



1. **Rationale**

The Simcoe County District School Board, as outlined in their mission statement, believes that all students must be supported in reaching their full potential to become responsible and contributing members of an ever-changing global society through quality programs. Supervisory Officers are responsible for the development, implementation, operation and supervision of quality educational programs in schools. The duties of principals and teachers in the legislation require that effective instruction and assessment are provided for all students. The Ontario Curriculum and other related documents provide the policy direction for the implementation of and the achievement of provincial curriculum standards.

2. **Policy**

It is the policy of the Simcoe County District School Board that each elementary and secondary school will assist all students to achieve the provincial standards of The Ontario Curriculum and, where appropriate, other curriculum expectations as approved by the Board. From the Education Act: Part 1, Section 8, Subsection 3: courses and areas of study:

3. in respect of schools under the jurisdiction of a board,

- (a) issue curriculum guidelines and require that courses of study be developed therefrom and establish procedures for the approval of courses of study that are not developed from such curriculum guidelines,
- (b) prescribe areas of study and require that courses of study be grouped thereunder and establish procedures for the approval of alternative areas of study under which courses of study shall be grouped, and
- (c) approve or permit boards to approve,
 - (i) courses of study that are not developed from such curriculum guidelines, and
 - (ii) alternative areas of study under which courses of study shall be grouped,

and authorize such courses of study and areas of study to be used in lieu of or in addition to any prescribed course of study or area of study; R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2, s. 8 (1), par. 3.

All students must have an opportunity to learn the planned curriculum and to achieve the provincial curriculum standards to the best of their abilities. Alignment of board policies, procedures and resources must support the planned, implemented and achieved curriculum. The curriculum must also be inclusive and accessible to all students.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION 4100

CURRICULUM POLICY 4105

Page 2

3. Guidelines

The Ministry of Education has the responsibility to review and develop curriculum documents. The Simcoe County District School Board, through Instructional Services, provides teachers with professional learning opportunities to support curriculum implementation.

Locally developed curriculum courses designed by teachers within a board to meet local student needs must go through a Ministry approval process.

The alternative curriculum, designed for students with special needs who are not on the Ontario Curriculum, is developed by district school boards. This includes the Simcoe County District School Board Alternative Curriculum Expectations (ACE) and Assessment Companion Tool (ACT) (elementary) and Alternative Courses (secondary non credit K courses).

4. Roles and Responsibilities

4.1 Supervisory Officers are responsible for the development, implementation, operation and supervision of educational programs in schools. They are also responsible for bringing about improvement in the quality of education by assisting teachers in their practice. The Education Act and Regulation 309 outline these duties.

4.2 Teachers, vice-principals and principals are responsible for ensuring that all students achieve the provincial curriculum standards to the best of their ability. The Education Act and Regulation 298 outline these duties. In addition, The Ontario College of Teachers provides direction for teachers through the Standards of Practice document.

4.3 Other persons such as parents/guardians, students, trustees, school council members and all staff contribute to the overall effectiveness and efficiency of curriculum implementation and student achievement.

5. Administrative Procedures

The Director of Education is authorized to establish a communications plan and procedures necessary to implement this policy.

**ADOPTED AUGUST 29, 2001
REVISED MAY 26, 2010**