

## **604 INSTRUCTIONAL CURRICULUM**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide for the development of course offerings for students.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

A. Instruction must be provided in at least the following subject areas:

1. Language arts and basic communication skills including reading and writing, literature, and fine arts;
2. Mathematics and science;
3. Social studies, including history, geography, economics, government, and citizenship;
4. Health and physical education;
5. The arts;
6. Vocational and technical education; and
7. World languages.

*[Note: World languages programs should be developed and implemented to acknowledge and reinforce the language proficiency and cultural awareness that non-English language speakers already possess and encourage students' proficiency in multiple world languages. Programs also must encompass indigenous American Indian languages and cultures, among other world languages and cultures.]*

- B. The basic instructional program shall include all courses required for each grade level by the Minnesota Department of Education and all courses required in all elective subject areas. The instructional approach will be nonsexist and multicultural.
- C. Elementary and middle schools shall offer at least three, and require at least two, of the following four art areas: dance, music, theater, and visual

arts. High schools shall offer at least three, and require at least one, of the following five art areas: media arts, dance, music, theater, and visual arts.

- D. The school board, at its discretion, may offer additional courses in the instructional program at any grade level.
- E. Each instructional program shall be planned for optimal benefit taking into consideration the financial condition of the school district and other relevant factors. Each program plan should contain goals and objectives, materials, minimum student competency levels, and methods for student evaluation.
- F. The superintendent shall have discretionary authority to develop guidelines and directives to implement school board policy relating to instructional curriculum.

***Legal References:*** Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021 (Required Academic Standards)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.022 (Elective Standards)

***Cross References:*** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 603 (Curriculum Development)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 605 (Alternative Programs)