

## **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

This policy will apply to grades PreK-12 and establishes the philosophy on which the curriculum will be developed. Its purpose is to establish the general curriculum goals from which the administration will develop the instructional objectives and activities, budget priorities and public relation programs.

The mission of the Westfield Public Schools is to provide all students with educational opportunities that promote continuous learning, independent living, and participation as productive and responsible members of society.

In pursuit of this mission, the schools will:

- \* Develop an elementary school program that will
  - place primary emphasis upon the basic skill areas of reading, language arts and mathematics;
  - provide each learner with the knowledge and understanding necessary to become a responsible citizen;
  - strive to develop in each learner an appreciation and respect for the culturally diverse nature of today's society;
  - build a rich collection of experiences for the learner which will promote scientific literacy;
  - enhance the resiliency of each child by establishing a program that will shape healthy attitudes, beliefs, and habits;
  - develop sensory awareness, aesthetic discrimination and skill development through art, music and physical education.
  
- \* Provide a middle school program that will:
  - allow the student to use the knowledge and skills acquired in elementary school;
  - emphasize the core academic areas of language arts, social studies, mathematics and science;
  - offer exploratory experiences in art, music, physical education, health, family and consumer science, technical arts, and modern foreign language.
  - incorporate, where feasible, an organized activity period to allow the individual the opportunity to pursue learning experiences that are related to future lifetime interests.
  
- \* Provide a comprehensive high school program that will:
  - enable students to maximize their academic, occupational, personal and societal possibilities;

- offer a strong relevant academic core supplemented by academic and non-academic electives which allow for the development of personal creative talents and interests.
- prepare students for their future roles as citizens, leaders, community and family members, employees and business owners through career and employment preparation.

Adopted: June 29, 1998

Revised: May 16, 2005