

Education Program

Series 600

Policy Title: Basic Instruction Program

Code No. 603.1

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The basic instruction program will include the courses required for each grade level by the State Department of Education. The instructional approach will be gender fair and multicultural.

The District offers a pre-kindergarten program. The program is designed to help children to work and play with others, to express themselves, to learn to use and manage their bodies, and to extend their interests and understanding of the world about them. The prekindergarten program shall relate the role of the family to the child's developing sense of self and perception of others.

The basic instruction program of students enrolled in kindergarten is designed to develop healthy emotional and social habits, English language arts and communication skills, social studies, mathematics, science, health, the capacity to complete individual tasks, character education and the ability to protect and increase physical well-being with attention given to experiences relating to the development of life skills and human growth and development.

The basic instruction program of students enrolled in grades one through six will include English language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, health, human growth and development, physical education, traffic safety, music, visual art and computer science. Computer science will be offered during at least one grade level. In each of these subjects, the materials and the teaching procedures used shall, as appropriate, embrace positive study and work habits, library and technology applications, safety, conservation, good health practices, and citizenship. The ideals of positive group and individual behavior shall be emphasized. To this end organized play, intramural sports and games, hobby groups, and other organized student activities shall be fostered.

The basic instruction program of students enrolled in grades seven and eight will include English language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, health, human growth and development, career, technology education, physical education, music, visual art and computer science. Computer science will be offered during at least one grade level. Other learning opportunities will be provided in a wide range of exploratory courses and activities.

The basic instruction program of students enrolled in grades nine through twelve will include English language arts (4 credits), social studies (3 credits), mathematics (3 credits), science (3 credits), physical education (2 credits), and electives (7 credits). Financial literacy (½ credit) must be taken as a social studies, math, or elective credit. The specific courses, approved by the Marshalltown Community School District Board of Directors, shall include instruction in subjects for general education, college preparatory, and applied academics.

In all instances, the elementary, middle school, and senior high school curriculum shall meet the educational requirements as established by state statute and the State Department of Education.

The board may, in its discretion, offer additional courses in the instruction program for any grade level.

Each instruction program is carefully planned for optimal benefit taking into consideration the financial condition of the school district and other factors deemed relevant by the board or superintendent. Each instruction program's plan should describe the program, its goals, the effective materials, the activities and the method for student evaluation.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations stating the required courses and optional courses for pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, grades one through six, grades seven and eight, and grades nine through twelve.

Adopted: September 17, 2018

Reviewed:

Amended: August 5, 2019

February 15, 2021

Cross Reference:

102 Equal Educational Opportunity
103 Long-Range Needs Assessment
505 Student Scholastic Achievement
602 Curriculum Development
603 Instructional Curriculum

Legal Reference:

20 U.S.C. § 1232h.
34 C.F.R. Pt. 98.
Iowa Code §§ 216.9; 256.11; 279.8;
280.3-.14 .
281 I.A.C. 12.5,.11.