

Joint Instructional/Curriculum Committee

In addition to the joint committees described earlier in this document, a local may want to consider negotiating or advocating for a joint instructional/curriculum subcommittee. This ensures that the NEA members have input when new curriculums are considered and implemented as part of a LEA or school improvement plan.

Sample language:

A joint instructional committee is hereby established. The committee will be composed of ___ bargaining unit members selected by the association, and an equal number of representatives selected by the administration. Bargaining unit members who serve on the committee shall be compensated in accordance with the rate established in Appendix ___ or shall be provided with release time. The school district will pay for all expenses associated with this committee's work.

The committee shall meet at least ___ times per year.

The joint committee shall initiate and establish policies affecting the design, development, and implementation of district instructional programs and curriculum. In conjunction with recognized responsibilities for professional development, the committee's responsibilities shall include:

- Develop and maintain a comprehensive district-wide curriculum.
- Develop procedures and criteria for the continuous evaluation of all district instructional programs.
- Conduct an annual review and update of the district's plan and policies for testing and assessment of student learning.
- Research, review, and issue recommendations regarding any proposed change or revision in instructional programs or curricula in the district.
- Develop and disseminate appropriate policies relating to all district instructional programs and curricula.
- Establish, alter, or otherwise modify district curricula as appropriate.
- Approve, reject, or modify all recommendations of the textbook committee;

The committee will review and approve all changes in existing or proposed instructional programs or curricula prior to implementation, and ensure that materials and texts will be available to the teacher, within a reasonable period of time, prior to the time the teacher is expected to implement the curriculum.