



Boulder Valley School District

File: IF

Adopted: March 31, 1985

Revised: November 18, 1993, June 28, 2005

Curriculum Research, Development, and Trial Status

Associated Regulation: IF-R

Associated Exhibits: IF-E1, IF-E2, IF-E3

The Board of Education is responsible for approving all courses of study in the Boulder Valley Schools. Proposed revisions, additions or deletions of courses are considered by the Board upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools or designee. The development, revision and implementation of curriculum are intricate processes, and require the close collaboration of staff in the Division of Learning Services and other people concerned.

The Board of Education of the Boulder Valley School District recognizes the important role of research in keeping curriculum appropriate, significant, and effective for students. The Board of Education, therefore, encourages the continuing search at the classroom, building, district, state, national, and international levels for new and improved ways to be responsive to different learning needs and aspirations of students; to changes in society's needs or directions; and to different and changing educational expectations of the community. To that end, it is the policy of the Boulder Valley School District to encourage and support the research of new instructional ideas and the development of curricula that have promise for improving teaching and learning. Further, the Boulder Valley School District provides opportunities for implementing courses and strategies on trial bases when approval is requested prior to implementation.

REGULAR REVISION OF CURRICULA

The Division of Learning Services is charged with supervising the district curriculum. The curricula of the district will be reviewed and revised on a regular basis, not to exceed ten years, in order to assure that district students have the opportunity to learn the knowledge and skills that have been identified as most important. This regular revision will occur through the processes established by the Division of Learning Services and will involve appropriate staff. Deletion of

courses no longer appropriate will occur at this time.

Revised curricula will be approved by the Board of Education prior to implementation with the exception of minor revisions made between regular review cycles. Proposed new or revised curricula shall be available for public review and comment prior to being presented to the Board of Education for adoption.

NEW COURSE PROPOSALS

Proposals for new courses or curriculum strands must be approved by the Board of Education prior to activation in the schools of the District. The process for securing approval of new courses requires the submission of a proposal that includes: (1) the description of the new course; (2) the goal of the new course and why it is needed; (3) how the new course aligns with the district content standards related to the course content area (if applicable) and enhances the district curricula already in place; (4) the learner outcomes for the course; (5) any resource and training needs; and (6) the prior review of other appropriate groups as determined by the assistant superintendent of learning services. Form IF-E1, Proposal for New Courses, must be used in the request for approval.

NEW CURRICULUM STRANDS

A curriculum strand is a defined content area involving two or more courses. This is distinct from a program strand which consists of two or more curriculum strands that share a distinct philosophy. The process for securing approval for new curriculum strands requires submission of a proposal that includes the identification of need, proposed goals and objectives, student outcomes, development plans, evaluative criteria, resource and training needs, and the prior review and endorsement of other appropriate groups as determined by the Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services. Form IF-E2, Curriculum Strand Proposal, must be used in the request for approval.

New curriculum strands or courses developed as a result of research and appropriate procedure may be implemented on a limited or trial basis. The purpose of the trial implementation is to determine if the new strand of curriculum or course is appropriate for adoption. Forms IF-E1, Proposal for New Courses, or IF-E2, Curriculum Strand Proposal, must be used in the request for approval prior to activation in the school. After the evaluation of the trial period, a recommendation may be made to the Board of Education for approval.

The Board of Education is charged by state statute with the responsibility to approve all programs of instruction in the district. Therefore, the professional staff is advised that the Board:

1. Requires the professional staff to follow published guidelines concerning curriculum development and to teach the approved curriculum;

2. Encourages development of curricular offerings that are responsive to the needs and interests of all students;
3. Reaffirms its policies relating to learning materials selection and adoption and teaching of controversial issues in the schools; and
4. Recognizes and supports use of the classroom teacher's responsible judgment in selecting appropriate supplemental materials for use from among the array of such materials available.

Portions adopted prior to 1969

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. § 22-32-109(1)(t)

AGREEMENT REF.: Teachers' agreement, Section E

CROSS REFS.:

IF subcodes (all relate to curriculum development)

IIAA, IIAB and subcodes (all relate to instructional materials)

INB, Teaching About Controversial Issues

KLB, Public Complaints About the Curriculum or Instructional Materials or Strategies

End of File: IF