

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION

For the purpose of this policy “curriculum” means the Milford School Department’s written document that sets forth the learning expectations for all students for all content areas of Maine’s system of Learning Results, as well as for those goals that are specific to the Milford School Department. The curriculum shall reflect continuous, sequential and specific instruction aligned with the content areas of the Learning Results. All students must have an opportunity to achieve high levels of success.

The Committee recognizes that curriculum development, review and evaluation is an ongoing process and that programs and practices may need to be adjusted or revised to meet educational standards and to serve the best interests of students and the community.

The following beliefs shall guide curriculum development:

- All children can learn, and students, teachers, school staff, parents, and the community need to demonstrate this belief.
- Students are complex. They learn in many ways. They have needs, concerns, and ideas, which must be recognized. They need self-confidence and self-esteem. Students need to feel pride in their accomplishments.
- High expectations result in higher achievement.

Therefore:

- A. The Committee expects the administration and staff to be sensitive to changing conditions that may require modifications in curriculum.
- B. The Committee expects all programs to be subject to ongoing review and evaluation to ensure that they meet the instructional needs of students.
- C. The Committee expects the school system to undertake intensive curriculum revision as needed.
- D. The Superintendent is expected to lead the ongoing curriculum development and review process, and in aligning curriculum with educational standards and with advances in knowledge, educational research and “best practices.”
- E. The Committee expects that curriculum development and revision will be achieved with appropriate involvement of administrators, instructional and support staff, students, parents, community and the Committee.
- F. The Committee shall review and adopt all curriculum guides, course descriptions and courses of study prior to their implementation.

The Superintendent is expected to develop plans and timelines as necessary for the development, implementation and evaluation of the curriculum and to provide the Committee with an annual report on the status of the curriculum.

The Superintendent is expected to mke recommendations concerning professional development, instructional materials and resources needed for curriculum implementation, consistent with Committee policy.

Legal Reference: 20-A M.R.S.A. §§ 1001(6), 6209
Ch. 127 § 5-7 (Me. Dept. of Ed. Rules)

Cross Reference: IHA–Basic Instructional Program
IL–Evaluation of Instructional Programs

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