

BOURBON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL COUNCIL POLICY

DISTRICT: BOURBON COUNTY SCHOOLS

COUNCIL POLICY TYPE (Check One)

By-Laws (Council Operations Policies)

Function (School Operations Policies)

Policy Number

09 • 00

POLICY TOPIC DESCRIPTION: Instructional Practices

POLICY STATEMENT

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

All instruction shall be aligned with the school's curriculum.

On a regular basis in each class, each teacher will:

1. Create lessons that are congruent with Kentucky Program of Studies and Core-Content.
2. Use of curriculum maps and pacing guides.
3. Use varied student-centered instructional strategies.
4. Address various learning styles and the multiple intelligences.
5. Incorporate vocabulary strategies.
6. Use activities where all students engage in higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills.
7. Make active use of interdisciplinary connections.
8. Assign tasks similar to those used for state and local assessments.
9. Provide opportunities for students to connect their learning to real-life experiences.
10. Adjust instruction to respond to the diversity of students in that class, including their cultural backgrounds, learning styles, and any disabilities and any special gifts and talents identified in Individual Education Plans.
11. Use technology for appropriate and varied learning activities.
12. Use technology to expand the classroom into the community.

13. Use instructional resources that are developmentally appropriate to the students in the class.
14. Use instructional resources that reflect appropriate diversity.
15. Use a variety of electronic and printed instructional resources.
16. Assign homework that extends students learning on class-time subjects.
17. Collaborate with other teachers in the department..

In addition, each specific department will utilize best practices for their department, including but not limited to the following:

MATH

- Use of manipulative materials
- Problem-solving strategies
- Questioning and making conjectures
- Real-world problems and applications
- Discuss, read, and write mathematics
- Justifying answers and solution processes

SCIENCE

- Hands-on activities
 - Focus on underlying concepts about how natural phenomena are explained
- Questions, thinking, and problem solving
- Teacher facilitating students' investigative steps
- Evaluation that focuses on scientific concepts, processes, and attitudes

ENGLISH

- Time for independent reading
- Student's choice of their own reading material
- Exposing students to a wide range of literature
- Writing before and after reading
- Teaching skills in the context of whole and meaningful literature
- Student ownership and responsibility
- Class time spent on writing whole, original pieces
- Teaching modeling writing—drafting, revising, sharing
- Making the classroom a supportive setting for the class and for wider communities

SOCIAL STUDIES

- In-depth study of topics in each social studies field
- Emphasis on activities that engage students in inquiry and problem solving about significant human issues
- Student decision making and participation in wider social, political, and economic affairs
- Students' inquiry about the cultural groups they belong to, and others represented in their school and community

HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Open and free discussion among students

- Exposing students to a wide range of health topics
- Expose students equally to both classroom instruction and engagement in physical activity.

CAREER and TECHNICAL EDUCATION

- Student originality in projects
- Hands on activities
- Incorporate student Kentucky Occupational Skills Standards as related to the course and regulated activities..

ART

- Art making; more doing of art, music, dance, drama
- Student originality, choice, and responsibility in art making
- Stress on the process of creation, the steps and stages of careful craftsmanship

PRINCIPAL'S ROLE

The principal and assistant principal's will:

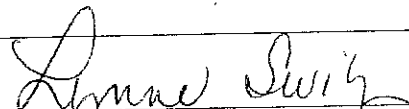
1. Check for success in implementing this policy as part of regular classroom observation and evaluation of each teacher.
2. Include areas under this policy where each teacher needs additional work and include those in recommendations for that teacher's professional growth.

EVALUATION

Our School Improvement Planning process includes a regular cycle of reviewing data on student performance and data on our alignment with Kentucky's Standards and Indicators for School Improvement. By analyzing that data, we will be able to tell how well this policy is being implemented and having an impact, and therefore able to tell when changes are needed.

Date Adopted: 11 March 2009

Signature


Council Chairperson

