

# Three Rivers School District

Code: IFDA  
Adopted: 6/19/06  
Orig. Code: IFDA

## Educational Program Improvement

The Board of Education is required by statute to determine the educational programs of the school district. The Board recognizes that, as part of the process of improving the instructional program for the students of Three Rivers School District, changes in curriculum or teaching methodologies may be needed. Any proposed change(s) must meet the following criteria before implementation.

1. The proposed change(s) must be supported by credible research<sup>1</sup>.
2. All required curriculum materials must be available and the appropriate staff development must be completed.

The proposed change(s) will first be reviewed by the District Administrative Team. After approval by the Administrative Team, the proposed change(s) will then be reviewed for comment by administrators and site councils of those buildings that will be affected by the proposed change(s). The proposal will then be presented to the Board for its approval.

**Note:** This policy applies to curriculum and teaching methodologies being proposed as mandatory by district office administrators, building administrators, or building site councils.

Credible research is defined as that which has one or more of the following characteristics. The research must:

- \*HAVE BEEN REPLICATED - At least several, sometimes many, studies must find the same results.
- \*MEET RIGOROUS STANDARDS - The study design, execution, and interpretation have met with rigorous peer review.
- \*PRESENT FINDINGS WHICH CAN BE GENERALIZED - The studies are controlled enough to document cause-effect relationships with specific types of people.
- \*USE THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD - Hypotheses are generated on the bases of what is known already; the experiment is designed to disprove the hypotheses. Y is varied to measure the effect on X.
- \*CONVERGENT WITH OTHER FINDINGS - Results make sense in light of findings from other related disciplines; for example, research on speech processing, the brain, and eye movements helps explain why certain instructional practices are effective in teaching reading.

**Note:** The Board recognizes that there are programs which have merit, but have not been subjected to a rigorous study. If a school wishes to pilot such a program it may develop a written proposal which identifies: Why the program should be piloted; any research data that supports this program; an outline of the benefits the school’s students will receive from this program; and how the program will be evaluated.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 332.072](#)  
[ORS 332.075](#)  
[ORS 332.107](#)  
[ORS 336.035](#)

[OAR 581-022-1130](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1210](#)

DELETED