

Instruction

Curriculum

The curricula of the schools shall be in harmony with the Board of Education's adopted goals and legal requirements.

Curriculum development by the certified staff shall be guided by such factors as the following:

1. Actual studies and information concerning the needs of students in this school district.
2. The range of abilities, aptitudes and interests of the students.
3. Aspirations of residents of the school district for the students.
4. The mobility of the population, making it necessary to provide education for the students useful anywhere in the world.
5. Avoidance of discrimination.

The Board of Education desires that unnecessary duplication of work among the various school levels be eliminated, and that courses of study and syllabi be coordinated effectively.

The Board of Education favors providing opportunities for faculty to consult and assist in curriculum development through such devices as workshops, study groups, assistance from outside consultants, and an extended school year to allow teachers to devote summertime to the effort. The curriculum development/revision process will be conducted by a District Curriculum Committee that has the responsibility to recommend, develop, review, and approve all curriculum for the District and said curriculum shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Education.

The Board of Education reserves the responsibility for establishing and approving curricula for the school district. Teachers shall teach within the approved curricula.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 10-15 Towns to maintain schools.
 10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited.
 10-16b Prescribed courses of study.
 10-18 Courses in United States history, government and duties and responsibilities of citizenship.
 10-18a Contents of textbooks and other general instructional materials.
 10-19 Effect of alcohol, nicotine, or tobacco and drugs to be taught.
 10-220 Duties of boards of education as amended by PA 08-153.
 10-221a High School graduation requirements.

Policy adopted: January 17, 2012

PUTNAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 Putnam, Connecticut

Instruction

Curriculum

1. Coordination of learning programs is desirable to ensure that students will receive a common core of instruction. Consistency will permit teachers to better plan for the learning needs of students.

2. Coordination of learning programs in Putnam will be provided by:

A. Development of:

- (1) Learning objectives for each subject area.
- (2) List of current primary texts, or in the case of a subject not using a text, list of primary activities and materials.
- (3) Specification of the amount of time subjects are offered. The Curriculum Council will be responsible for the documentation process.

B. Program reviews:

Learning programs will be presented at Board of Education meetings - both as part of the budget process and during other times of the year with emphasis on objectives and achievements. Each program will be reviewed at least every other year.

3. **The Curriculum Council**

- #### **A. Purpose:**
- The Curriculum Council will be the district-wide organization responsible for advising the Superintendent on curriculum matters.

B. Membership

1. Teachers will be elected on a rotating basis by the instructional staff: three teachers for the high school, two teachers for the middle school and for the elementary school.
2. Teachers will be elected on a rotating basis to serve two-year terms.
3. Ex-officio members of the council are the Board of Education representative, the Superintendent, all school Principals, their assistants, and a parent representative.

Instruction

Curriculum (continued)

C. Responsibilities of the Council include:

1. Review the curriculum research and development budget.
2. Establish and direct the activities of standing and ad hoc committees and be responsive to other instructional needs of the district.
3. Keep school faculties informed of curriculum council activities, such as: posting of minutes, meeting with faculty members, and publishing of a periodic newsletter.
4. Recommend the adoption of new primary learning materials submitted by standing committees of the council or schools.
5. Coordinate curriculum objectives as developed by standing committees and staff.
6. Distribute curriculum materials and objectives that are developed under the auspices of the Council.
7. Submit an annual report to the Superintendent concerning the Council's activities.