

GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Greenwich, Connecticut

Policy E-001 – PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND CURRICULUM

Procedure E-001.9 – Purposes of Programs and Services

I. General Education Programs and Services

The Greenwich Public Schools offer the following general education programs and services for the purposes listed below:

Art: To develop in students an appreciation, knowledge and the skills of art to increase their enjoyment, critical analysis, creativity and cultural awareness.

Business Education: To develop in students skills and knowledge in business or in other related areas and to develop job entry skills for those who plan careers in business upon graduation.

Continuing Education: To offer learning opportunities at reasonable cost to residents of Greenwich and surrounding communities that meet their diverse needs and interests.

Foreign Language: To develop in students listening, speaking, reading and writing skills which will allow them to communicate in languages other than English and to appreciate and understand other cultures.

Guidance: To enable all students to attain their maximum personal and educational development by offering a variety of services with a major focus on school program planning; college and career counseling; individual and group counseling; and group guidance services addressing the needs of adolescents.

Health: To develop in students an understanding and knowledge of health issues affecting themselves, their family and community, and the skills necessary to make healthy life decisions.

Family and Consumer Sciences: To develop in students an understanding and knowledge of Family and Consumer Sciences to help students to build more satisfying lives and become more informed consumers of goods and services.

Media Services: To support the regular and special learning programs and to enhance students' ability to acquire and apply information through the use of educational media, including technology, and media centers.

Mathematics: To develop in students an understanding of the concepts of mathematics, skills to compute accurately and the ability to combine the understanding of concepts

and computational skills to solve word problems.

Music: To develop in students an appreciation, knowledge and the skills of music to increase their enjoyment, critical analysis, creativity and cultural awareness.

Physical Education: To develop in students physical skills in sports and recreational activities; to develop physical fitness; to foster emotional, social and character development; and to advance knowledge and appreciation of sports and physical activities.

Science: To develop in students the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary to apply the scientific method of inquiry to an understanding of living organisms, of the physical world, and of their interrelationship.

Social Studies: To develop in students the skills necessary to become aware participants in society, to express responsive and positive attitudes toward other people, to develop increased knowledge, comprehension, and skills in the social studies (history, geography, civics, economics and culture), and to exhibit increased sensitivity to their own and other societies.

Technology: To develop in students an understanding and appreciation of our industrial-technological society; develop consumer knowledge, avocational interests and skill; develop skills and attitudes applicable to the world of work.

II. Learning Support Programs and Services

The Greenwich Public Schools offer the following learning support programs and services for the purposes listed below:

English as a Second Language Instruction: To facilitate the acquisition of communicative and academic English, academic content and cultural knowledge to enable English as a Second Language (ESL) students to succeed in mainstream classes and within the Greenwich community as quickly as possible.

Gifted/Talented Education: To enable students who demonstrate potential far beyond that of their age peers to be challenged to their highest potential through differentiated programs and services, to raise their level of critical and creative thinking, to develop skills that foster independent study, to encourage self understanding that promotes reflective inquiry and the productive use of knowledge.

Occupational and Physical Therapy: To enable students with disabilities to attain their maximum physical development by offering a variety of services with a major focus on individual and group physical and occupational therapy; consultation with classroom staff and parents; increased independence in school functioning/participation/mobility; and when required, intensive supports in the identification and implementation of assistive technology supports.

Psychological Services: To enable students, particularly those students with disabilities to attain their maximum emotional, intellectual and educational development by offering a variety of services with a major focus on individualized intellectual and behavioral evaluations; individual and group counseling; consultation with private therapists; and the development and implementation of positive behavior support plans.

School Social Work Services: To enable students, particularly those students with disabilities, to attain their maximum emotional, social and educational development by offering a variety of services with a major focus on connecting families with community services; individual and group counseling; and social skills development.

Speech And Language Services: To enable students, particularly those with hearing, speech and language disabilities, to attain their maximum communicative, intellectual and educational development by offering a variety of services with a major focus on individual and group speech and language therapy; consultation with classroom staff and parents; and intensive supports in the use of augmentative communication systems.

Special Education: To enable students with disabilities to learn the same body of knowledge presented in the regular education environment to the maximum extent possible through modification and adaptation of the curriculum, instructional methodology and materials. These services and supports include: accommodations and modifications of the materials and instructional methodology; the full range of placement options including, full inclusion, resource room, self-contained, pull out, and outplacement; supplemental curricular content; assistive technology; and specialized staff and/or related services. For secondary students, special education includes transition services which are provided through an outcome-oriented, coordinated process that promotes movement from school to post-school activities.

Student Activities: To help students achieve personal growth and gain organizational experience and leadership skills in a wide area of co-curricular activities.

Student Athletics: To develop in students the skills, knowledge and responsible personal and social behaviors (e.g. good sportsmanship) necessary for participation in sports and activities on a continuum from casual involvement to the pursuit of physical fitness to more advanced competition.

Summer School: To enable students to accelerate, enrich, improve, or successfully complete learning, activities, and regular course work during the summer months.

Work Experience: To provide classroom instruction and real-life applications needed to anticipate and understand situations and attitudes encountered in the world of work.