

Policies

Newport Public Schools Instruction Curriculum Policies - Curriculum Guides

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The Newport School Department shall create and maintain curriculum guides for all subject disciplines in all grades. These guides shall be updated periodically, at least as often as is required by state statute or regulation. The Director of Curriculum & Instruction shall review the guides and propose revisions to the Curriculum Steering Committee, which shall, in turn, review the proposed revisions and forward its recommendations to the Superintendent. All curriculum guides shall be available for review by the School Committee. All teachers, grade leaders, department heads/coordinators, and principals who feel curriculum changes are desirable or warranted should communicate their concerns to the Director of Curriculum & Instruction through normal line and staff channels.

The guides shall reflect national and state standards and shall articulate main concepts, objectives, and goals. The guides shall be used to map the logical sequence of instruction. In subjects where sequence is important, such as mathematics, teachers shall be expected to adhere to the guide. Each newly appointed teacher shall be furnished a guide or guides and shall follow the guide(s) in the presentation of subject matter and in the development of lessons.

Curriculum guides are the basic method by which a uniform philosophy of instruction can be ensured in the Newport Public Schools. Curriculum guides shall be specific enough in content to provide a common philosophy of instruction for all teachers yet broad enough in scope to provide for the individual student differences found within each classroom.

Each curriculum guide shall present a content area in three major strands: Performance Standard - What is the student expected to know, Performance Demonstration - How well should a student know and be able to perform the essential skills; Sample Performances Assessment - How well a student demonstrates knowledge of an essential skill.

School principals, department heads, curriculum liaisons, and coordinators shall assist teachers in reviewing the curriculum guides and shall ensure that the guides are fully understood and followed.

The Superintendent and school principals shall ensure that the curriculum includes those specific subjects required to be included by law. These include instruction on the use of voting machines, (RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-

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10); alcohol and substance abuse, (RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-12), consumer education, (RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-13), suicide prevention awareness (RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-14), cardiopulmonary resuscitation training (RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-15), blocked air passage treatment training (RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-16), and AIDS education, (RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-17).

In accordance with RI Gen. Laws § 16-21-7, 16-22-17, 16-22-18, and 16-22-20, parents may exempt their children from participation in that portion of any curriculum dealing with the characteristics, symptoms, and the treatment of disease, including AIDS, family life or sex education, and the dissection or vivisection of any vertebrate or invertebrate animal.

References

RI Gen. Laws § 16-21-7

RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-17

RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-18

RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-20

RI Gen. Laws § 16-22-2 et seq.

History: IF, 1978; IA, 1978; IGA, 1978; IGAG, 1/10/78; IGAE, 1978; IGAF, 1978; IGAH, 1978;