program.

3. Evaluation of the effectiveness of instructional programs shall be based primarily on student performance of desired outcomes, as well as on the amount of information taught and the manner in which it is presented.

4. Development, monitoring, and evaluation of all programs shall involve those professionals most directly engaged in implementing them. Leadership in these processes shall be provided by those with professional expertise in the subject area, cognitive development, and instructional strategies. To ensure consistency and continuity, such leaders shall have program responsibility across grades and among buildings.

5. In each school building, the Principal shall provide instructional leadership and manage the building so its operation supports an excellent educational program. The Principal shall be responsible for organizing the school day, staff, and the instructional program so that it maximizes student opportunity for learning. The Principal shall also see to it that budget for the quality and kind of educational supplies necessary for an excellent educational program is requested.

6. The Superintendent shall ensure that all district support and intervention programs are aligned with the written, taught and tested curriculum.

7. The Superintendent shall ensure the consistent delivery of the curriculum in all programs and schools.

N.J.A.C. 6:8-1.1; 6:8-4.5 New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Student Learning Standards

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