
Purpose/Background

The Division supports middle levels education and believes it to be a developmentally appropriate response to the unique characteristics and needs of learners ten to fifteen years of age. The middle years are a critical time in the intellectual, physical, social and emotional development of these students. The Division supports the establishment and on-going development of Division strategies and programs that respond to and meet the needs of middle level learners.

Procedures

1. Schools are learning communities staffed with knowledgeable and skillful individuals who are adept in meeting the needs of early adolescents.
2. Teams of school personnel form professional learning communities that facilitate interaction, interdisciplinary organization, the integration of curriculum and the establishment of high expectations for all.
3. Supportive systems exist that provide for student advocacy and foster the development of resiliency.
4. Middle level educators employ in all curricular areas a variety of developmentally appropriate instructional strategies and learning opportunities that are supported by current research and practice.
5. Middle level educators use a wide variety of developmentally appropriate assessment and evaluation practices to promote student learning.
6. Developmentally appropriate exploratory opportunities, consistent with the Program of Studies, are offered to all students.
7. Consistent with the goals of middle levels education, practices such as flexible scheduling, communities of learners, and student participation are evident throughout the development of procedures, programs and structures.

Reference:

- Section 33, 52, 53, 196, 197, 222 Education Act