

Willington Board of Education Curriculum Overview

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What IS Curriculum?

Curriculum is a standards-based sequence of planned experiences where students practice and achieve proficiency in content and applied learning skills. Curriculum is the central guide for all educators as to what is essential for teaching and learning, so that every student has access to rigorous and relevant academic experiences. - RIDE 2021

What Curriculum is NOT?

Curriculum is not a course, textbook, materials, videos and/or worksheets that help us instruct students, it is the knowledge and skills that students are expected to learn as they progress through our school system

Curriculum is not designed for the public, it is designed to be a guide for teachers

Curriculum is not concrete, it is a living document that is adjusted to reflect needs, influences and new learning

Curriculum is not just a written document, it encompasses written, taught and assessed experiences

Why the shift in teaching strategies?

Old Curriculum

Information does not change.
Education is for knowing
Teacher as the information provider
Teacher as the only decision maker
One-way communication
Product-based
School for individual's learning
Parents do not know about education
Competency-based learning
Norm-referenced assessment
Teacher knows the answers

New Curriculum

Information changes
Education is for understanding
Teacher as the facilitator
Teacher and students make decisions
Two-way communication
Process-based
School for everyone's learning
Parent involvement is essential
Community-based learning
Criterion-based assessment
There is more than one solution and the teacher may not know all the answers

Image from www.researchgate.net

CT Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

ELA CCSS Standards (Curricular Abbreviations) [K-5](#) and [6-12](#) progression

- Reading: Literature (RL)
- Reading: Informational Text (RI)
- Reading: Foundational Skills (RF)
- Writing (W)
- Speaking and Listening (SL)
- Language (L)

RL.3.1 = reading literature, grade 3, standard number

Topic/Theme Overview for ELA- Kindergarten

Reading	Writing
We Are Readers (building reading habits)	Launching the Writing Workshop (writing teaching books and true stories)
Super Powers (reading with print strategies)	Writing for Readers (writing narratives for an audience)
Bigger Books, Bigger Reading Muscles (building even stronger reading habits)	How-To Books (writing to teach others)
Becoming Avid Readers (growing independence)	Persuasive Writing of All Kinds

Glossary of Terms

Priority Standards- represent the assured student competencies that each teacher needs to help every student learn, and demonstrate proficiency in, by the end of the current grade or course” (Ainsworth, 2013, p. xv)

Supporting Standards- are “those standards that support, connect to, or enhance the Priority Standards

SWBAT- acronym for **S**tudents **W**ill **B**e **A**ble **T**o

LETRS- **L**anguage **E**ssentials for **T**eachers of **R**eadng and **S**pelling training program for teachers that build capacity in the Science of Reading

Unit Overview

[Reading Grade 3 Unit 4 \(Spring\)](#)

Parent Resources

[Common Core State Standards Info](#)

Illustrative Math (IM)- [6-8 Parent Support Links](#); [K-5 Support Links](#)

[Science of Reading](#)

[Reading and Writing Workshop for Parents](#)