

Montville Township Public Schools Curriculum Review & Approval Process

New Jersey Student Learning Standards &
Comprehensive Health & Physical
Education

Presented by: Andrea Woodring
April 26, 2022



2020
**New Jersey Student Learning
Standards**

NJ Department of Education's Standards Review & Revision Process

- **N.J.A.C 6A:8-2.1**
 - **6A:8-2.1 Authority for educational goals and standards**
 - (a) The State Board of Education is responsible for establishing State educational goals and standards according to P.L. 1990, c. 52, P.L. 1991, c. 3, and P.L. 1991, c. 62.
 - The State Board initiates a review and readoption process for the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) every five years, based on recommendations by the Commissioner according to the following procedure:
 - The Commissioner presents to the State Board at a public meeting any recommended revision(s) to the NJSLS and the associated indicators.
 - Advanced notice(s) of the State Board meeting where recommendations to the NJSLS are considered is published in the *New Jersey Register*
 - The State Board will conduct public hearing on the recommendations at dates, times and locations announced in *New Jersey Register*
 - Upon State Board adoption, the Commissioner (NJDOE) will publish and distribute to district boards of education and the general public the revised NJSLS.

Local District Boards of Education

- **N.J.A.C 6A:8-3.1 – Subchapter 3. Implementation of The New Jersey Student Learning Standards**
 - **6A:8-2.1 Curriculum and Instruction**
 - (a) District boards of education shall ensure that curriculum and instruction are designed and delivered in such a way that all students are able to demonstrate the knowledge and skills specified by the NJSLS and shall ensure that appropriate instructional adaptations are designed and delivered for students with disabilities, for ELLs, for students enrolled in alternative education programs, and for students who are gifted and talented.
 - The Department shall provide district boards of education with Standards support materials that **suggest** a variety of activities and strategies that **may assist in the development of local curricula** aligned with the NJSLS

Montville Township Curriculum Revision & Review Process

- **As per the agreement between the Montville BOE and the MTEA, teachers are paid a stipend to write or revise curriculum.**
- **Curriculum writing/revising stipends are included in the district's budget.**
 - **Teachers are approved to write/revise curriculum by the BOE.**
 - **Teachers are given from July to May to write /revise.**
 - **Teachers write/revise in teams**
 - **Solicit feedback during process from department/or grade level colleagues & supervisor**
 - **Create curriculum document using district template**

Montville Township Curriculum Approval Process

- **All new or revised curricula are submitted to the department supervisor**
 - **Responsible for thoroughly reviewing and requesting changes**
 - **Submits edited draft to the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction**
- **Every curricula is reviewed by Assistant Superintendent for C&I**
 - **Proofreads, edits, revises documents as needed**
 - **Ensures compliance with all laws, statutes, mandates**
 - **Evaluates resources and assessments**
 - **Reviews for rigor and research-based instructional practices**

Montville Township Curriculum Approval Process (cont.)

- **Assistant Superintendent for C&I presents all draft curricula to the Board's Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Committee**
 - **CIT Committee discusses the proposed curricula and provides consent for the curricula to be Board approved**
 - **Full Board has access to the draft curricula**
- **Draft curricula are placed on the BOE agenda for full Board approval**
 - **Public has access to the linked draft curricula & has opportunity to comment during public participation**
- **BOE approves curricula**
- **New curricula are placed on District website under Curriculum & Instruction page**

FACTS - 2020 Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Standards

- There is **no approved curriculum or resources** that is mandated by the NJ Department of Education that the district must use.
- The *Advocates For Youth* curriculum and lesson plans are **NOT** state-mandated and **DO NOT** have to be used in New Jersey classrooms.
- The teachers, supervisor, and Assistant Superintendent will research and evaluate all resources before they are included in the curriculum documents.
- At this time, the district's health curriculum (K-12) **is still being revised** to align with the 2020 NJSLS for CHPE.
- The updated health curricula **have not yet been approved** by the Board.

Requirements for all Comprehensive Health & Physical Education Curricula

Grades K-12

- Mental Health (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.39)
- Sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.5a.)
- Accident and Fire Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A:6-2)
- Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco, Controlled Dangerous Substances, and Anabolic Steroids (N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-1)
- Gang Violence Prevention (18A:35-4.26)
- Suicide Prevention (N.J.S.A. 18A: 6-111) - **starting in grade 5**

Grades 6-12

- Consent (N.J.S.A. 18A:35)
- Stress Abstinence (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.19-20)

Grades 7-12

- Sexting (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.33) - **only in Grade 7**
- Dating Violence Education (N.J.S.A. 18A: 35-4.23a)
- Breast Self-Examination (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5.4)

Grades 9-12

- New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.40 & 18A:35-4.41)
- CPR/ AED Instruction (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.28-4.29)
- Organ Donation (N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-4.3)

Requirements within All Approved Curricula in All Content Areas

Grades K-12

- 21st Century Themes & Skills (N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.1(a)3)
- Amistad Law (N.J.S.A. 18A 52:16A-88)
- Holocaust Law (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-28)
- Diversity and Inclusion Law (N.J.S.A.18A:35-4.36a)

Middle School & High School (Grades 6-12)

- Individuals with Disabilities and LGBT Statutes (N.J.S.A.18A:35-4.35)

Parents' Rights

18A:35-4.7. Parent's statement of conflict with conscience

Any child whose parent or guardian presents to the school principal a signed statement that any part of the instructions in **health, family life education or sex education** is in conflict with his conscience, or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from that portion of the course where such instruction is being given and no penalties as to credit or graduation shall result therefrom.

District Policy 5250 - Excusal From Class or Program

The Board of Education directs that a pupil be excused from any part of the instructions in **health education, family life education, sex education**, or instruction that includes dissection of animals that the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the pupil or the adult pupil finds morally, conscientiously, or religiously offensive. A request for excusal must be presented in a signed statement and submitted to the Building Principal.

An excused pupil shall be assigned to an alternate program of independent study on a substitute topic within the health education, family life education, or sex education program. The parent's or legal guardian's right of excusal applies to any alternate program as well.

No excused pupil will be penalized by loss of credit as a result of his/her excusal, but a pupil will be held accountable for successful completion of any alternate program assigned.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7

Questions?