

# THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

SECTION: 100 Programs

TITLE: Curriculum  
Development

ADOPTED: April 27, 1981

REVISED: November 16,  
2017

## 105 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

### **Purpose**

Superintendent or his/her designee recognizes its responsibility for the development, assessment and improvement of the educational program of the schools. To this end, the curriculum shall be evaluated, developed and modified on a continuing basis and in accordance with a plan for curriculum improvement. [\[1\]](#)

### **Definition**

**Curriculum** - series of planned instruction aligned with established academic standards in each subject that is coordinated, articulated and implemented in a manner designed to result in the achievement of academic standards at the proficient level of all students. [\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)

### **Authority**

The SRC is responsible for the curriculum of the district's schools. The curriculum shall be designed to provide students the opportunity to achieve the academic standards established by the SRC. Attaining the academic standards requires students to demonstrate the acquisition and application of knowledge. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[4\]](#)

In order to provide a quality educational program for district students, the SRC shall adopt a curriculum plan that includes the requirements for courses to be taught; subjects to be taught in the English language; courses adapted to the age, development and needs of students; and strategies for assisting those students having difficulty attaining the academic standards. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[6\]](#)[\[7\]](#)[\[8\]](#)

### **Mandatory Regulatory Procedure**

The SRC is committed to the support of a full range of curricular programs. The district's curriculum shall provide the following:

1. Continuous learning through effective collaboration among the schools of this district.

2. Continuous access for all students to sufficient programs and services of a library/media facility and classroom collection to support the educational program.[9]
3. Guidance and counseling services for all students to assist in career and academic planning.[10]
4. A continuum of educational programs and services for all students with disabilities, pursuant to law, regulations, and policies as adopted by the SRC .[11]
5. Limited English Proficiency programs for students whose dominant language is not English, pursuant to law, regulations, and policies as adopted by the SRC.[12]
6. Compensatory education programs for students, pursuant to law, regulations, and policies as adopted by the SRC.
7. Equal educational opportunity for all students, pursuant to law, regulations, and policies as adopted by the SRC.[13][14]
8. Career awareness and vocational education, pursuant to law, regulations, and policies as adopted by the SRC.[15]
9. Educational opportunities for identified gifted students, pursuant to law, regulations, and policies as adopted by the SRC.[16]
10. Regular and continuous instruction in required safety procedures.[17]

A listing of all curriculum materials shall be made available for the information of parents/guardians, students, staff and Commissioners.[1][18]

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

As the educational leader of the district, the Superintendent shall be responsible to the SRC for the district's curriculum. S/He shall establish procedures for curriculum development, evaluation and modification, which ensure the utilization of available resources, and effective participation of administrators, teaching staff members, and community members.[1]

With prior SRC approval, the Superintendent may conduct pilot programs as deemed necessary to the continuing improvement of the instructional program. The Superintendent shall report periodically to the SRC on the status of each pilot program, along with its objectives, evaluative criteria, and costs.

The SRC directs the Superintendent to pursue actively state and federal aid in support of research activities.

### **Legal References:**

1. 22 PA Code 4.4
2. 22 PA Code 4.12
3. 22 PA Code 4.3
4. Pol. 106 - Academic Standards
5. 24 P.S. 1511
6. 24 P.S. 1512
7. Pol. 107 - Adoption of Planned Instruction
8. Pol. 127 - Assessment System
9. Pol. 109 - Resource Materials
10. Pol. 112 - Guidance Counseling
11. Pol. 113 - Special Education
12. Pol. 138 - English as a Second Language/Bilingual Education Program
13. Pol. 103 - Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices
14. Pol. 103.1 - Nondiscrimination-Qualified Students With Disabilities/Protected Handicapped Students
15. Pol. 115 - Career and Technical Education
16. Pol. 114 - Gifted Education
17. Pol. 805 - Emergency Preparedness
18. Pol. 105.1 - Review of Instructional Materials by Parents/Guardians and Students

**Related Information:**

- 24 P.S. 696
- 22 PA Code 4.21
- 22 PA Code 4.22
- 22 PA Code 4.23
- 22 PA Code 4.25
- 22 PA Code 4.26
- 22 PA Code 4.27
- 22 PA Code 4.29
- 22 PA Code 4.82