



AMERICAN ACADEMY
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Curriculum Policy

This policy was approved by the Board of Directors on October 16, 2018.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out American Academy's curriculum. The school's curriculum shall remain consistent with its vision and mission

Standards

The school shall meet or exceed all federal, state, and district curricular standards for each grade. In addition, the school shall meet the standards set by the programs specified in this policy. Progress against standards shall be measured and reported to the BOD as specified in the school Assessment Plan.

Requirements

Base Curriculum

The school shall implement *Core Knowledge* as the base curriculum for History and English/Language Arts. The school shall cover 80% or more of the *Core Knowledge* curriculum for each grade, as defined in the *Core Knowledge Scope and Sequence*.

Mathematics

The school shall implement *Saxon Math* as the primary mathematics program. Other programs will be used for pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II as needed for high achieving middle school students. Each student shall complete at least one level/course of *math* each school year, unless the retention policy applies.

Language Arts

The school shall implement *Spalding Reading Road to Writing*, *Shurley English*, *Step Up to Writing*, *Hake Grammar*, and the *Core Knowledge literature* as the primary Language Arts programs for elementary students. The middle school will use the *Core Knowledge literature* and the *Hake English Handbook*.

Flexible Grouping

For all grades, the school shall use flexible grouping for mathematics and reading, at a minimum. Flexible grouping is defined as grouping children at their appropriate skill level based on results from frequent assessments and adjusting groups as needed.

Character Education

For all grades, the school shall teach and model the American Academy Manners and Character program.

Technology Integration

For all grades, the school shall integrate technology into the curriculum that are based in the ISTE standards for 21st Century Learning.

Science

For all grades, the school shall implement approved and comprehensive science lessons that are based in the Next Generation Science Standards.

Supplemental Programs

The implementation of supplemental curriculum or programs is at the discretion of the Executive Director of Schools (EDS), or his/her designee provided that all of the above requirements are met.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEM) Program

Two multi-week STEM units shall be delivered to students in grades pre-kindergarten through fifth each school year. In middle school, students will participate in the Engineering Academy for one trimester in place of science class.

Performing and visual arts will be integrated with the curriculum and programming will be offered after school.

POLICY HISTORY

- Original:* approved by the BOD on November 7, 2005
- Revision 1:* approved by the BOD on April 3, 2006
- Revision 2:* approved by the BOD on May 15, 2007
- Revision 5:* approved by the BOD on July 15, 2010
- Revision 6:* approved by the BOD on May 17, 2011
- Revision 7:* approved by the BOD on June 13, 2012
- Revision 8:* approved by BOD on October 25, 2016

SUMMARY OF REVISION 1

Added Character Education and Technology Integration.

SUMMARY OF REVISION 2

Added Shurley Grammar.

Summary of REVISION 3

- 1) *Added Riggs Phonics*
- 2) *Added middle school Holt English*
- 3) *Added science curriculum*

Summary of REVISION 4

Added Science.

Summary of REVISION 5

Updated Language Arts and Science.

Summary of REVISION 6

- 1) *Added the STEM Program.*
- 2) *Retention clarification.*

Summary of REVISION 7

Added FOSS Science.

Summary of REVISION 8

- 1) *Added Hake Grammar to Language Arts for ES*
- 2) *Replaced Holt English Handbook with Hake English Handbook for MS*
- 3) *Replaced Core Virtues and the Essential 55 with the AA Manners and Character Program*
- 4) *Replaced FOSS, Holt and Glencoe with NGSS based programming*
- 5) *Changed 3 STEM units to 2 per grade in ES. Added Engineering Academy for MS*

