603 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for continuous review and improvement of the school curriculum.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Curriculum development shall be directed toward the fulfillment of the goals and objectives of the education program of the school district.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

A. The superintendent or designee shall be responsible for curriculum development and for determining the most effective way of conducting research on the school district’s curriculum needs and establishing a long range curriculum development program. Timelines shall be determined by the superintendent that will provide for periodic reviews of each curriculum area.

B. A district advisory committee shall provide assistance at the request of the superintendent. The advisory committee membership shall be a reflection of the community and, to the extent possible, shall reflect the diversity of the district and its learning sites, and shall include parent, teacher, support staff, student, community residents and administration representation.

C. Within the ongoing process of curriculum development, the following needs shall be addressed:

1. Provide for articulation of courses of study from kindergarten through grade twelve.

2. Identify minimum objectives for each course and at each elementary grade level.

3. Provide for continuing evaluation of programs for the purpose of attaining school district objectives.

4. Provide a program for ongoing monitoring of student progress.
5. Provide for specific, particular and special needs of all members of the student community.

6. Develop a local literacy plan to have every child reading at or above grade level no later than the end of grade 3, including English learners, and teachers providing comprehensive, scientifically based reading instruction consistent with law.

7. Integrate required and elective course standards in the scope and sequence of the district curriculum.

8. Meet all requirements of the Minnesota Department of Education and the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

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

E. The superintendent shall have discretionary authority to develop guidelines and directives to implement school board policy relating to curriculum development.

Legal References:
Minn. Stat. § 120B.10 (Findings; Improving Instruction and Curriculum)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Rules Part 3500.0550 (Inclusive Educational Program)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Graduation Standards – Reading and Mathematics)
Minn. Rule Parts 3501.0200-3501.0270 (Graduation Standards – Written Composition)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, et seq. (No Child Left Behind Act)

Cross References:
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 604 (Instructional Curriculum)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 605 (Alternative Programs)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Basic Standards Testing, Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEP, Section 504 Accommodation, and LEP Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 617 (School District Ensurance of Preparatory and High School Standards)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Standard Achievement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 619 (Staff Development for Standards)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 620 (Credit for Learning)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 623 (Mandatory Summer School Instruction)