

SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT
Salem, Connecticut

INSTRUCTION

CURRICULUM DESIGN/DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum development shall be guided by:

1. Needs assessments and information concerning the education of district students;
2. Range of student abilities, aptitudes, and interests;
3. Aspirations of school district residents for students;
4. Mobility of district population;
5. Avoidance of discrimination;
6. Reduction of duplication of effort and repetitive curricula among various school levels and coordination of courses of study and syllabi;
7. Basic skills of mathematics, reading, writing and speaking shall be emphasized in all program areas;
8. Critical thinking skills, research skills, use of technology, and problem solving shall be integral parts of every aspect of the curriculum of Salem School; and
9. Provisions of negotiated agreements.

The curriculum development/revision process will be conducted by a (School) Curriculum Committee that has the responsibility to recommend, develop, review, and approve all curriculums for the District and said curriculum shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Education.

The Board of Education reserves the responsibility for establishing and approving curricula for the school district, subject to any limits specified by the State. Teachers shall teach within the approved curricula.

(cf. [6121](#) Nondiscrimination: Instructional Program)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes: [10-16b](#) Prescribed courses of study. [10-16c](#) et seq. re family life education. [10-17](#) English language to be medium of instruction. [10-17](#) et seq. re Bilingual instruction. [10-18](#) Courses in United States history, government and duties and responsibilities of citizenship. [10-18a](#) Contents of textbooks and other general instructional materials. [10-18b](#) et seq. re Firearms safety programs. [10-19](#) Effect of alcohol, nicotine or tobacco and drugs to be taught. Training of personnel. Evaluation of programs by alcohol and drug abuse commission and department of education. [10-19a](#) et seq. re Substance abuse prevention team. [10-24](#) Course in motor vehicle operation and highway safety. [10-21](#) et seq. re Vocational education and cooperation with business . [10-220](#) Duties of boards of education as amended by PA 08-153. [10-221a](#) High School graduation requirements.

Policy Adopted: September 10, 1996
Policy Revised: August 22, 2001
Policy Adopted: September 26, 2001
Revised Policy 1st Reading: March 6, 2006
Revised Policy Adopted: March 20, 2006
Revised Policy 1st Reading: July 16, 2007
Revised Policy Adopted: August 13, 2007
Revised Policy 1st Reading: June 5, 2017
Revised Policy Adopted: July 17, 2017

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Curriculum Evaluation/Development Cycle

DEFINITIONS OF PHASES

Evaluation/Planning	Development/Pilot	Initial Implementation/Monitoring	<u>Full Implementation</u>
<p>Embraces all the preliminary steps necessary to produce a high quality curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of current status. • Inventory of resources. • Collect model curriculum, state standards, current research, and other instructional materials. • Assessment of needs. 	<p>Encompasses the steps necessary to produce curriculum and identify materials and professional development that will be needed to support curriculum.</p> <p><i>Summer –1 curriculum writing*</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft major elements of K-8 curriculum framework. • Communicate expectations for 1st year implementation. • As appropriate, prepare for fall pilot of new materials. • Development phase continues throughout the school year. 	<p>During the 1st year of implementation, the curriculum is carefully monitored. The strengths of the curriculum are identified as well as any modifications/clarifications that need to be made.</p> <p><i>Summer –2 curriculum writing continued:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refine details of units. • Identify performance tasks. 	<p>The period of time that the curriculum will be utilized with minor refinements (based on ongoing feedback) that will be made annually.</p>

*Summer –1 curriculum writing also occurs between the Development and Initial Implementation phases.

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BOE Approval