

Policy 6011: Academic Standards

The Board of Education recognizes that content and performance standards are necessary to clarify for students, parents/guardians and staff Governing Board shall adopt high standards for student achievement which challenge all students to reach their full potential and specify what students are expected to know and to be able to do at each grade level and in each area of study. The Board shall adopt high standards for student achievement that meet or exceed statewide standards and challenge all students to reach their full potential. ¶

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District achievement standards shall be developed through a process that involves staff, students, parents/guardians and community members. Standards shall be based on a review of state model standards and an assessment of the skills that students will need in order to be successful in high school and beyond, including basic skills, problem-solving abilities and conceptual thinking. Special care shall be taken to ensure the proper articulation of standards among district schools. ¶

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Staff shall continually assess students' progress toward meeting the achievement standards and shall offer remedial assistance in accordance with Board policy. The standards shall also provide a basis for evaluating the instructional program, making decisions about curriculum and assessment, and, as required by law, evaluating teacher performance. ¶

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While desiring district achievement standards to be specific and comprehensive, the Board does not intend that these standards be so extensive as to describe everything that will be taught in the classroom. Staff shall have sufficient time and flexibility to provide instruction that supplements the standards. Staff have flexibility to determine the best instructional methods to use in preparing students to meet the standards. ¶

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The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that district standards are regularly reviewed and updated as necessary. ¶

These standards shall reflect the knowledge and skills needed for students to be adequately prepared for postsecondary education, employment, and responsible citizenship.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide the **Governing** Board with recommended standards using a process that involves teachers, school site and district administrators, students, parents/guardians, representatives from business/industry and postsecondary institutions, and/or community members. **He/she They** shall ensure the proper articulation of standards between grade levels and the alignment of the standards with the district's vision and goals, graduation requirements, college entrance requirements, and other desired student outcomes. **He/she They** also shall ensure that the standards are easily understandable and measurable.

District content standards for English language arts, English language development, mathematics, science, health education, history-social science, physical education, visual and performing arts, world languages, career technical education, and preschool education shall meet or exceed statewide model content standards adopted by the State Board of Education or the State Superintendent of Public Instruction as applicable.

District curriculum, instruction, student assessments, and evaluations of the instructional program shall be aligned with district content standards. In accordance with Education Code 44662, standards of expected student achievement also shall be used in evaluating teacher performance.

Teachers and school administrators shall receive ongoing professional development to inform them of changes in the standards and to build their capacity to implement effective standards-based instructional methodologies.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually communicate the applicable standards to students and their parents/guardians to inform them of the expectations for student learning at their grade level.

Staff shall continually assess students' progress toward meeting the standards, report each student's progress to the student and **his/her their** parents/guardians, and offer remedial assistance in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that district standards are regularly reviewed and updated as necessary. At a minimum, district standards shall be reviewed whenever applicable statewide standards are revised and in response to changing student needs.