

Instructional delivery plays a crucial part in the attainment of educational goals and objectives. Proper planning helps ensure superior delivery of the curriculum program.

A. PLANNING COORDINATION

In schools where there are two or more sections of a grade or course, teachers of the same grade/course shall work together in a cooperative manner. Grade-level or department meetings should be held at least monthly.

B. LESSON PLANNING

Each teacher shall prepare lesson plans based on the current statewide instructional standards, applicable curriculum and instructional guides developed by the school system, and the requirements of their principal. The following criteria should be followed regarding lesson plans.

1. Lesson plans should be accessible to the school principal at any time during the school day.
2. Teachers shall maintain lesson plans for one year in order to allow the teacher and supervisory staff the opportunity to assess instructional delivery and evaluate whether there are gaps in the curriculum.
3. When planning lessons, teachers must consider:
 - a. specific outcomes and objectives that relate to the curriculum;
 - b. planned activities, instructional strategies, and special materials;
 - c. effective use of technological resources;
 - d. activities to address individual student needs;
 - e. assessment/evaluation criteria; and
 - f. evidence of curriculum alignment and continuity of the instructional program.

C. TEACHER PLANNING TIME

Teacher planning is an integral part of the regular instructional day. Pursuant to the school improvement plan, every full-time assigned classroom teacher must be provided

duty-free instructional planning time with the goal of providing an average of at least five hours of planning time per week. Any deviation from the required instructional responsibilities and duties during this time must be approved by the principal or designee.

Teachers are responsible for seeking clarification whenever they are unsure about the requirements of this policy. Principals are responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy. Staff development opportunities should be provided, as necessary, to facilitate compliance.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-47, -105.27, -288, -301.1, -307

Cross References: Professional and Staff Development (policy 1610/7800), Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Curriculum Development (policy 3100), Technology in the Educational Program (policy 3220), School Improvement Plan (policy 3430)

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