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REVISED POLICY - VOL. 19, NO. 1

2215 - PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION

The District's program of instruction shall provide all courses required for middle grades promotion, high school graduation, and appropriate instruction designed to ensure that students meet State Board of Education adopted standards in the following subject areas: reading and other language arts, mathematics, science, [computer science and technology](#), social studies, foreign languages, health and physical education, and the arts.

Development of Program of Instruction

A program of instruction shall be developed and implemented by the Superintendent as follows:

A. Elementary School

The primary purpose of the elementary school shall be to serve each individual student by promoting opportunities for optimum learning development. The program of instruction in the elementary school shall promote the language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, health and physical education, music, art, and other disciplines as shall be considered necessary to a well-rounded elementary school program. A procedure shall be established by which schools may recommend for approval courses or programs to meet the unique needs of students. Each subject field shall, insofar as practicable, embrace in the materials used and in the teaching procedures employed, instruction in study and work habits, career awareness, library usage, safety, thrift, conservation, health and hygiene, citizenship, the establishment of purpose, and the development of character and morality. Provision shall be made for the inculcation of ideals of group and individual behavior; to this end, organized play, intramural sports and games, hobby groups, and other organized student activities shall be fostered.

B. Middle School

The primary purpose of the middle school shall be to promote an expanded educational experience to meet the needs of the students in the seventh and eighth grades of school. The District-wide program of studies and services adopted by the School Board shall determine the specific offerings. An approval process shall be established by which schools may recommend courses or programs to meet the unique needs of students. Activities which offer desirable experience, such as band (or music), dance, visual arts, drama, creative writing, athletics, and student government, etc., shall be promoted.

C. Senior High School

The primary purpose of the senior high school shall be to promote education which fits the needs of all students. Courses shall be offered at a level which will challenge students to perform to their capacity. The District-wide studies adopted by the Board shall determine the specific offerings. Library and counseling services shall be provided to enable educational objectives to be met. Student government, publications, drama, music, visual arts, a broad program of athletics, and social activities, etc., shall be promoted for the development of well-rounded citizens.

D. Character-Development Program

The Board shall provide a character-development program which is secular in nature in kindergarten through grade 12. The Superintendent shall develop, and the Board shall adopt, a curriculum for the character-development program that shall be submitted to the Florida State Department of Education (FLDOE) for approval. The character-development curriculum shall stress the qualities of patriotism; responsibility; citizenship; kindness; respect for authority, life, liberty, and personal property; honesty; charity; self-control; racial, ethnic, and religious tolerance; and cooperation. The character-development curriculum for grades 9 through 12 shall, at a minimum, include instruction on developing leadership skills, interpersonal skills, organization skills, and research skills; creating a resume; developing and practicing the skills necessary for employment interviews; conflict resolution, workplace ethics, and workplace law; managing stress and expectations; and developing skills that enable students to become more resilient and self-motivated.

[\[X \] The character-development program shall incorporate the values of the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and will be offered as part of social studies, English Language Arts, or other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness initiatives.](#)

Required Instruction

~~[NOTE: Select Option 1 or Option 2]~~

~~[OPTION 1]~~

~~Instructional staff members, subject to Board policy and State Board of Education rules, shall teach efficiently and faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the highest standards of professionalism and historic accuracy, following the prescribed courses of study, and employment approved methods of instruction, the following:~~

- ~~A. The history and content of the Declaration of Independence, including national sovereignty, natural law, self-evident truth, equality of all persons, limited government, popular sovereignty, and inalienable rights of life, liberty, and property, and how they form the philosophical foundation of our government.~~
- ~~B. The history, meaning, significance, and effect of the provisions of the Constitution of the United States and amendments thereto, with emphasis on each of the ten (10) amendments that make up the Bill of Rights and how the constitution provides the structure of our government.~~
- ~~C. The arguments in support of adopting our republican form of government as they are embodied in the most important of the Federalist Papers.~~
- ~~D. Flag education including proper flag display and flag salute.~~
- ~~E. The elements of civil government, including the primary functions of and interrelationships between the Federal government, the State, and its counties, municipalities, school districts, and special districts.~~
- ~~F. The history of the United States, including the period of discovery, early colonies, the war for independence, the Civil War, the expansion of the United States to its present boundaries, the world wars, and the civil rights movement to the present. American history shall be viewed as factual, not as constructed, shall be viewed as knowable, teachable, and testable, and shall be defined as the creation of a new nation based largely on the universal principles stated in the Declaration of Independence.~~
- ~~G. The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to an investigation of human behavior, an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and an examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful person, for the purposes of encouraging tolerance of diversity in a pluralistic society and for nurturing and protecting democratic values and institutions.~~
- ~~H. The history of African Americans, including the history of African peoples before the political conflicts that led to the development of slavery, the passage to America, the enslavement experience, abolition, and the contributions of African Americans to society. Instructional materials shall include the contributions of African Americans to American society.~~
- ~~I. The elementary principles of agriculture.~~
- ~~J. The true effects of all alcoholic and intoxicating liquors and beverages and narcotics upon the human body and mind.~~
- ~~K. Kindness to animals.~~
- ~~L. The history of the State.~~
- ~~M. The conservation of natural resources.~~
- ~~N. Comprehensive health education that addresses concepts of community health; consumer health; environmental health; family life, including an awareness of the benefits of sexual abstinence as the expected standard and the consequences of teenage pregnancy; mental and emotional health; injury prevention and safety; Internet safety; nutrition; personal health; prevention and control of disease; and substance use and abuse. The health education curriculum for students in grades 7 through 12 shall include a teen dating violence and abuse component that includes, but is not limited to, the definition of dating violence and abuse, the warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior, the characteristics of healthy relationships, measures to prevent and stop dating violence and abuse, and community resources available to victims of dating violence and abuse.~~
- ~~O. Such additional materials, subjects, courses, or fields in such grades as are prescribed by law or by rules of the State Board of Education and the Board in fulfilling the requirements of law.~~
- ~~P. The study of Hispanic contributions to the United States.~~
- ~~Q. The study of women contributions to the United States.~~
- ~~R. The nature and importance of free enterprise to the United States economy.~~
- ~~S. [SELECT THIS OPTION IF THE BOARD DID NOT SELECT THE OPTION IN THE CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SECTION OF THIS POLICY OR IF IT SELECTED THE OPTION IN THE CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SECTION OF THIS POLICY BUT STILL DESIRES FOR THE INSTRUCTION TO BE PROVIDED]~~

~~[] In order to encourage patriotism, the sacrifices that veterans and Medal of Honor Recipients have made in serving our country and protecting democratic values worldwide. Such instruction must occur on or before Medal of Honor Day, Veterans' Day, and Memorial Day. Members of the instructional staff are encouraged to use the assistance of local veterans and Medal of Honor Recipients when practicable.~~

~~[END OF OPTION 1]~~

~~[XXXXXXX OPTION 2]~~

~~Instructional staff members, subject to Board policy and State Board of Education rules, shall teach efficiently and faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the highest standards for professionalism and historic accuracy, following the prescribed courses of study, and employing approved methods of instruction, the topics and subject matter set forth in F.S. 1003.42.~~

~~[END OF OPTION 2]~~

Instruction in Operation of Motor Vehicles

See Board Policy 2432.

Instruction in Health Education

See Board Policy 2280 and Policy 2417.

Computer Science and Technology Instruction

"Computer science" is the study of computers and algorithmic process, including their principles, hardware, and software designs, applications, and their impact on society, and includes computer coding and computer programming.

The Board shall provide students in grades K-12 opportunities for learning computer science including, but not limited to, computer coding and computer programming. Computer science courses offered in middle and high schools shall include the opportunity to earn industry certifications, when possible. [] Coding instruction may be provided in elementary and middle schools. [END OF OPTION] [X] Instruction to develop students' computer usage and digital literacy skills may be provided in middle school. [END OF OPTION]

Exemptions from Certain Instruction

Any student whose parent makes a written request to the Principal shall be exempted from the teaching of reproductive health or any disease, including HIV/AIDS, its symptoms, development, and treatment. A student so exempted will not be penalized by reason of that exemption.

- F.S. 1001.51
- F.S. 1003.42
- F.S. 1003.4205
- F.S. 1003.48
- [F.S. 1007.2616](#)

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- Legal
- [F.S. 1001.51](#)
 - [F.S. 1003.42](#)
 - [F.S. 1003.4205](#)
 - [F.S. 1003.48](#)
 - [F.S. 1007.2616](#)

- Cross References
- [po2280 - PHYSICAL EDUCATION](#)
 - [po2417 - COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH EDUCATION](#)
 - [po2432 - DRIVER EDUCATION](#)

Last Modified by Sam Stalnaker on November 29, 2018