

Technical Academies of Minnesota

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Revised: 8/29/2023, 11/26/2024, 1/27/2026

603 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for the continuous review and improvement of the charter school curriculum.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Curriculum development shall be directed toward fulfilling the goals and objectives of the charter school's education program.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

The Curriculum Committee shall be responsible for developing the curriculum, determining the most effective approach to researching the charter school's curriculum needs, and establishing a long-range curriculum development program. Timelines shall be determined by the Curriculum Committee, which will conduct periodic reviews of each curriculum area.

IV. CHARTER SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- A. The charter school board must establish an advisory committee, which is the Academic Excellence Committee, to ensure active community participation in all phases of planning and improving the instruction and curriculum affecting state and charter school academic standards.
- B. The Charter School Academic Excellence Committee, to the extent possible, must reflect the diversity of the charter school and its school sites, include teachers, parents, support staff, students, and other community residents, and provide translation to the extent appropriate and practicable. Whenever possible, parents and other community residents must comprise at least two-thirds of the committee members.
- C. The Charter School Academic Excellence Committee must pursue community support to accelerate the academic and native literacy and achievement of English learners with varied needs, from young children to adults, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.59, subdivisions 2 and 2a.
- D. The charter school may establish site teams as subcommittees of the Charter School Academic Excellence Committee.

- E. The Charter School Academic Excellence Committee must recommend to the school board:
 - 1. rigorous academic standards, student achievement goals, and measures consistent with Minnesota Statutes, sections 120B.11, subdivision 1a, 120B.022 subdivisions 1a and 1b, and 120B.35;
 - 2. charter school assessments;
 - 3. means to improve students' equitable access to effective and more diverse teachers;
 - 4. strategies to ensure the curriculum is rigorous, accurate, antiracist, culturally sustaining, and reflects the diversity of the student population;
 - 5. strategies to ensure that curriculum and learning and work environments validate, affirm, embrace, and integrate the cultural and community strengths of all racial and ethnic groups; and
 - 6. program evaluations.
- F. School sites may expand upon charter school evaluations of instruction, curriculum, assessments, or programs.

V. SCHOOL SITE TEAM

Each school must establish a site team to develop and implement strategies and educational effectiveness practices that improve instruction, curriculum, cultural competencies, including cultural awareness and cross-cultural communication, and student achievement at the school site. The site team must include school staff and at least one parent or guardian. The site team advises the charter school board and the Academic Excellence Committee on developing the annual budget and creates an instructional and curriculum improvement plan to align curriculum, assess student progress, and promote growth in meeting state and charter school academic standards and instructional goals.

VI. CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- A. Students who do not meet or exceed Minnesota academic standards, as measured by the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments that are administered during high school, shall be informed that admission to a public school is free and available to any resident under 21 years of age or who meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.20,

subdivision 1(c). A student's plan under this section shall remain in effect while the student is enrolled.

- B. The Academic Excellence Committee shall be responsible for keeping the charter school board informed of all state-mandated curriculum changes, as well as recommended discretionary changes, and for periodically presenting recommended modifications for charter school board review and approval.
- C. The Academic Excellence Committee shall have discretionary authority to develop guidelines and directives to implement charter school board policy relating to curriculum development.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120A.20 (Admission to Public School)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.10 (Findings; Improving Instruction and Curriculum)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement Goals; Striving for Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.12 (Read Act Goal and Interventions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.125(f) (Planning for Students' Successful Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment; Personal Learning Plans)
Minn. Stat. § 124E.03 (Applicable Law)
Minn. Rules Part 3500.0550 (Inclusive Educational Program)
Minn. Rules Part 3501.0660 (Academic Standards for Kindergarten through Grade 12)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
Minn. Rules Part 3501.0820 (Academic Standards for the Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0960 (Academic Standards in Science)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1200-3501.1210 (Academic Standards for English Language Development)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 (Academic Standards for Social Studies)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1400-3501.1410 (Academic Standards for Physical Education)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 604 (Instructional Curriculum)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 605 (Alternative Programs)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (Charter School Testing Plan and Procedure)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and

LEP Students)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (Charter School System Accountability)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Student Achievement)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 619 (Staff Development for Standards)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 620 (Credit for Learning)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 623 (Mandatory Summer School Instruction)