

The various instructional programs will be developed to maintain a balanced, integrated, and sequential curriculum that will serve the educational needs of all school-aged children in the District. The curriculum will be broad in scope and provide for a wide range in rate, readiness, and potential for learning.

The instructional program will include planned sequences of instruction, based on Public Education Department approved academic content and performance standards when instructing in specific Department required subject areas.

In addition to the grade level requirements delineated below, the planned instructional program for all students shall also include library instruction, individual study, guidance, other appropriate instructional activities, and all instruction required under State law and Public Education Department regulations.

## **I. GRADES K-3**

In kindergarten, first, second, and third grades, classes shall provide instruction in:

- reading and language arts skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, and comprehension, and mathematics daily.

Instruction in first through third grades shall also include:

- art;
- music;
- Spanish language; and
- instruction that meets content and performance standards in science, social studies, physical education, and health education.

## **II. GRADES 4-8**

In fourth through eighth grades, instruction that meets academic content and performance standards shall be provided in the following subject areas:

- reading and language arts skills, with an emphasis on writing and editing for at least one (1) year and an emphasis on grammar and writing for at least one (1) year;
- mathematics;
- Spanish language;
- communication skills;
- science;
- art;
- music;
- social studies;
- New Mexico history;
- United States history;
- geography;
- physical education; and
- health education.

Algebra I shall be offered at eighth grade for high school credit.

**III. GRADES 9-12**

In high school, curricula shall be aligned with the placement tests administered by two (2) and four (4) year public educational institutions in New Mexico, be comprehensive in nature, and shall be aligned with the following State content and performance standards:

- mathematics;
- reading and language arts;
- physical and health education;
- science;
- social studies; and
- career/technical education.

The high school shall offer at least one (1) honors or similarly academically rigorous class in both mathematics and language arts.

The high school shall offer a program of courses for dual-credit, in cooperation with an institution of higher education, and a program of distance learning courses.

The high school shall offer instruction in at least two years of language other than English.

The high school shall offer student service learning and financial literacy courses as electives.