

Curriculum Development

IGA

GENERAL ORGANIZATION PLAN

The centrally coordinated approach to instructional improvement which this school district employees, maintains that the efforts of individual schools, individual teachers and the central office are significant. The teachers in individual schools are encouraged to improve the instructional process in order to better serve their children. At the same time, staff members of some or all schools may combine efforts to attack a problem of instructional improvement common to all or several schools.

The centrally coordinated position implies that there is need for both general authority and individual responsibility. This authority and responsibility are exercised by the school administrator, by a committee, or by both. Thus, problems peculiar to an individual school and problems of general concern can be attacked at the same time.

The centrally coordinated approach implies a team approach to instructional improvements. It strives to secure some of the logical orderliness of centralization; yet it also seeks some of the permissiveness, freedom and democratic spirit of decentralization.

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY

The educational policy of the district is set by the Board of Trustees in this and other sections of the district's policy manual. This policy should be carried out by all teachers, but teachers should be granted latitude in trying new approaches, provided the experimentation is, in the opinion of the Superintendent, for the best interest of the school and the students. It is to this end that the schools of the district have been organized.

In general, the principal shall have the responsibility of managing and directing all activity carried on in the school to which he or she is assigned.

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Curriculum

The Board of Trustees has established a policy which provides for a program of education known as the K through twelve (K-12) curriculum. The program shall be of such extent and intensity that all students shall be instructed in a continuous and expanding series of educational experiences commensurate with their capabilities. The subject matter areas shall be those generally included in the best educational practice.

The contributions of racial, cultural, and religious minority groups to all aspects of our history as a people and a nation, shall be included in the total school curricula in grades K through twelve.

CURRICULUM STUDY AND IMPROVEMENT

Responsibility for Initiating Improvement

Responsibility for initiating improvements in the curricula of the district is vested in every teacher and principal and in the directors and coordinators. Suggestions for such improvements shall be routed through proper channels to the Curriculum

Coordinator and after review by the curriculum committees, if approved by the Superintendent, shall be referred to the Board of Trustees with recommendations. Approval at the Board level shall bring referral to the Superintendent for implementation.

Curriculum Committees

Curriculum committees are selected through the cooperative efforts of the school principals and Curriculum Coordinator. Whenever feasible, committees shall be organized on a K-12 representation in an effort to obtain both vertical and horizontal coordinations.

Curriculum Development Procedure

It is the policy of the district to work continuously in curriculum development, always seeking the "best" materials available, employing an option and variety of techniques and synthesizing ideas and experiences from whatever sources are available. It demands a creative and well-informed teacher as well as director and administrator.

Because the sources and ideas and materials are complex and often conflicting, this synthesis demands the best collective thinking of all concerned. Innovations and experimentation are encouraged but need to have district-wide awareness and systematic evaluation.

The Board of Trustees shall be kept informed on the revision and upgrading of the school curriculum.

Specific curriculum requirements for individual subjects shall be maintained in a separate curriculum manual.

Adopted: May 15, 1997