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CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION

Development

The Rumson Board of Education appreciates the importance of its educational program (curriculum) in meeting its mandate to provide a “thorough and efficient” education to its students. The board also recognizes the need for the program and curriculum to be flexible to meet the changing needs and diversity of the community and to provide the breadth and depth of curriculum offerings necessary to develop the individual talents and abilities of students.

The board acknowledges its right and responsibility under the laws of New Jersey with regard to the adoption of the curriculum. The board feels that the development and continuing review of the curriculum by competent professional educational staff in the district will enable it to make reasonable decisions in this area.

The Rumson Board of Education deems it necessary to modify and adjust curriculum on an ongoing basis. Therefore, a long range plan of curriculum and program review shall be established and updated annually.

The following guidelines have been established by the board in the development of the total school program.

1. The curriculum shall contain all courses required by the State Department of Education.
2. The curriculum shall be consistent with written goals, objectives, and identified pupil needs and provide for continuous learning through effective articulation between the district schools and among the three districts (Rumson, Fair haven, and Rumson-Fair haven Regional).
3. The curriculum shall develop individual talents and interests and strive to motivate pupil achievement.
4. The curriculum shall provide:
  - a. a continuum of educational programs and services for all handicapped students,

- b. bilingual programs for pupils whose dominant language is not English,
- c. compensatory educational programs,
- d. all pupils equal educational opportunity,
- e. guidance and counseling to assist in career and academic planning,
- f. career awareness,
- g. educational opportunities for exceptionally gifted and talented pupils;
- h. continuous access to the services of a curriculum-based library/media collection and programs.

### Adoption

The board of education shall provide a comprehensive instructional program to serve the needs of the children of this district. In furtherance of this goal and pursuant to law, the board shall annually adopt the existing courses of study. Adoption includes both content and credit allocation. The board's policy in this respect is to:

- A. Adopt those courses of study mandated by the state in a form acceptable to the state department of education;
- B. Adopt additional courses of study recommended by the teaching staff and administration in a form acceptable to the state department of education and within the financial means of the district;
- C. Adapt and revise existing courses of study to meet the changing needs of pupils and the community.

Existing courses shall be reviewed at regular intervals and revised as necessary. No course of study shall be eliminated, revised or implemented without the approval of the board.

The board directs that the curriculum of this district:

- A. be consistent with written goals, objectives and identified pupil needs;

- B. Develop individual talents and interests and serve diverse learning styles to motivate pupil achievement;
- C. Provide for continuous learning through effective articulation;
- D. Provide all pupils continuous access to sufficient programs and services of a library/medial facility, classroom collection, or both, to support the educational program;
- E. Provide all pupils guidance and counseling to assist in career and academic planning;
- F. Provide a continuum of educational programs and services for handicapped children, pursuant to law and regulation;
- G. Provide bilingual programs for pupils whose dominant language is not English, pursuant to law and regulations;
- H. Provide compensatory education programs for pupils, pursuant to law and regulation;
- I. Provide all pupils equal educational opportunity, pursuant to law and regulation;
- J. Provide career awareness and vocational education, pursuant to law and regulation;
- K. Provide educational opportunities for exceptionally gifted and talented pupils.

The superintendent shall maintain a current list of all courses of study offered by this district; shall furnish each member of the board of education with a copy upon request; and shall provide a copy in the district office for public perusal.

Adoption of courses shall be by a recorded roll call majority vote of the full membership of the board.

#### Evaluation

An evaluation of curriculum (particularly new programs) will be made periodically and

the results reported to the board by the superintendent. The method of evaluation is the responsibility of the superintendent but should include:

1. testing programs – nationally standardized,
2. study of school achievement records,
3. teacher evaluation of pupil performance;
4. state assessment program.

A summary of the results will be reviewed by the superintendent with the board annually at a public meeting which has been properly advertised.

Date: January 21, 1993

Legal References:

<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:4-25	Prescribing minimum courses of study for public schools; approval of courses of study
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:7A-7	Local boards of education; establishment of goals and standards; basic skills improvement plan
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:8-4.3 (a) 3, 31	Evaluation of elements and standards (curriculum and instruction)
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:8-7.1(c) 1	Promotion, remediation and graduation procedures

