Courses in the foundation and enrichment curriculum in grades 6–12 must be provided in a manner that allows all grade promotion and high school graduation requirements to be met in a timely manner. The District is not required to offer a specific course in the foundation and enrichment curriculum except as specified in 19 Administrative Code 74.3. *19 TAC 74.3(c)*

GRADES 6–8

A district that offers grades 6–8 must provide instruction in the required curriculum as specified in 19 Administrative Code 74.1, relating to essential knowledge and skills. The District must ensure that sufficient time is provided for teachers to teach and for students to learn English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, fine arts, health, physical education, technology applications, and to the extent possible, languages other than English. The District may provide instruction in a variety of arrangements and settings, including mixed-age programs designed to permit flexible learning arrangements for developmentally appropriate instruction for all student populations to support student attainment of course and grade level standards. *19 TAC 74.3(a)(1)*

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

The District shall require students in grades 6–8 to participate in moderate or vigorous daily physical activity for at least 30 minutes for at least four semesters during those grade levels as part of the District's physical education curriculum.

The District may as an alternative require a student enrolled in a grade level for which the District uses block scheduling to participate in moderate or vigorous physical activity for at least 225 minutes during each period of two school weeks.

EXEMPTIONS

The District must provide an exemption for:

1. A student who is unable to participate in the required physical activity because of illness or disability; and

2. A student who participates in an extracurricular activity with a moderate or vigorous physical activity component that is considered a structured activity and meets the requirements for extracurricular activity as defined at 19 Administrative Code 76.1001.

The District may allow an exemption for a student on a middle or junior high school campus participating in a school-related activity or an activity sponsored by a private league or club only if that activity meets each of the following requirements:

1. The activity must be structured;

2. The Board must certify the activity; and

3. The student must provide proof of participation in the activity.

A "structured activity" is an activity that meets, at a minimum, each of the following requirements:

1. The activity is based on the grade appropriate movement, physical activity and health, and social development strands of the essential knowledge and skills for physical education specified in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 116; and

2. The activity is organized and monitored by school personnel or by appropriately trained instructors who are part of a program that has been certified by the Board.

Education Code 28.002(l)–(l-1); 19 TAC 103.1003

FINE ARTS REQUIREMENT

The District must ensure that, beginning with students who enter grade 6 in the 2010–11 school year, each student completes one Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills-based fine arts course in grade 6, grade 7, or grade 8. *Education Code 28.002(c-1); 19 TAC 74.3(a)(2)*

HIGH SCHOOL COURSES AT EARLIER GRADES

The District may offer courses designated for grades 9–12 in earlier grade levels. *19 TAC 74.26(b)*

GRADES 9–12 COURSE OFFERINGS

A district that offers grades 9–12 shall provide instruction in the required curriculum as specified in 19 Administrative Code 74.1. The District shall ensure that sufficient time is provided for teachers to teach and for students to learn the subjects in the required curriculum. *19 TAC 74.3(b)(1)*

The District shall offer the courses listed below in grades 9–12 and shall maintain evidence that students have the opportunity to take these courses:

1. English language arts — English I, II, III, IV.

2. Mathematics — Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Precalculus, and Mathematical Models with Applications.

3. Science — Integrated Physics and Chemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and at least two of the following:

   a. Aquatic Science;

   b. Astronomy;

   c. Earth and Space Science;

   d. Environmental Systems;

   e. Advanced Animal Science;

f. Advanced Biotechnology;

g. Advanced Plant and Soil Science;

h. Anatomy and Physiology;

i. Engineering Design and Problem Solving;

j. Food Science;

k. Forensic Science;

l. Medical Microbiology;

m. Pathophysiology; and

n. Scientific Research and Design.

The requirement to offer two additional courses may be reduced to one by the Commissioner upon application of a district with a total high school enrollment of less than 500 students.

Science courses shall include at least 40 percent hands-on laboratory investigations and field work using appropriate scientific inquiry.

4. Social studies — United States History Studies Since 1877, World History Studies, United States Government, World Geography Studies, and Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits.

The District shall provide to a student instruction in personal financial literacy in any course meeting the requirements for an economics credit, using materials approved by the State Board of Education (SBOE). The instruction in personal financial literacy must include instruction on completing the application for federal student aid provided by the Department of Education. In fulfilling the requirement to provide financial literacy instruction, the District may use an existing state, federal, private, or nonprofit program that provides students without charge the described instruction. The District shall ensure that a District student enrolled at an institution of higher education in a dual credit course meeting the requirements for an economics credit receives the personal financial literacy instruction.

Education Code 28.0021

5. Physical education — at least two of the following:

a. Foundations of Personal Fitness;

b. Adventure/Outdoor Education;

c. Aerobic Activities; or

d. Team or Individual Sports.

6. Fine arts — courses selected from at least two of the four fine arts areas (art, music, theatre, and dance) as follows:

a. Art I, II, III, IV;

b. Music I, II, III, IV;

c. Theatre I, II, III, IV; or

d. Dance I, II, III, IV.

7. Career and technical education [see EEL] — coherent sequences of courses selected from at least three of the following 16 career clusters:

a. Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources;

b. Architecture and Construction;

c. Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications;

d. Business Management and Administration;

e. Education and Training;

f. Finance;

g. Government and Public Administration;

h. Health Science;

i. Hospitality and Tourism;

j. Human Services;

k. Information Technology;

l. Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security;

m. Manufacturing;

n. Marketing;

o. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics; and

p. Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics.

8. Languages other than English — Levels I, II, and III or higher of the same language.

9. Technology applications — at least four of the following:
    a. Computer Science I;
    b. Computer Science II;
    c. Computer Science III;
    d. Digital Art and Animation;
    e. Digital Communications in the 21st Century;
    f. Digital Design and Media Production;
    g. Digital Forensics;
    h. Digital Video and Audio Design;
    i. Discrete Mathematics;
    j. Fundamentals of Computer Science;
    k. Game Programming and Design;
    l. Independent Study in Evolving/Emerging Technologies;
    m. Independent Study in Technology Applications;
    n. Mobile Application Development;
    o. Robotics Programming and Design;
    p. 3-D Modeling and Animation;
    q. Web Communications;
    r. Web Design; and
    s. Web Game Development.
10. Speech — Communications Applications.

19 TAC 74.3(b)(2)

The District must provide each student the opportunity each year to select courses in which he or she intends to participate from a list that includes all courses listed above. If the District will not offer all required courses every year, but intends to offer particular courses only every other year, it must notify all enrolled students of that fact. *19 TAC 74.3(b)(4)*

The District shall teach any course a student is specifically required to take for high school graduation at least once in any two consecutive school years. For a subject that has an end-of-course assessment, the District shall either teach the course every year or

use alternate delivery systems, as described in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 74, Subchapter C, to enable students to earn credit for the course and shall maintain evidence thereof. *19 TAC 74.3(b)(4)*

The District may offer additional courses from the complete list of courses approved by the SBOE to satisfy graduation requirements. *19 TAC 74.3(b)(3)*

APPLIED COURSES

The District may offer the foundation curriculum required by the Recommended and Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Programs in an applied manner. The courses must cover the essential knowledge and skills, and the student shall be administered the applicable end-of-course assessment instrument. *Education Code 28.025(b-4)*

RESEARCH WRITING COMPONENT

For students entering grade 9 beginning with the 2007–08 school year, districts must ensure that one or more courses offered in the required curriculum for the Recommended and Advanced/ Distinguished Achievement High School Programs include a research writing component. *19 TAC 74.3(b)(5)*

PARENTING AWARENESS PROGRAM

HIGH SCHOOL

The District shall use the parenting and paternity awareness program developed by the SBOE in its high school health curriculum.

MIDDLE AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The District may use the program in the District's middle or junior high school curriculum.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Implementation of this requirement shall comply with the requirement that the Board establish a local school health advisory council to assist the District in ensuring that local community values are reflected in the District's health education instruction.

The District may add elements at its discretion but must include the following areas of instruction:

1. Parenting skills and responsibilities, including child support;
2. Relationship skills, including money management, communication, and marriage preparation; and
3. Skills relating to the prevention of family violence, only if the District's middle, junior high, or high schools do not have a family violence program.

At the discretion of the District, a teacher may modify the suggested sequence and pace of the program at any grade level.

LOCAL PROGRAMS AND MATERIALS

The District may develop or adopt research-based programs and curriculum materials for use in conjunction with the program developed by the SBOE. The programs and curriculum materials may provide instruction in:

1. Child development;
2. Parenting skills, including child abuse and neglect prevention; and
3. Assertiveness skills to prevent teenage pregnancy, abusive relationships, and family violence.

PARENT PERMISSION

A student under 14 years of age may not participate in the program without the permission of the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student.

Education Code 28.002(p); 19 TAC 74.35(a)

ALCOHOL AWARENESS INSTRUCTION

The District shall incorporate instruction in the dangers, causes, consequences, signs, symptoms, and treatment of binge drinking and alcohol poisoning into any course meeting a requirement for a health education credit.

The District shall choose an evidence-based alcohol awareness program to use in the District's middle school, junior high school, and high school health curriculum from a list of programs approved by the Commissioner for this purpose.

"Evidence-based alcohol awareness program" means a program, practice, or strategy that has been proven to effectively prevent or delay alcohol use among students, as determined by evaluations that use valid and reliable measures and that are published in peer-reviewed journals.

Education Code 28.002(r); 19 TAC 74.35(b)