7.02 CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

The Board of Education recognizes that, in order to foster the role of education in a democratic society and to ensure equal opportunity to students of different personality characteristics and viewpoints, it may not permit the curriculum to remain static. The Board deems it essential that the School District continually develop and modify its curriculum to meet the changing needs and diversity of its citizenry. While the Board retains its full rights and responsibilities under the laws of Ohio with regard to the determination of the curriculum, it authorizes the administration to organize advisory committees, which may be comprised of students, parents, teachers, administrators, and other stakeholders to periodically review the curriculum and advise the Board of curriculum changes. To this end, a continuous study by staff and administration shall be conducted to update and improve the curriculum in each subject area, and the allocation of educational resources shall be evaluated once every three (3) years to ensure that they are allocated in an effective and equitable manner.

For purposes of this policy and consistent communication throughout the District, curriculum shall be defined as Ohio's Academic Content Standards, the courses of study, subjects, classes, and organized activities provided by the school.

The following guidelines have been established by the Board for use by the administration and advisory committees:

A. The curriculum shall be developed to comply with the Operating Standards for Ohio Elementary and Secondary Schools and to meet local needs and shall provide for the use of phonics in the teaching of reading in grades K through 2.

B. The state standards and model curriculum established by the State Board of Education in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, together with other relevant resources, examples, or models may be utilized to ensure that students have the opportunity to attain the statewide academic standards.

C. The curriculum and instructional program shall be consistent with the District's educational philosophy and goals and ensure the possibility of their achievement and be characterized by systematic planning, articulation, and evaluation.

D. The curriculum shall provide for the needs of all students.

E. Course offerings and teaching methods that will strengthen student character, firmness of student conviction, and integrity of purpose shall be explored.

F. Curriculum shall include instruction aligned with the success sequence, as defined in section 3301.0717 of the Ohio Revised Code.

G. Curriculum requirements of the State Department of Education shall be reviewed and recommendations for change, if any, shall be made to the Board, which may choose to communicate them to state officials.

A dynamic instructional program requires on-going alteration in the curriculum and courses of study.

No basic course of study shall be eliminated or new courses added without the approval of the

Franklin Local Board of Education, nor shall any alteration or reduction of a course of study be made without such approval.