

## **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

The purpose of this Curriculum Development Policy is to design and make available a continually updated curricular which is coordinated from pre-Kindergarten through grade 12 and is consistent with the state frameworks.

Continuous assessment and reflection is required to maintain an up-to-date and effective curriculum in a constantly changing world. The Ipswich School Committee will encourage and support the professional staff in its efforts to investigate new curriculum ideas and to develop and improve programs and assessments.

The superintendent is responsible for supporting the Director of Teaching and Learning in guiding and leading the Compass Committee for curriculum development for the Ipswich School System. The Compass Committee members are designated personnel with the responsibility of understanding district approved curriculum that integrate locally developed Successful Habits of Mind. Compass members work with the Director of Teaching and Learning to have a strong working knowledge of an integrated curriculum development process that includes the Successful Habits of Mind and the state standards within a Powerful Learning environment. These curriculum development processes will be shared with the broader school community to help build capacity and alignment for curriculum development district-wide.

Curriculum development -- including researching, writing, giving feedback to and implementing -- will be carried out under the supervision of the superintendent and Director of Teaching and Learning as consistent with related School Committee policies, Common Core and state frameworks.

Compass Committee members' duties and responsibilities are as follows:

- Facilitate the development of a shared curriculum vision connected to district, school and team goals.
- Participate in curriculum design professional development provided by the district.
- Collaborate with other Compass Committee members to develop a curriculum delivery system.
- Model the development on an integrated curriculum unit for colleagues.
- Facilitate and encourage continued design and alignment at the district, building and team level
- Acts as a liaison/resource to colleagues and administrators

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In addition to the work of the Compass Committee, the Director of Teaching and Learning may work with other professional staff to develop and offer opportunities for teachers to research, write and implement curriculum. It is the role of the Director of Teaching and Learning, in supervision of the Compass Committee and/or other professional staff, to assure the alignment of curriculum to best support the learning of Ipswich Public School students.

Teachers have professional obligations to the school program beyond regular classroom duties. These obligations include on curriculum committees and writing curriculum that is aligned with both the district and state. It is expected that all teachers engage in curriculum writing work.

Additionally, the Director of Teaching and Learning with the support of the superintendent may bring together staff members currently employed by the school system and oversee them in curriculum research, writing, alignment and/or reviewing work. This may happen either during the summer or at another time.

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