

Instruction

Curriculum Content

The curriculum shall contain instruction on subjects required by State statute or regulation as follows:

1. In kindergarten through grade 8, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) reading, (c) other communication skills, (d) science, (e) mathematics, (f) social studies, (g) art, (h) music, and (i) drug and substance abuse prevention. A reading opportunity of 60 minutes per day will be promoted for all students in kindergarten through grade 3 whose reading levels are one grade level or lower than their current grade level. Before the completion of grade 5, students will be offered at least one unit of cursive instruction.
2. In grades 7 through 12, as well as in interscholastic athletic programs, steroid abuse prevention must be taught.
3. During kindergarten through grade 12, provided it can be funded by private grants or the federal government, violence prevention and conflict resolution must be stressed, including: (a) causes of conflict, (b) consequences of violent behavior, (c) non-violent resolution, and (d) relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence.
4. During grades kindergarten through 12, age appropriate Internet safety ~~education~~ must be taught ~~each school year~~, the scope of which shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee. The curriculum must incorporate policy 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks* and, at a minimum, include: (a) education about appropriate online behavior, (b) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and (c) cyber bullying awareness and response.
5. In all grades, character education must be taught including respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness, and citizenship in order to raise students' honesty, kindness, justice, discipline, respect for others, and moral courage.
- ~~5. In addition, in all grades, bullying prevention and gang resistance education and training must be taught.~~
- ~~6. The School Board is committed to the goal of educating students to function effectively and cooperatively in a pluralistic society. The attainment of this goal shall be fostered by the use of materials reflecting: respect for one's self and others, regardless of economic status, intellectual or physical ability, sex, age, race, color, religion, creed, or ethnic origin, respect for cultural differences, respect for the economic, political, and social rights of others, respect for the rights of others to seek and maintain their own identities.~~
- ~~The District shall make certain that the curriculum emphasizes a positive human relation's attitude. Instructional materials at all grade levels shall reflect and fairly portray the history, contributions, and culture of various ethnic and racial groups in our society.~~
6. In the District, citizenship values must be taught, including: (a) patriotism, (b) democratic principles of freedom, justice, and equality, (c) proper use and display of the American flag, (d) the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem and (e) the voting process.
- ~~7.~~
- ~~8. The School Board of Streator Elementary School District 44 believes that physical education is a vital component of a curriculum program. Physical education instruction provides students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and attitudes necessary to achieve a lifetime of healthful living, acquire physical fitness, develop coordination and participate in leisure time activities to the best of their abilities.~~

~~In all grades, physical education must be taught including a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. Unless otherwise exempted, all students are required to engage daily during the school day in a physical education course. For exemptions and substitutions, see policies 6:310, *Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs*, and 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Activity*.~~

7. In all grades, physical education must be taught including a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. Unless otherwise exempted, all students are required to engage daily during the school day in a physical education course with such frequency as determined by the Board after recommendation from the Superintendent, but at a minimum of three days per five-day week. For exemptions and substitutions, see policies 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-district Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students* and 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.

9.8. In the District, health education must be stressed, including: (a) proper nutrition, (b) physical fitness, (c) components necessary to develop a sound mind in a healthy body, (d) dangers and avoidance of abduction, and (e) age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in all grades. The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law.

10.9. In the District, career/vocational education must be taught, including: (a) the importance of work, (b) the development of basic skills to enter the world of work and/or continue formal education, (c) good work habits and values, (d) the relationship between learning and work, and (e) if possible, a student work program that provides the student with work experience as an extension of the regular classroom. A career awareness and exploration program must be available at all grade levels.

11.10. In the District, conservation of natural resources must be taught, including: (a) home ecology, (b) endangered species, (c) threats to the environment, and (d) the importance of the environment to life as we know it.

12.11. In the District, United States history must be taught, including: (a) the principles of representative government, (b) the Constitutions of the U.S. and Illinois, (c) the role of the U.S. in world affairs, (d) the role of labor unions, and (e) the role and contributions of ethnic groups, including but not limited to, the African Americans, Albanians, Asian Americans, Bohemians, Czechs, French, Germans, Hispanics, (including the events related to the forceful removal and illegal deportation of Mexican-American U.S. citizens during the Great Depression), Hungarians, Irish, Italians, Lithuanians, ~~Native Americans~~, Polish, Russians, Scots, and Slovaks in the history of this country and State.

In addition, all schools shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on Constitution Day, each September 17, commemorating the September 17, 1787 signing of the Constitution. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day shall be held during the preceding or following week.

13.12. In grade 7 and all high school courses concerning U.S. history or a combination of U.S. history and American government, students must view a Congressional Medal of Honor film made by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, provided there is no cost for the film.

- ~~14.13.~~ In the District, the curriculum includes a unit of instruction on the Holocaust and crimes of genocide, including Nazi atrocities of 1933-1945, Armenian Genocide, the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, and more recent atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and Sudan.
- ~~15.14.~~ In the District, the curriculum includes a unit of instruction on the history, struggles, and contributions of women.
- ~~16.15.~~ In the District, the curriculum includes a unit of instruction on Black History, including the history of the African slave trade, slavery in America, and the vestiges of slavery in this country, as well as the struggles and contributions of African-Americans.
- ~~17.16.~~ In the District, instruction during courses as determined by the Superintendent or designee on disability history, awareness, and the disability rights movement.

Academic Freedom

~~Academic freedom within the confines of School Board policy shall be accorded to District students and teachers. The academic climate of the classroom shall be such that students and teachers are free to think and to express ideas and to use instructional materials that are relevant to the subject matter of the classroom and appropriate to the maturity and intellectual and emotional capacities of the students. Such freedom should be used judiciously and prudently to the end that it promotes the free exercise of the intelligence and student learning.~~

~~Academic freedom is not an absolute. It must be exercised within the basic ethical responsibilities of the teaching profession. These responsibilities include:~~

- ~~• a commitment to democratic tradition and its methods;~~
- ~~• a concern for the welfare, growth, and development of students;~~
- ~~• a commitment to the character, qualities, and knowledge;~~
- ~~• application of good taste and judgment in selecting and employing materials and methods of instruction.~~

ADOPTION:

July 17, 2018

June 20, 2017

January 21, 2014

March 27, 2012

February 16, 2010

September 23, 2008

August 10, 2006

- LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 465/3 and 465/3a.
20 ILCS 2605/2605-480.
~~Public Law 108-447, Section 111 of Division J.~~
105 ILCS 5/2-3.80(e) and (f), 5/27-3, 5/27-3.5, 5/27-5, 5/27-6, 5/27-6.5, 5/27-7,
5/27-12, 5/27-12.1, 5/27-13.1, 5/27-13.2, 5/27-20.3, 5/27-20.4, 5/27-20.5,
5/27-20.7, 5/27-21, 5/27-22, ~~5/27-23~~, 5/27-23.3, 5/27-23.4, 5/27-23.7, 5/27-
23.8, 5/27-24.2, 5/27-24.2, 435, and 110/3.
625 ILCS 5/6-408.5.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.420, 1.430, and 1.440.
Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 108-447, Section 111 of
Division J.
Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act, Pub. L. No. 110-385, Title II, 122 stat.
4096 (2008).
47 C.F.R. §54.520.
- CROSS REF.: 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:70
(Teaching About Religions), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:180
(Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment,
7:185(Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student BehaviorDiscipline);
7:260 (Exemption from Physical Activity)