

INSTRUCTION

CURRICULUM CONTENT

The curriculum shall contain instruction on subjects required by State statute or regulation, including the following:

1. Fundamental Content Areas. The following courses shall be included in the curriculum: (a) language arts, reading, and other communication skills, (b) science, (c) mathematics, (d) social studies, (e) fine arts, and (f) applications of technology. Before the completion of grade five, students will take at least one year of cursive writing instruction.
2. Character Development. Every teacher shall model and teach character education, to include the teaching of respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness, and citizenship, in order to raise students' honesty, kindness, justice, discipline, respect for others and moral courage for the purpose of lessening crime, raising the standard of good character, and building proficiency in cultural equality.
3. Patriotism. The Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem, as well as the proper use and display of the American flag, shall be taught along with American patriotism and the principles of representative government as enunciated in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Illinois. The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited each school day in all District 93 schools.
4. Physical Education. Physical Education shall be part of the curriculum of District 93. Specialists in the area of physical education are employed to teach physical education. The District shall comply with the requirements mandated in the Illinois School Code.

Students shall be engaged during the school day, in courses of physical activities for such periods as are compatible with the optimum growth and development needs of individuals at the various age levels, except when appropriate excuses are submitted to the District by the student's parent or guardian or by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act.

For those students whose physical and/or emotional well-being prevent their participation in the District's regular physical education classes, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act, the District shall provide special activities in physical education.

Courses in physical education and training shall be for the purposes of empowering students to take responsibility for their health and well being as well as promote positive attitudes toward lifetime physical activity.

5. Career Education.
 - a. Career education should promote the desire to work and acquire the necessary skills, teach the relationship between learning and work, teach good work habits and values, and discourage occupational stereotyping.
 - b. Mentorships and/or service projects may be developed and implemented under the direction of the Superintendent and other appropriate staff members providing experiences as extensions to the core curriculum.

INSTRUCTION

CURRICULUM CONTENT

6. United States History. Instruction concerning the events of United States History shall be included in the curriculum of District 93. The unit of instruction shall include:
- a. An analysis of the principles for which our government stands as regards other nations, including the study of the place of our government in world-wide movements and the leaders thereof, with emphasis upon the basic principles and ideals of our representative form of government.
 - b. A study of the role and contributions of ethnic groups in the history of this country and this State.
 - c. A study of the role of labor unions and their interaction with government in achieving the goals of a mixed free-enterprise system.

7. History of Women in America. A unit of instruction studying the events of the History of Women in America shall be included in the curriculum of District 93. The unit of instruction shall include:
- a. The contributions made by individual women in government and in the arts, sciences, education, and in the economic, cultural and political development of Illinois and the United States; and
 - b. The struggle of women to gain the right to vote and to be treated equally as they strive to earn and occupy positions of merit in our society; and
 - c. Other events that may be determined to be significant to the history of women.

The School Board shall determine the minimum amount of instructional time, which shall qualify as a unit of instruction to meet the requirements of this policy.

8. Black History. A unit of instruction studying the events of Black History shall be included in the curriculum of District 93. The unit of instruction shall include:
- a. The history of the African slave trade, slavery in America, and the vestiges of slavery in this country; and
 - b. The contributions made by individual African-Americans in government and in the arts, humanities and sciences, and to the economic, cultural and political development of the United States and Africa; and
 - c. The socio-economic struggle which African-Americans experienced collectively in striving to achieve fair and equal treatment under the laws of this nation; and
 - d. Other events, which may be determined to be significant to the study of Black History.

INSTRUCTION

CURRICULUM CONTENT

The studying of Black History shall constitute an affirmation by students of their commitment to respect the dignity of all races and peoples, and to forever eschew every form of discrimination in their lives and careers.

The School Board shall determine the minimum amount of instruction time, which shall qualify as a unit of instruction to meet the requirements of this policy.

9. Holocaust and Genocide Study. A unit of instruction studying the events of the Holocaust and other acts of genocide shall be included in the curriculum of District 93. The unit of instruction shall include:
- a. The events of the Nazi atrocities of 1933 to 1945 known as the Holocaust **and**
 - b. The Armenian Genocide, the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, and more recent atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda and Sudan.

The studying of the Holocaust and other acts of genocide shall constitute a reaffirmation of free peoples from all nations to never again permit the occurrence of another Holocaust and a recognition that crimes of genocide continue to be perpetrated across the globe and to deter indifference to crimes against humanity and human suffering wherever they may occur.

The School Board shall determine the minimum amount of instruction time, which shall qualify as a unit of instruction to meet the requirements of this policy.

10. Conservation of Natural Resources. Instruction, study and discussion of current problems and needs in the conservation of natural resources shall be included in the curriculum of District 93. This instruction shall include:
- a. Instruction, study and discussion of air pollution, water pollution, waste reduction and recycling, the effects of excessive use of pesticides, preservation of wilderness areas, forest management, protection of wildlife and humane care of domestic animals.
11. Health Education. In all schools, 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.
12. Violence Prevention and Conflict Resolution. Instruction concerning violence prevention and conflict resolution shall be included in the curriculum of District 93 for grades 4 through 8, and may be included at earlier grades, provided the program can be exclusively funded by grants from private sources or the federal government.

INSTRUCTION

CURRICULUM CONTENT

13. Internet Safety. Instruction that is age-appropriate on Internet safety shall be taught, the scope of which shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee. The curriculum shall, at a minimum, include: (a) education about appropriate online behavior, (b) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response.
14. Disability. Instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on disability history, awareness, and the disability rights movement.
15. Traffic Injuries. In kindergarten through grade 8, education must be available to students concerning effective methods of preventing and avoiding traffic injuries related to walking and bicycling.

LEGAL REF.: Illinois School Code, Sec. 27-3, 27-4, 27-5, 27-6, 27-7, 27-12, 27-13.1, 27-20.3, 27-20.4, 27-20.5, 27-21, 27-23.4, and 110/3 (105 ILCS 5/27-3, 5/27-4, 5/27-5, 5/27-6, 5/27-7, 5/27-12, 5/27-13.1, 5/27-20.3, 5/27-20.4, 5/27-20.5, 5/27-20.7, 5/27-21, 5/27-23.4, 5/27-23.8, and 110/3), 5/27-23.11
Illinois Medical Practice Act (225 ILCS 60/1, et seq.), and
23 Ill. Admin. Code §1.420.

CROSS REF.: 620, 625.02, 625.03, 625.04, 625.05, 625.07, 625.10

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