



Willingboro Township

Schools

Five Year Curriculum Review Cycle
2021 - 2026

INTRODUCTION

“Where Excellence is the Expectation” the motto for Willingboro Township schools demands a culture of excellence and the curriculum guides establish expectations and roadmaps by which teachers are given tools and a scope and sequence for implementation. The New Jersey Student learning standards adopted by the New Jersey Department of Education outlines the minimum expectations for students as they matriculate each grade level while honoring the complexities and developmental expected levels for students in various grade bands. Since we expect excellence we work to design rigorous learning tasks that end in application and connection of ideas to real world experiences to support the growth of the whole child.

In her book Curriculum 21, Heidi Hayes Jacobs describes curriculum as "Dispositions to engage students in lifelong learning (p. 210)," and she identifies three "Curriculum Mind Shifts" in this 2010 ASCD publication:

- *"Myth #1 FROM knowing the right answers TO knowing how to behave when answers are not readily available.*
- *Myth #2 FROM transmitting meaning TO constructing meaning*
- *Myth #3 FROM external evaluation TO self-assessment (pp. 223-225)"*

Additionally, she delineates a "Curriculum Upgrade Model" as a growth (not change) model and as a replace (not integrate) model. Furthermore, as content reviews and upgrades begin, she suggests the following questions guide the discourse:

- "1. What should be taught? -- timely and necessary?
- 2. What content should be cut? -- dated and non-essential?
- 3. What content should be created? -- new literacies? (pp. 223-225)"

What are these literacies? Jacobs describes them as she talks about "what it means to be educated in the 21st century"--information literacy, network literacy, global literacy, media literacy, student portfolios, connecting, collaborating, and communicating. Another area to address in the curriculum review process is assessment, and Jacobs asks reviewers to engage in ongoing sessions for skills and assessment upgrades, replacing a dated

assessment with a modern one, such as "...identifying existing types of software, hardware & Web based capabilities." As the linear timeline of the curriculum development process is defined herein and the district's action plan is delineated, Jacobs' words provide a 21st century backdrop for what educators are called upon to accomplish--the curriculum as the means by which we "engage students in lifelong learning." By examining Jacobs' curriculum mind shifts, curriculum upgrade model, and 21st century literacies, educators are better prepared with a global mind-set as they move forward in the curriculum development process. The process outlined below is to align state mandates with student and instructor needs in a manner that allows thoughtful and a researched based approach to designing the absolute best instructional experiences for all scholars.

Below highlights the updates requested as adaptations and new adoptions are recommended by the state department of education:

New Jersey Department of Education Mandates

	Last Adoption	Implementation Mandatory	New Adoption
English Language Arts	2016	2018	2023-2024
Mathematics	2016	2018	2023-2024
Science	2020	2018	
Social Studies	2020	2022	
Health and PE	2020	2022	2023-2024
Visual And Performing Arts	2020	2022	
World Language	2020	2022	
Computer Science & Design Thinking	2020	2022	
Career readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills	2020	2022	

Review Cycle Progression

<i>School Year</i>	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<i>Content Area</i>					
<i>Gifted & Talented</i>	M	R	W	I	M
<i>Health & Physical Education</i>	M	R	W	I	I
<i>English Language Arts</i>	R/W	I	I	M	M
<i>Mathematics</i>	M	R	I	I	M
<i>Library</i>	M	M	M	R	W
<i>Music</i>	W	M	M	R	W
<i>Science</i>	I	M	R	I	I
<i>Social Studies</i>	W	I	I	R	W
<i>Technology</i>	W	I	M	M	M
<i>World Language</i>	W	I	M	M	M
<i>School Counseling/SEL</i>	N/A	N/A	R	W	I
<i>Visual Arts</i>	W	W	I	I	M
<i>Early Childhood</i>	M	M	I (MTP)	M	M

******Key******

“R” Review and Research: A team of teachers with representation from all participating grade levels and specialized populations will be

assembled to participate in research, review, and selection of a pilot resource. In this stage teachers will also evaluate any adjustments to the state requirements and NJQSAC recommendations. Based on outcomes, a primary resource will be selected.

“W” Writing: Curriculum writing for all content areas will occur during the summer and continue into the next school year when needed, as materials are matched to the curriculum.

“I” Implementation: Full implementation at all grade levels will be expected in September of the indicated school year.

“M” Monitor and Revise: The curriculum will continue to be monitored for its effectiveness. “Mid-course” adjustments will be recommended by staff and discussed by administration prior to any changes. All recommended changes will be approved by the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction.

District Policy

2210 - CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT (M)

Section: Program

Date Created: September 2007

Date Edited: September 2007

M

The Board of Education is committed to the continuing improvement of the educational program of the district. To this end, the curriculum shall be evaluated and modified in accordance with a plan for curriculum development.

As educational leader of the district, the Superintendent shall be responsible to the Board for the development of curriculum and shall establish procedures for curriculum development that ensure the effective participation of teaching staff members, pupils, the community, and members of the Board.

The Superintendent may conduct experimental programs that are not part of the duly adopted curriculum and are deemed to be

necessary to the continuing growth of the instructional program; he/she shall report to the Board any such pilot program conducted, along with its objectives, evaluative criteria, and costs, before each such program is initiated.

The Superintendent shall report to the Board periodically on all progress in curriculum development.

Adopted: 10 September 2007

