

COURSES OF STUDY

Elementary Schools

The Governing Board recognizes that a well-articulated sequence of courses fosters academic progress and makes the best possible use of instructional time. The Superintendent or designee shall plan and implement systematic articulation among teachers, grade levels, schools, subject areas, District educational specialists, and parents. The Board shall adopt a course of instruction which sufficiently prepares students for the high school course of study required by state law. The Superintendent or designee shall keep the Board informed of any changes in the high school curriculum as well as programs for expanding or improving our elementary students' preparation for high school.

(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency)

Courses of study for Grades kindergarten through five shall include:

1. English: reading (including phonics/phonemic awareness), writing, listening, speaking, spelling, grammar, handwriting, knowledge and the appreciation of language and literature.
2. Mathematics: concepts, operational skills, problem solving in the seven mathematical strands: numbers, measurement, geometry, functions, statistics and probability, logic and language, and algebra.
3. Social Sciences: age-appropriate materials to develop knowledge and cultural understanding, democratic understanding, civic values, and skills attainment and social participation of:
 - a. California and the United States, including:
 - (1) Local communities and Orange County.
 - (2) Early California history.
 - (3) The role and contributions of both men and women of all ethnic groups to the economic, political and social development of California and the nation, with particular emphasis on the role of these groups in contemporary society.

(cf. 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)

(cf. 6141.6 - Multicultural Education)

- b. The American economic system, including the role of the entrepreneur and labor.
- c. The individual's relation to human and natural environments.
- d. Eastern and western cultures.

- e. Contemporary issues.
- f. The protection, conservation and responsible use of natural resources, including the necessity for protecting our environment.
- g. The philosophical and ethical principles on which our nation was founded.

(cf. 6142.5 - Environmental Education)

- 4. Science, including life, earth, and physical sciences, with emphasis on basic themes and concepts, experimental inquiry, and humanity's place in the ecology.

(cf. 6142.3 - Science Instruction)

- 5. Fine Arts, including visual arts, music, drama, and dance, with emphasis on creative expression, the development of aesthetic appreciation, and integration of the arts with other disciplines.

(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts)

- 6. Health: Individual, family and community health principles and practices including:
 - a. Personal and public safety and accident prevention.
 - b. Fire prevention.
 - c. Family life/sex education.

(cf. 6142.1 - Family Life/Sex Education)

(cf. 6142.2 - AIDS Prevention Instruction)

- d. The effects of alcohol, narcotics, drugs, and tobacco upon the human body.

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)

- 7. Physical education, with emphasis on activities conducive to health and vigor of body and mind. The three PE strands will include: movement skills and movement knowledge, self-image and personal development, and social development. (Education Code 51210)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education)

Secondary Schools

The Governing Board shall adopt districtwide courses of study designed to fit student needs and to conform with District graduation requirements and the requirements for admission to California public colleges and universities. Courses of study shall also provide students the opportunity to attain skills appropriate for entry-level or higher employment in business and industry upon graduation from high school.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all otherwise qualified students have timely opportunity, within the four years before graduation, to enroll in each course necessary to fulfill the requirements and prerequisites for admission to California public colleges and universities.

Guidance services shall be available to help students select courses relevant to their academic needs and future goals.

(cf. 6164.2 – Counseling/Guidance Services)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency)

Courses of study for Grades 6 through 12 shall include:

1. English: reading, writing, listening, speaking, grammar, spelling, punctuation, knowledge, and appreciation of literature, language, and composition.
2. Social Sciences: age-appropriate materials drawn from anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology with instruction in:
 - a. The history, resources, development and government of the United States and the world, including:

The role and contributions of both men and women of all ethnic groups to the economic, political and social development of California and the nation, with particular emphasis on the role of these groups in contemporary society.

(cf. 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)

(cf. 6141.6 - Multicultural Education)

- b. Our American legal system, the operation of the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems, the rights and duties of citizens under criminal and civil law, and the state and federal constitutions.
- c. The development of the American economic system, including the role of the entrepreneur and labor.

- d. The individual's relationship to human and natural environments, including the protection and conservation of resources and the necessity for protecting our environment.
 - e. Eastern and western cultures and civilizations.
 - f. Human rights issues, with particular attention to the study of the inhumanity of genocide, slavery, and the Holocaust.
 - g. Contemporary issues.
3. Foreign language(s): understanding, speaking, reading and writing (K-12).
 4. Physical education, with emphasis on activities conducive to health and vigor of body and mind.

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education)

5. Science, including physical, earth and life sciences, with emphasis on basic themes and concepts, theories and the process of scientific investigation, humanity's place in ecological systems, and with appropriate applications of the interrelation and interdependence of the sciences.

(cf. 6142.3 - Science Instruction)

(cf. 6142.5 - Environmental Education)

6. Mathematics, including instruction designed to develop mathematical understandings, operational skills and insight into problem-solving procedures within each of the mathematical strands included in the state standards.
7. Fine arts, including visual arts, music, drama and dance, with emphasis on development of aesthetic appreciation, creative expression, and the integration of the arts with other disciplines.

(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts)

8. Applied arts, including instruction in consumer and homemaking education, industrial arts, general business education, or general agriculture.
9. Vocational-technical classes in a career path that prepare students for gainful employment in occupations that meet state and community needs and are relevant to students' career desires and needs.

10. Personal and public safety and accident prevention, including instruction in:

- a. Fire prevention.
- b. Family Life/Sex Education.

(cf. 6142.1 - Family Life/Sex Education)
(cf. 6142.2 - AIDS Prevention Instruction)

- c. The effects of alcohol, narcotics, drugs, and tobacco upon the human body and upon prenatal development.

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)

- d. Prenatal care for pregnant women and violence as a public health issue.

11. Career Education

The course of study for high school students shall include instruction in skills and knowledge for adult life and career technical training.

12. Parenting skills and education. Students in Grade 7 and/or 8 shall receive, separately or as part of another course, instruction which addresses at a minimum:

- a. Child development and growth.
- b. Effective parenting.
- c. Prevention of child abuse.
- d. Nutrition.
- e. Household finances and budgeting.
- f. Personal and family interaction and relations.
- g. Methods to promote self-confidence.
- h. Effective decision making skills.
- i. Family and individual health.

(cf. 51436 Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)
(cf. 6141 Curriculum Development and Evaluation)
(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33540 *Government and civics instruction in interaction with government agencies*

51202 *Instruction in personal and public health and safety*

51203 *Instruction on alcohol, narcotics and restricted dangerous drugs*

51204 *Course of study designed for pupil's needs*

51204.5 *History of California; contributions of men, women and ethnic groups*

51210-51212 *Areas of study for grades 1 through 6*

51220-51229.5 *Course of study for grades 7 through 12*

51880-51921 *Comprehensive health education*

GOVERNMENT CODE

3543.2 *Scope of representation*

Management Resources:

PROGRAM ADVISORY

0317.86 *History-Social Science Graduation Requirements, CIL:85/6-11*

Policy

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CAPISTRANO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

San Juan Capistrano, California