603 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for continuous review and improvement of the district’s curriculum and programs in order to provide a guaranteed and viable curriculum.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Curriculum review and development shall be directed toward the fulfillment of the goals and objectives of the district strategic plan as it relates to the education program and student achievement.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

A. The primary goal of the curriculum review and development process is to develop a district curriculum that ensures all students are career and college ready. The superintendent shall be responsible for overseeing curriculum development and ensuring that a continual curriculum review cycle is in place for all content areas. The review process will include teacher collaboration, students, parent/community member input, reflective inquiry, and decision making based on best practices, current research, student data, and state or federal mandates. The School Board will be notified of any changes to the established curriculum review cycle and changes in legislative mandates.

B. The superintendent or designee must establish an advisory committee to ensure active community participation in all phases of planning and improving the instruction and curriculum affecting state and district academic standards.

1. The District Advisory Committee, to the extent possible, must reflect the diversity of the district and its school sites, include teachers, parents, support staff, students, and other community residents, and provide translation to the extent appropriate and practicable. Whenever possible, parents and other community residents must comprise at least two-thirds of advisory committee members.

2. The District Advisory Committee must pursue community support to accelerate the academic and native literacy and achievement of English learners with varied needs, from young children to adults, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.59, subdivisions 2 and 2a.
3. The District Advisory Committee must recommend to the superintendent:

   a. rigorous academic standards, curriculum content, student achievement goals and measures consistent with Minnesota Statutes, sections 120B.11, subdivision 1a, section 120B.022 subdivisions 1a and 1b, and section 120B.35;
   b. district assessments;
   c. strategies to ensure that curriculum and learning and work environments validate, affirm, embrace, and integrate the cultural and community strengths of all racial and ethnic groups; and
   d. program evaluations.

C. The superintendent, or designee, shall be responsible for keeping the school board informed of all state-mandated curriculum changes, as well as recommended discretionary changes, and for periodically presenting recommended modifications for school board review and approval.

D. The superintendent, or designee, shall have discretionary authority to develop guidelines and directives to implement school board policy relating to curriculum development.

E. Students who do not meet or exceed Minnesota academic standards, as measured by the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments that are administered during high school, shall be informed that admission to a public school is free and available to any resident under 21 years of age or who meets the requirements of Minn. Stat. §120A.20, Subd. 1(c). A student’s plan under this section shall continue while the student is enrolled.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 120A.20 (Admission to Public School)
Minn. Stat. § 120B. 10 (Findings; Improving Instruction and Curriculum)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement; Striving for the World’s Best Workforce)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.12 (Reading Proficiently no Later than the End of Grade 3)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.125(f) (Planning for Students’ Successful Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment; Personal Learning Plans) Minn. Stat. § 124D.59 (Definitions)
Minn. Rules Part 3500.0550 (Inclusive Educational Program)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science) Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1200-3501.1210 (Academic Standards for English Language Development)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 (Academic Standards
for Social Studies) Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1400-3501.1410
(Academic Standards for Physical Education) 20 U.S.C. § 6301,
et seq. (Every Student Succeeds Act.)

Cross References:
Board Policy 604 Instructional Curriculum) Board Policy 605 (Alternative Programs)
Board Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
Board Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
Board Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)
Board Policy 617 (School District Ensurance of Preparatory and High School Standards)
Board Policy 618 (Assessment of Student Achievement)
Board Policy 620 (Credit for Learning)
Board Policy 623 (Mandatory Summer School Instruction)

BOARD POLICY 603
St. Cloud Area School District 742
St. Cloud, Minnesota

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