

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish broad curriculum parameters for the NWSISD that encompass the Minnesota Academic Standards.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of NWSISD is to support the “world’s best workforce” in which all learning in NWSISD member districts should be directed and for which all NWSISD learners should be held accountable.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Academic standard” means a summary description of student learning in a required content area or elective content area.
- B. “Benchmark” means specific knowledge or skill that a student must master to complete part of an academic standard by the end of the grade level or grade band.
- C. “Curriculum” means district or school adopted programs and written plans for providing students with learning experiences that lead to expected knowledge, skills, and career and college readiness.
- D. “Instruction” means methods of providing learning experiences that enable students to meet state and district academic standards and graduation requirements.
- E. “Performance measures” are measures to determine school district and school site progress in striving to create the world’s best workforce and must include at least the following:
 - 1. the size of the academic achievement gap and rigorous course taking, including college-level advanced placement, international baccalaureate, postsecondary enrollment options, including concurrent enrollment, other rigorous courses of study or industry certification courses or programs, and enrichment experiences by student subgroup;
 - 2. student performance on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments;
 - 3. high school graduation rates; and
 - 4. career and college readiness under Minn. Stat. § 120B.30, Subd. 1.
- F. “World’s best workforce” means striving to: meet school readiness goals; have all third-grade students achieve grade-level literacy; close the academic achievement gap among all racial and ethnic groups of students and between students living in poverty and students not living in poverty; have all students attain career and college readiness before graduating from high school; and have all students graduate from high school.
- G. “Experiential learning” means learning for students that includes career exploration through a specific class or course or through work-based experiences such as job shadowing, mentoring, entrepreneurship, service learning, volunteering, internships, other cooperative work experience, youth apprenticeship, or employment.

IV. LONG TERM STRATEGIC PLAN

NWSISD shall support the membership districts’ adopted comprehensive, long-term strategic plan to support and improve teaching and learning, that is aligned with creating the world’s best workforce, which includes Achievement and Integration goals.

References: Minn. Stat § 120B.11 (School District Process)

Cross References: NWSISD Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
NWSISD Policy 614 (State and Federal Required Testing)
NWSISD Policy 615 (Basic Standards Testing, Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEP, Section 504 Accommodation and LEP Students)
NWSISD Policy 616 (NWSISD System Accountability)

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