

DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT	POLICY CODE: IGE
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CURRICULUM GUIDES AND COURSE OUTLINES

Curriculum guides shall be provided for the school district's various subject areas. These guides shall present at least a minimal outline for instruction and a basis for further development of the particular course.

In instances where state curriculum guides are mandated, they shall be followed. In all other situations, the schools will develop courses of study, as reflected by the needs of the local situation. The guides shall be designed to assist all users in strengthening and in clarifying their philosophy regarding the teaching of a subject and will, when possible, suggest a variety of possibilities for instruction, patterns of individualization, variations of approaches, and materials.

1. Development of Guides

- a. Curriculum guides should be initially developed by the staff and teachers who are to use them.
- b. Where entire staff participation is not feasible, a system of representatives of staff and/or departments concerned shall form committees for study, creation, and revision of any particular guide.
- c. When work is completed on a guide, the committee responsible for its development shall present it through the superintendent to the School Board.

2. Use of Guides

- a. Curriculum guides are to serve as a framework from which a teacher will develop units of study, individual lesson plans, and approaches to instruction which will serve the pupils' particular need at a particular time. The guides shall be used to map the logical sequence of instruction.
- b. In subjects where sequence is important, such as mathematics, teachers shall be expected to adhere to the guide. In subjects where sequential learning is less important, teachers may be given a greater degree of freedom with respect to sequence.
- c. When feasible, sufficient latitude should be permitted to allow the teacher to include material which adds to motivation and meaningful teaching and learning.
- d. It will be the principal's responsibility to see that optimum use is made of available curriculum guides.