The Boards’ Role in Curriculum and Instructional Materials

Dr. Mary Wegner
Statutory Role

- Hire and evaluate a superintendent
- Create and adhere to board policy
- Create and monitor a budget
- Approve district curriculum
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What is Curriculum?
Statutory Role

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What is Curriculum?

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Statutory Role

What is Curriculum?

Scope: Content
Sequence: Order
Standards: Learning
Pedagogy: Teaching

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What is Curriculum?

4 AAC 05.080
School Curriculum and Personnel

AS 14.14.100(a)
Bylaws and Administrative Rules
Statutory Role

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What is Curriculum?

AASB Model Policy

BP 6000
BP 6141
BP 6161.1
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What Board Standard[s] does Curriculum fall under?

A: Vision
B: Structure
C: Accountability
D: Advocacy
E: Conduct-Ethics
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Board’s Role

How Best to Oversee
You are the experts on policy and state mandates, and your guidance is necessary.

Ask questions to ensure that the committee is meeting the goals and objectives of the district.

How Not to Overstep
Rely on experts in the district to deal with the specifics.

Listen to viewpoints of community and committee members.

Considerations that can assist with a transparent and public process when developing or adopting curriculum.
What key concepts are addressed?
What skills will students gain?
What are the priority standards?
How have teachers been involved?
What soft skills are needed to be successful?
How is critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity implemented?
Will technology be used to support learning?
Are there multiple options for personalization?
What will be the review/revision process?

What is the ratio of student compliance vs. student contribution?
Can students led/own the lessons?
Is deep understanding supported?
How will student learning be measured?
Are the learning tasks authentic?
How will formative assessment be used?
What if a student doesn’t learn?
Are our learning spaces adequate?
How can teachers give feedback?

Adapted from ASCD’s 21 Questions to Ask about Curriculum Development by MacKenzie Masten - March 20, 2017 [http://inservice.ascd.org]
Monitoring/Evaluation

Data is Data
   Student Achievement
   Survey
   Research

Accountability

Transparency

Considerations that can assist with a transparent and public process when developing or adopting curriculum.
Budget, Budget, Budget

Cyclical Review Process

Adoption of Instructional Materials

Clear and public process with teachers at the core - Join in the process!
- Helps to inform your decisions
- Facilitates communication with community members
- Develops relationships with district staff
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Thank You!!

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