

The major objective of curriculum development is to continuously improve the School District of Altoona's educational offerings, and its instructional activities and practices in order to increase student engagement in the learning process and improve student achievement. The School Board will approve the monetary resources needed to develop and implement the curriculum within the financial capabilities of the District. The District's curriculum and instructional programs shall be in line with the state's educational standards, goals, and expectations; other applicable legal requirements; and the local goals and standards established by the Board and administration.

To the extent consistent with the remainder of this policy, the Board delegates responsibility for the development, evaluation and improvement of the curriculum to the District's professional staff, under the leadership and direction of the Superintendent, principals, and other administrators who have responsibilities in instructional areas.

Curriculum and instructional program development should be a participatory process within the District.

- Communication and coordination among grade level and subject area teachers should be emphasized on a K-12 basis whenever curriculum is developed or evaluated. The Board encourages the use of grade-level and subject area professional learning communities.
- The Board's belief is that all instructional personnel have a professional obligation to participate in and contribute to the curriculum development and evaluation processes.
- Curriculum development and evaluation should be guided and supported by appropriate, up-to-date internal and external research.
- The Board expects that the District's professional educators will seek and utilize resources and expertise from outside the District as they strive to develop and improve the effectiveness of the District's curriculum.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a District curriculum plan to guide the curriculum development, evaluation, and improvement process.

The District shall develop and maintain a written, sequential curriculum guide in the various subject areas identified in state law.

- These guides shall provide the instructional framework for each broad area of study, and for specific courses.

- Each guide shall specify the sequential learning objectives for the subject area and the core course content.
- The guides shall be aligned with applicable standards and goals.
- The guides shall also be aligned with the District's locally-established learning goals and objectives.
- Objectives and activities related to the use of technology and computer literacy shall be integrated into the curriculum guides of all subject areas.

The Board shall make final decisions to add or remove District programs and areas of study. However, subject to the limitations and expectations defined in this policy, the administration shall have authority to approve and implement revisions to the various curriculum guides created for various subject areas. The Superintendent and other applicable administrators may also decide, without obtaining Board approval, whether a particular elective or other specialized course, class, or curricular activity will be offered in a given term or school year.

Professional educators are responsible for providing student instruction that is consistent with applicable academic and instructional standards, the approved curriculum, any mandatory instructional elements or assessments that are included in the relevant curriculum guide(s), and such other directives or expectations as may be established by the employee's supervising administrator(s). In most cases, these general boundaries are expected to the professional educator with substantial professional latitude to creatively define particular instructional activities, approaches to instruction, assignments, and means of assessment that will further the objective of improving student engagement and student learning, and that will also further the District's locally-established learning goals and objectives for students.

The Superintendent shall ensure that periodic curriculum review and evaluation is done. He or she is responsible for presenting the results to the Board. Such reports shall include recommendations for Board action to the extent applicable.

Legal Ref: 118.01, 118.30, 120.12(14), 120.13, 121.02, 121.02(1)(k) Wisc. Statutes

ADOPTED: 11/21/16