

CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION

Without careful and continuing attention to implementation, planned changes in curriculum and instruction rarely succeed as intended. How change is put into practice, to a large extent, determines how well it fares.

Implementation refers to what actually happens in practice as compared to what was supposed to happen. Curriculum implementation includes the provision of organized assistance to staff in order to ensure that the newly developed curriculum and the most powerful instructional strategies are actually delivered at the classroom level. There are two components of any implementation effort that must be present to guarantee the planned change in curriculum and instruction succeed as intended:

- Understanding the conceptual framework of the content/discipline being implemented; and
- Organized assistance to understand the theory, observe exemplary demonstrations, have opportunities to practice, and receive coaching and feedback focused on the most powerful instructional strategies to deliver the content at the classroom level.

The superintendent and Director of Education shall be responsible for curriculum implementation and for determining the most effective way of providing organized assistance and monitoring the level of implementation. A curriculum framework shall describe the processes and procedure that will be followed to assist all staff in developing the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully implement the developed curriculum in each content area. This framework will, at a minimum, describe the processes and procedure for the following curriculum implementation activities to:

- *Study and identify the best instructional practices and materials to deliver the content;*
- *Describe procedures for the purchase of instructional materials and resources (See Policy 605.1);*
- *Identify/develop exemplars that demonstrate the learning behaviors, teaching, and learning environment to deliver the content;*
- *Study the current status of instruction in the content area (how teachers are teaching);*
- *Compare the desired and present delivery system, identify differences (gap analysis), and develop a plan for addressing the differences;*
- *Organize staff into collaborative district or building study teams to support their learning and implementation efforts (address the gaps);*
- *Provide ongoing professional development related to instructional strategies and materials that focuses on theory, demonstration, practice and feedback;*
- *Regularly monitor and assess the level of implementation;*
- *Communicate with internal and external publics regarding curriculum implementation;*
- *Involve staff in curriculum implementation decisions.*

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent and Director of Education to keep the board apprised for curriculum implementation activities, progress of each content area related to curriculum implementation activities, and to develop administrative regulations for curriculum implementation including recommendations to the board.

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Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232h (1994).
34 C.F.R. pt. 98 (1996).
Iowa Code §§ 216.9, 256.7, 279.8, 280.3-.14 (2003).
281 I.A.C. 12.8(1)(c)(1).

Cross Reference: 101 Educational Philosophy of the School District
105 Long-Range Needs Assessment
505 Student Scholastic Achievement
602 Curriculum Development
603 Instructional Curriculum

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