



Policy: 9.37

**SUBJECT:**                    **BASIC INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM**

**Supersedes:**                IGA  
**Effective:**                    September 8, 2008  
**Page:**                            1 of 2  
**Approved by:**             Detroit Board of Education

## **1.0 Policy**

The district's instructional program will be designed to implement the educational philosophy and goals approved by the Board.

Instructional emphasis in reading, mathematics, and communication skills, particularly at elementary and middle-school levels, will be directed toward giving students a strong foundation in the basic learning skills. The central administration will recommend time allotments for these subjects and for social studies, science, physical education, music and art.

The program of middle schools will be structured according to plans approved by the Board. Alternative plans, however, may be developed by a school and tried out on an experimental basis. There will be five basic curriculum areas, with classes taught by teachers who possess the background and skills for effective instruction in the fields: language arts, including basic reading as needed; social studies; mathematics and science; health and physical education; art, music, industrial education, home economics, and personal typing.

Basic programs in the district's high schools will be those required for all students for high school graduation, including students in the Cass Technical High School, Renaissance High School and other alternative schools. A wide variety of courses and programs will be offered in each of the high schools. Regardless of the high school they attend, students throughout the city should be given equal opportunity in course and program selection.

Although particular course offerings and teaching approaches may vary school to school and area to area, programs in basic curriculum areas will be coordinated and sequenced level to level so that students can make satisfactory progress if they change schools or move to new areas of the city and when they move from elementary to middle school, and from middle school to high school.

Upon the recommendation of the General Superintendent and staff and the Board's curriculum committee, the Board may adopt, as it finds desirable, a standard curriculum in a basic or required subject for all schools at any level.

**Attachments to Policy 9.37:**           None

**Legal References:**   MCLA § 380.1166  
                              MCLA § 380.1170  
                              MCLA § 380.1171  
  
                              MCLA § 380.1278  
                              MCLA § 380.1282  
                              MCLA § 380.1502

**Labor Contract References:**       None