

Basic Instructional Program

Mapleton Public Schools (the “District”) is dedicated to fostering an atmosphere in which healthy growth is nurtured, ability is recognized, excellence is encouraged, and a productive life is held before students as a model to emulate. The District educational program shall provide formal studies to meet the general academic needs of all students to enable them to meet or exceed state and District standards. To the extent possible, opportunities for individual students to develop specific talents and interests will also be provided.

The various instructional programs are developed with the view toward maintaining balanced, integrated, and sequentially articulated curricula which will serve the educational needs of all students in the District.

Elementary Level

At the elementary level, schools will provide yearly instruction and assessment in the following academic standards: English language arts, mathematics, science, history, economics, geography, civics, music, visual arts, and physical education. Schools will provide interventions to prepare students for middle level education. In addition, as part of building citizenship skills, the elementary schools will instruct students about, and expect students to adhere to, the student code of conduct.

Middle Level

At the middle level, schools will continue to provide instruction and assessment in academic standards. This instruction shall include a minimum of two years of English language arts, two years of mathematics, two years of science, and two years of social studies, including instruction in civics, geography, history, and economics. Schools with grades six through eight will provide three years of instruction in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Students will also have the opportunity to expand their talents and interests through an exploratory/electives program that provides instruction in academic content standards. As determined by each school, this exploratory/electives program may include any combination of the following courses: visual arts, music, technical education, world languages, physical education, health, consumer and family studies, computer/keyboarding/business, and other appropriate middle level course offerings. Schools will provide interventions to prepare students for high school. In addition, schools will instruct students about, and expect students to adhere to, the student code of conduct.

High School Level

Our high schools are designed to serve the needs of all students in grade nine through graduation. Mapleton Public Schools' small-schools design allows students to select the educational program that is right for them - the one that best matches each student's own particular interests, goals, and dreams for the future. To that end, our high school level programs are designed to serve the diverse talents and interests of our students. While each school maintains its own philosophy in its methods, all of our schools are designed to achieve the core academic expectations in the achievement of content standards.

High school level instruction will provide students with the academic skills to pursue college and career readiness. In addition, students will be instructed about, and be expected to be, participating citizens. Students will adhere to the student code of conduct up to and including the day of graduation. Graduation shall be the culminating event for students after they have met the requirements for a high school diploma.

Preparation for Postsecondary Opportunities

Students are encouraged to plan for postsecondary opportunities so they will be adequately prepared upon graduation from high school. Each student who enrolls in the sixth grade, on the day of enrollment, will be encouraged to register with the state-provided, free online college planning and preparation resource, commonly referred to as "College In Colorado" (accessible at www.collegeincolorado.org).

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) will provide information to the parents/guardians of eighth grade students about the admission requirements for institutions of higher education in Colorado. In addition, the District will make information available to these same parents/guardians about the courses the District offers that meet the CCHE admission requirements. This information will be made available to parents/guardians prior to the student's enrollment in his or her ninth grade courses.

Beginning in ninth grade, District personnel shall assist students to develop and maintain individual career and academic plans. The student's career and academic plan will be designed to assist the student and the student's parent/guardian in exploring the postsecondary career and educational opportunities available to the student, aligning course work and curriculum, applying to postsecondary education institutions, securing financial aid, and ultimately entering the workforce.

Adopted October 22, 2013, by the Board of Education for Mapleton Public Schools.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

C.R.S. § 22-1-104 (*teaching of history, culture and civil government*)

C.R.S. §§ 22-1-108 through 22-1-110 (*instruction on the federal constitution and the effect of use of alcohol and controlled substances*)

C.R.S. § 22-25-101 *et seq.* (*Colorado Comprehensive Health Education Act*)

C.R.S. § 22-32-109(1)(ff) (*notice of courses that satisfy higher education admission guidelines*)

C.R.S. § 22-32-109(1)(nn) (*career and academic planning for students beginning in ninth grade*)

C.R.S. § 22-35-101 *et seq.* (*Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act*)

1 CCR 301-81 (*rules governing standards for individual career and academic plans*)

CROSS REFERENCES:

IKF: Graduation Requirements

JIC: Student Conduct