

5.3—CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Sequential curricula should be developed for each subject area. Curricula are to be aligned with the curriculum frameworks and used to plan instruction leading to student proficiency on the Arkansas' Standards. Curricula should be in alignment with the District's vision, mission, goals, and educational philosophy. Student achievement is increased through an integrated curriculum that promotes continuity and a growth in skills and knowledge from grade to grade and from school to school. Therefore, the Board desires that unnecessary duplication of work among the various grades and schools be eliminated and that courses of study and their corresponding content guides be coordinated effectively.

The Board of Education is responsible for reviewing and approving all instructional programs offered by the District as well as approving significant changes to courses or course materials before they are implemented. The Superintendent is responsible for making curriculum recommendations.

Each school shall review each curriculum area annually to address the continued relevancy, adequacy, and cost effectiveness of individual courses and instructional programs and to ensure each area is aligned with the current curriculum frameworks and course content standards approved by the State Board of Education. Each school's administration shall implement a monitoring process to ensure that the instructional content of each course offered is consistent with the content standards and curriculum frameworks approved by the State Board of Education.

The District shall not purchase curriculum for the District's reading program that is not from the list of curricula approved by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

No curriculum or classroom instruction shall be provided on the following topics before grade five (5):

- Sexually explicit materials;
- Sexual reproduction;
- Sexual intercourse;
- Gender identity; or
- Sexual orientation.

Legal References: Standards for Accreditation 1-A.1, 1-A.4
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1505(a)
 A.C.A. § 6-15-2906
 A.C.A. § 6-17-157
 A.C.A. § 6-17-429

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