

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Effective curriculum rests upon developing an adequate description of the educational results desired. The curriculum is a means to the desired outcome--pupil learning.

Curriculum development in this school system will be a goal-based process. The process encompasses (1) identification of district goals, (2) identification of program goals and student learning outcomes, (3) curriculum evaluation, and (4) curriculum improvement.

The purposes of the process are to:

1. Respond to the district needs assessment.
2. Establish definitive student learning outcomes in each curriculum area.
3. Evaluate the curriculum and its implementation.
4. Close the gap between what is taught and what should be taught.
5. Provide for continuous curriculum improvement.
6. Provide for curriculum coordination within, between, and across grade levels.
7. Determine how well individual students accomplish program goals and achieve expected learning outcomes.
8. Provide a process for staff and community input in developing and implementing curriculum.
9. Provide an orderly and systematic process which will reduce fragmentation in scope and sequence, unnecessary duplication, and irresponsible use of resources and materials.

The Mansfield School Committee expects the administration and faculty to evaluate the educational program as provided under the approved system for a goal-based curriculum and regularly to report findings to School Committee, along with recommendations. These recommendations may concern modifications of desired learning outcomes, district or program goals; new courses or course content; resources, materials, learning experiences.

The Superintendent will present new courses and new educational programs to the Mansfield School Committee for action, as well as programs and courses that have extensive revisions or additions.

SOURCE: Mansfield