

The board welcomes new and innovative ideas in curriculum as additional opportunities to achieve the goals and objectives of the educational program. The school district and individual schools are encouraged to pursue innovative programs and to take advantage of community resources in order to enhance and enrich the learning process. In addition, the board believes that parental involvement is vital to the development and implementation of new programs and encourages the school district and schools to actively involve parents in innovative projects.

The board encourages schools to use resources in the community, including businesses, which can effectively contribute to the advancement of educational goals. Resource persons in the community may be used in the classroom to help with teaching the prescribed curriculum. High school administrators are encouraged to partner with local businesses to facilitate high school-to-work partnerships for students who have indicated that they are unlikely to seek higher education. The board encourages local businesses to work with high school administrators to create opportunities for students to complete job shadows, internships or apprenticeships. The career and technical education administrator shall designate a career development coordinator at each high school to be the contact person for local businesses.

The superintendent shall periodically consult with local industries, employers, business advisory councils, and the local workforce development board to identify industry certification and credentials the board may offer to best meet workforce needs. The superintendent shall consider this information in planning the educational program.

Other innovative pilot programs may be initiated by any school with the approval of the superintendent. Such programs should be included in the proposed school improvement plan. If the program will modify the curriculum, the proposal should first be submitted to the curriculum committee in accordance with board policy 3100, Curriculum Development. If a school improvement plan already is in effect, the school may submit a modified plan for board approval. Board approval is required before implementation can take place.

All pilot projects and educational programs will follow state and federal laws and regulations. Parents and guardians of children in the applicable programs which are federally funded have the right to inspect all instructional materials used in connection with such programs.

The superintendent will develop administrative regulations, as necessary, to implement this policy.

Before any teacher or school initiates or implements any experimental program of study or activity representing a marked departure from established practice, such proposal must be recommended by the principal to the superintendent of schools for approval.

# **INNOVATION IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

*Policy Code: 3110*

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This policy is not intended to discourage schools from developing innovative programs. It establishes the procedure by which they should be implemented.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. 1232h; G.S. 115C; art. 16, 115C; -36, -47, -156.2(a),-157

Cross References: Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Curriculum Development (policy 3100), School Improvement Plan (policy 3430)

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