

POLICY 4050

Grades 6-8 Middle Level General Core Requirements

A. Required Core Curriculum

1. The District's curriculum shall at least meet the minimum requirements of state law and State Board rules. Those minimum requirements are to contain the essential elements of each subject at appropriate grade levels. The essential elements represent the core knowledge, skills, and competencies all students should learn to be effective and productive members of society. The District may add elements at its discretion but shall not delete or omit instruction in the essential elements.
2. In addition, the District shall provide character education in connection with regular schoolwork, through an integrated curriculum approach. Instruction in this area shall emphasize honesty, temperance, morality, courtesy, obedience to law, respect for and an understanding of the constitutions of the United State and the state of Utah, the essentials and benefits of the free enterprise system, respect for parents and home, and the dignity and necessity of honest labor and other skills, habits, and qualities of character which will promote an upright and desirable citizenry and better prepare students for a richer, happier life.

B. The following are the General Core Requirements for 6th Grade:

1. English Language Arts
2. Mathematics
3. Science
4. Social Studies
5. Arts
 - a. Visual Arts;
 - b. Music;
 - c. Dance; or
 - d. Theatre

6. Health Education
 7. Physical Education
 8. Educational Technology;
 9. Library Media Skills, integrated into the core subject areas; and
 10. Civics and Character Education, integrated into the core subject areas.
- C. Formative assessment will occur on a regular basis to ensure continual student progress. State-approved summative adaptive assessments will be used to assess student mastery of language arts, mathematics, science and effectiveness of written expression.
- D. The following are the General Core Requirements for the 7th Grade
1. Language Arts (3 trimesters)
 2. Mathematics (3 trimesters)
 3. Integrated Science (3 trimesters)
 4. Utah Studies (1 trimester)
 5. College and Career Awareness (3 trimesters)
 6. At least one course in each of the following in grades 7 or 8:
 - a. The Arts (1 trimester)
 - b. Physical Education (1 trimester)
- [Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-5\(2\), \(3\) June 7, 2024](#)
- E. The following are the General Core Requirements for the 8th Grade
1. Language Arts (3 trimesters)
 2. Mathematics (3 trimesters)
 3. Integrated Science (3 trimesters)

4. United States History (2 trimesters)
5. ~~The Arts (1 trimester)~~
6. ~~Physical Education (1 trimester)~~
7. Health Education (1 trimester)
8. Digital Literacy (1 trimester)
9. At least one course in each of the following in grades 7 or 8:
 - a. The Arts (1 trimester)
 - b. Physical Education (1 trimester)

F. In addition to the foregoing requirements, the Board of Education may, as it determines appropriate, require a student to complete additional courses, may offer additional elective courses, and may set minimum credit requirements.

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-5\(6\) \(June 7, 2024\)](#)

G. State approved summative adaptive assessments will be used to assess student mastery of language arts, mathematics, writing (in grade eight) and science.

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-5\(5\) \(June 7, 2024\)](#)

H. The District may, upon request of a student or parent and with parental consent, substitute a course requirement set out above with a course, extracurricular activity, or experience that is either similar to the course requirement or consistent with the student's plan for college and career readiness. The request shall be made in writing, shall include a parent's signature, shall identify the proposed substitution, and shall explain how the proposed substitution meets the foregoing standard. This request shall be initially evaluated by the counselor responsible for the student, who shall determine whether the request contains the required elements and shall make a recommendation regarding whether the request should be approved or denied. This recommendation shall be submitted to the principal or the principal's designee, who shall grant or deny the request. If the student or parent is dissatisfied with the determination of the principal, the decision can be appealed to the Board of Education or its designee, which shall review the decision and determine whether it should be changed. The decision of the Board or its designee is final.

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-5\(7\), \(8\) \(June 7, 2024\)](#)

I. Assessment of Student Mastery of Core Standards

1. The Board of Education is responsible to provide students with access to courses in the basic academic subjects of the core standards for Utah public schools established by the State Board Education, and for students' mastery of those standards. The Board of Education shall use evidence-based best practices, technology, and other instructional media to increase the relevance and quality of instruction. Student mastery of the core standards shall be evaluated through District participation in statewide assessments as directed by the State Board of Education. Students who have not achieved mastery of the core standards will be provided intervention as provided for by State statute and State Board of Education regulations. The Board of Education is responsible to ensure statewide assessments are administered in compliance with the requirements of [Utah Code Title 53E, Chapter 9](#) Student Privacy and Data Protection.

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700 \(June 7, 2024\)](#)

[Utah Code § 53E-4-302 \(2020\)](#)

[Utah Code § 53G-9-803 \(2024\)](#)

J. Alternate Academic Accommodation

1. If a student refrains from a portion of a course or from an entire course under [Utah Code § 53G-10-205](#), the student's parent and the school may work together to establish an alternate academic accommodation which allows the student to demonstrate mastery of Core Standards (by taking a test or otherwise) or to demonstrate mastery of an appropriate alternate standard.

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-7\(4\) \(January 10, 2024\)](#)

[Utah Code § 53G-10-205 \(2023\)](#)