

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION

A continuing process of curriculum evaluation, renewal, and development is essential to the vitality of the educational endeavor. Responsibility for initiating and supervising curriculum development shall rest with the Superintendent; however, all members of the professional staff will participate in the ongoing processes of reviewing and revising the curriculum. (The process for drawing up and revising the curriculum shall be open and consultative, and may include but need not be limited to administration, classroom teachers, and parents. In drawing up curriculum, those involved shall look to curriculum frameworks, model curricula, content standards, attainment targets, course of study and instruction materials in existence or the process of being developed in the United States and throughout the world.)

Curriculum development efforts will be aligned with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's curriculum frameworks. It will focus on identifying, selecting, or designing more effective programs and strategies for accomplishing the strategic goals and objectives of the school system. (The curriculum shall provide sufficient detail to guide and inform processes for the education, professional development, certification and evaluation of both active and aspiring teachers. They shall provide sufficient detail to guide the promulgation of student assessment instruments. Curriculum shall be designed to avoid perpetuating gender, cultural, ethnic or racial stereotypes. The curriculum shall reflect sensitivity to different learning styles and impediments to learning.)

The Superintendent will report to the School Committee periodically as to the status of the district's curriculum. S/he will assess and evaluate the status of the curriculum with respect to current national standards, student performance, and current educational research and trends. S/he will identify and prioritize where revisions and changes are needed and identify the resources needed to enact and support those changes. Curriculum reviews and revisions will include the review of curriculum in light of the appropriate national standards, state curriculum frameworks, and research in the field.

The School Committee will rely on its professional staff to design and implement instructional programs and courses of study that will forward the educational goals of the school system.

The School Committee wishes to be informed of all new courses and substantive revisions in curriculum. The Superintendent will have authority to approve new programs and courses of study after they have been thoroughly studied and found to support educational goals. The School Committee itself will consider, and officially adopt, new programs and courses when they constitute an extensive alteration in instructional content or approach.

LEGAL REFS: M.G.L. 69:1E; 15:1G; 71:1

CROSS REF: The Bromfield School Program of Studies

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