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PART Ed 306 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL APPROVAL

Ed 306.01 Applicability. In order to be an approved school, public schools and public academies shall meet the applicable criteria established in these standards:

(a) Except as provided in (b) below, a public school shall be approved as an elementary school if it contains any of the grades kindergarten through 8 and meets the rules applicable to all schools and to each elementary school.

(b) As determined by vote of the local school board, any combination of the grades 4 through 8 may be organized as a public middle school, and so approved if it meets the rules applicable to all middle schools.

(c) Except as provided in (b) above, a public school or a public academy shall be approved as a high school if it contains any of the grades 9 through 12 and meets the rules applicable to all schools and to each high school.

Ed 306.02 Definitions. Except where the context makes another meaning manifest, the following words have the meanings indicated when used in this chapter:

(a) “Department” means the New Hampshire department of education.

(b) “Educator” means any professional employee of any school district whose position requires certification by the state board pursuant to RSA 189:39. Administrators, specialists, and teachers are included within the definition of this term.

(c) “Extended learning” means the primary acquisition of knowledge and skills through instruction or study outside of the traditional classroom methodology, including, but not limited, to:

- (1) Independent study;
- (2) Private instruction;
- (3) Performing groups;
- (4) Internships;
- (5) Community service;
- (6) Apprenticeships; and
- (7) Online courses.

(d) “Instructional time” means the period of time during which pupils are actively working toward achieving educational objectives under the supervision of a teacher or other staff member.

**(e) “Nutrient dense foods” means those foods that provide substantial amounts of vitamins and minerals and relatively fewer calories as identified and defined by 7CFR Part 210.10.**

**(f) “Nutrient density of foods” means the amount of a specific nutrient in a food per 100 calories of that food as defined in 7 CFR Part 210.11.**

(g) **“Nutrient targets” means the specific number and types of food that a student must select. The targets are the scientific bases of the standards for menu planning. Targets provide the foundation for setting meal requirements which encompass meal patterns and other specifications for school menu planning purposes.**

(h) **“Portion size” means the amount of food that will ensure each serving will be the appropriate size and that a recipe will produce the expected number of servings.**

Ed 306.03 Statutory and Policy Requirements.

(a) The local school board shall be responsible for obtaining an up to date copy of state education laws, one copy of which shall be distributed free of charge to each school administrative unit by the department, and maintaining an up to date copy of the rules of the board in the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules.

(b) In order for a school to be an approved school under these rules, the school board shall comply with all applicable laws and rules set forth in the publications enumerated in (a) above.

Ed 306.04 Policy Development.

(a) In accordance with Ed 303.01, the local school board shall adopt and implement written policies and procedures relative to:

- (1) Absenteeism and attendance;
- (2) Promoting school safety;
- (3) Discipline;
- (4) Records retention, including electronic files;
- (5) Character and citizenship;
- (6) Meeting the instructional needs of each student with different talents;
- (7) Student hazing;
- (8) Student harassment, including bullying, as required by RSA 193-F;**
- (9) Sexual harassment, as detailed in Ed 303.01(j) and (k);
- (10) Reporting of suspected abuse or neglect;
- (11) Promotion of a school environment that is conducive to learning and supports strong family and community partnerships;
- (12) Distance education, if the district chooses to offer distance education as provided in Ed 306.22;
- (13) Providing alternative means of earning credit toward a high school diploma or equivalent such as extended learning opportunities and distance education to meet the requirements of RSA 193:1,(h);**

- (14) How a credit can be earned, as provided in Ed 306.27(d);
- (15) Recommending developmentally appropriate daily physical activity and exercise;
- (16) Behavior management and intervention for students; and
- (17) Homeless students.

**(18) Wellness as required by Section 204 of the federal Child Nutrition and WIC 42 USC 1751;**

**(19) Providing immediate and adequate emergency care for students and school personnel who sustain injury or illness during school hours or during scheduled school activities;**

**(20) Meeting the special physical health needs of students;**

**(21) Supporting the availability and distribution of healthy foods and beverages that create a healthy environment in all schools throughout all school buildings during the school day; and**

**(22) Air quality in school buildings as required by RSA 200:48.**

(b) The policies and procedures required by (a) above shall apply to each school.

(c) The policy relative to absenteeism and attendance shall specify procedures for the accountability and supervision of students. The policy relative to absenteeism shall not penalize students who miss class or a required school event because of a school scheduling conflict. Districts shall implement a cooperative approach which places responsibility for notification when a student is tardy, absent, or dismissed on both the parents/guardians and the school.

(d) The policy relative to promoting school safety shall require school administrators to implement procedures which relate to safe practices:

- (1) On school buses and on the school grounds, including playgrounds;
- (2) During authorized school activities, such as field trips;
- (3) Within the school building, including classrooms and laboratories;
- (4) Off school grounds during school-sanctioned activities, including, but not limited to, work-based learning and internships; and
- (5) In the use of online resources.

**(6) Managing the behavior of children, describing how and under what circumstances restraint shall be used pursuant to RSA 126-U.**

(e) Teachers shall be required to know and implement the appropriate safety practices and procedures applicable to their assigned areas of responsibility and to include safety instruction in all applicable programs offered by the school.

(f) The policy relative to student discipline shall:

(1) Include provisions regarding:

- a. Student rights and responsibilities;
- b. Rules of conduct; and
- c. Penalties for misbehavior;

(2) Be written in age-appropriate language;

(3) Be disseminated to parents and guardians; and

(4) Be available in written or oral form for students, parents, and guardians for whom English is a second language, whenever practical.

(g) The local school board shall review with the superintendent or chief administering officer the methods for suspension and expulsion of students developed and implemented by the superintendent or chief administering officer and the local school board in accordance with RSA 193:13. The superintendent, chief administering officer, or designee shall keep students, parents, teachers, and all other school personnel informed about school rules. Such information shall be readily available.

(h) The policy relative to records retention, including electronic files, disposition, and access shall require that complete and accurate records of students' attendance and scholarship be permanently kept and safely stored in a fire-resistant file, vault, or safe. A schedule for the retention and disposition of original records and information shall be established in accordance with RSA 189:29-a. Access to all student records and information shall be controlled by written procedures designed to protect individual rights and to preserve the confidential nature of the various types of records in compliance with the federal "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act," 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, and RSA 91-A, Access to Public Records.

(i) The policy relative to character and citizenship development shall:

(1) Include those elements of character and citizenship to be incorporated in courses of study or instilled, by example, in a caring educational environment, including but not limited to:

- a. Self-discipline, self-respect, and self-control;
- b. Pursuant to Part Second, Article 83 of the New Hampshire Constitution, humanity, benevolence, and truth and honesty with self and others;
- c. Fairness, integrity, and justice;
- d. Respect, courtesy, and human worth;
- e. Responsibility to oneself and others;
- f. Community service; and
- g. Pursuant to RSA 186:13, the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; and

(2) Be developed in consultation with school staff, administration, parents, and other representatives of the community.

(j) The policy relative to meeting the instructional needs of each student shall require administrators and teachers to consider students' differing talents, interests, and development when planning the educational programs specified in Ed 306.

(k) The policy relative to partnerships among schools, families, and communities shall comply with the following standards:

- (1) Schools shall strive to involve parents and family members of all ages and grade levels;
- (2) Schools shall provide parent educational activities throughout the school year to help parents support their children's learning;
- (3) Schools shall frequently communicate school performance, student progress, personalized learning strategies as adopted by the local school board, and academic opportunities, using both print and online formats;
- (4) Schools shall work with agencies and businesses to support community-based developmental activities that prepare young children for school and promote ongoing achievement;
- (5) Schools shall promote collaboration among parents, schools, and community on school improvement and student achievement projects;
- (6) Schools shall strive to harness all available community resources, including but not limited to organizations, businesses, talented individuals, natural resources, and technology, to engage each student in achieving the necessary skills and knowledge; and
- (7) Schools shall encourage business partnerships to assist students in the successful transition to employment or further education.

(l) The policy relative to developmentally appropriate daily physical activity shall recommend that all pupils participate in developmentally appropriate daily physical activity, exercise, or physical education as a way to minimize the health risks created by chronic inactivity, childhood obesity, and other related health problems. The developmentally appropriate daily physical activity policy shall be in addition to and shall not replace the physical education program requirement in Ed 306.41.

Ed 306.05 School Philosophy, Goals, and Objectives. The local school board shall direct each school in its district to adopt a written philosophy and a statement of goals and objectives consistent with the rules of the state board of education. Provisions shall be made for the review of the philosophy, goals, and objectives at least every 5 years.

Ed 306.06 Culture and Climate.

(a) The school policies adopted by the local school board shall reflect:

- (1) The acknowledgement of diversity and respect for differences;
- (2) Shared ownership and responsibility for the success of the school among students, their families, and the community;
- (3) Student leadership through involvement in decision-making; and
- (4) Respectful use of language and behavior by all school members that is void of ethnic, racial, and sexual stereotypes and biases.

(b) The school administration and staff shall:

- (1) Review ways in which equity gaps in achievement can be reduced and barriers to learning can be eliminated; and
- (2) Work together to establish a fair and equitable code of discipline that is fairly and consistently implemented which supports students' understanding of the importance of norms, rules, and expectations for behavior.

(c) The school administration shall provide professional development opportunities directed at understanding the policies and reporting requirements that support a safe and healthy school environment.

Ed 306.07 School Facilities. The local school board shall:

(a) Require that the facilities for each school provide the following:

- (1) Consistent with RSA 189:24, a clean, healthy, and safe learning environment for all areas of the school building, grounds, and school-related activities;
- (2) Lighting in compliance with the state building code as provided in RSA 155-A; and
- (3) Exhaust and outdoor air ventilation, proper temperature and humidity conditions in compliance with the state building code as provided in RSA 155-A.
- (4) Policy and procedures to comply with RSA 200:48 to minimize pollution caused by idling motor vehicles and an annual evaluation of potential causes of poor indoor air quality utilizing a checklist provided by the department.**

(b) With regard to school facilities:

- (1) Customize classrooms and other school-related environments to the needs of different content areas. Any lack of specialized spaces for arts, science, technology education and similar requirements shall be addressed as part of the next construction project at the school that receives school building aid under RSA 198:15-a;**
- (2) Provide for accessibility of students with disabilities;**
- (3) Demonstrate compliance with Saf-C 6000 through completion of a life safety inspection by the local fire department or other authority having jurisdiction as required by RSA 153:14;**
- (4) Document compliance with regulations relating to school building, sanitation, sewage disposal, water supply, and other matter affecting public health through inspection by the local health officer, other authority having jurisdiction, or an individual, if no municipal officer is available who has received a master's degree in public health; and**
- (5) All furniture and electrical appliances shall be approved by the school administration and shall comply with requirements of the state fire code, Saf-C 6000.**

Ed 306.08 Instructional Resources.

(a) The local school board shall require that each school:

(1) Provides a developmentally appropriate collection of instructional resources, including online and print materials, equipment, and instructional technologies, that shall be current, comprehensive, and necessary to support the curriculum as well as the instructional needs of the total school population;

(2) Provides that instructional resources are, as appropriate:

a. Catalogued and classified according to practices accepted by the American Library Association as specified in the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, Second Edition (AACR2), 2002 edition;

b. Organized to make them accessible to students and staff;

c. Managed through circulation policies and procedures that are designed to maximize the use of the resources; and

d. Utilize community resources;

(3) Provides instructional resources to all students and staff from designated space(s) in each school, including:

a. Ready access to instructional resources, including those available online or through interlibrary loan;

b. Instruction in:

1. Accessing information efficiently and effectively;

2. Evaluating information critically and competently;

3. Using information accurately and creatively;

4. Pursuing information related to personal interests;

5. Appreciating literature and other creative expressions of information;

6. Striving for excellence in information-seeking and knowledge generation;

7. Recognizing the importance of information to a democratic society;

8. Practicing ethical behavior in regard to information and information technology; and

9. Participating effectively in groups to pursue and generate information; and

c. Activities to promote the development of reading, viewing, and listening skills; and

(4) Implements a written plan for the ongoing development, organization, acquisition, maintenance, replacement, and updating of instructional resources necessary to support the needs of the user population and the curriculum.

(b) At a minimum, the plan implemented under (a)(4) above shall:

- (1) Provide an analysis and assessment of the present instructional resources based on:
  - a. The needs of the user population and the curriculum;
  - b. Accessibility of instructional resources to all students and staff;
  - c. Strengths and weaknesses of the present instructional resources; and
  - d. Resources available within the district, the local community, and beyond;
- (2) Reflect developing instructional technologies; and
- (3) Establish priorities, criteria, timelines, and procedures for the selection, acquisition, maintenance, and replacement of instructional resources which shall include but not be limited to:
  - a. Online materials,
  - b. Print materials,
  - c. Equipment, and
  - d. Instructional technologies.

Ed 306.09 Custodial and Maintenance Services.

**(a) The local school board shall provide for each school such custodial services as are necessary to ensure a clean, sanitary, and safe physical plant and grounds. The school plant shall be cleaned on a daily basis. School repairs and maintenance shall be performed on a regular basis.**

**(b) All school staff, including custodians, maintenance workers, food service workers, teachers, support staff, and administrators shall receive training on their roles in maintaining clean, healthy school facilities and the importance of quality indoor air; and**

**(c) Schools shall minimize the use of toxic chemicals for cleaning and pest control. Staff shall not be permitted to bring cleaning products or pesticides into a school without approval from the school administration.**

Ed 306.10 **Administrative Support Services.** The local school board shall provide for each school staff to maintain all school records in accordance with local policy, state laws and rules, and federal laws and regulations.

Ed 306.11 Food and Nutrition Services.

(a) The local school board shall:

- (1) Require that each school makes a meal available during school hours to every student under its jurisdiction, in accordance with RSA 189:11-a, I-II;
- (2) Provide a qualified individual, such as, but not limited to, a school nutrition/food service director, to oversee the operation of school meals, to maintain proper resources that meet state and federal regulations, and maintain state health requirements for each school site within the district; and

(3) Require that each newly-constructed school or renovated kitchen or cafeteria provide space for the preparation and consumption of meals in compliance with Ed 321.12(d).

(b) All food service employees shall, within their first year of employment, obtain a certificate of completion for an approved sanitation course.

(c) If a school nutrition/food service director is employed, each food service director shall, whenever feasible, obtain certification or credentials from an approved program, including but not limited to School Nutrition Association (SNA) certification, within the first 5 years of employment.

(d) Students shall be provided with an adequate time to consume meals in each elementary school in accordance with the federal Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-265).

(e) Students shall be provided with an adequate time to consume meals in each middle and high school in accordance with the federal Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-265).

(f) If a waiver is granted pursuant to (a)(1) above due to inadequate space, the school district shall make provisions in the next school physical plant expansion provisions to house a food service preparation and consumption area that is in compliance with Ed 321.12(d).

**(g) The policy relative to distribution of healthy foods and beverages that create a healthy environment required by Ed 306.04(a)(21) shall include:**

**(1) Standards for nutrient dense foods and beverages for grade level needs elementary, middle and high school as identified and defined by 7CFR Part 210.10;**

**(2) Portion size for nutrient dense foods and beverages in schools which support the framework for healthier food choices in all school environments;**

**(3) Nutrition targets for foods and beverages made available outside the federally regulated school meals program. The targets shall follow those developed by a nationally recognized research-based organization, such as but not limited to USDA, or as determined by the department to have standards equivalent to the USDA;**

**(4) Developmentally appropriate opportunities to learn food preparation skills that support nationally recognized research-based nutrition standards; and**

**(5) Annual communication information about the policy and procedure and related curricula to the school community, including, but not limited to school staff, school board, parents and students.**

**(h) Any school in (g)(3) choosing a standard for foods available at school which is not consistent with the USDA standard for Child Nutrition Programs, shall request a waiver from the bureau of nutrition programs and services. The bureau shall evaluate the alternative standards and shall grant**

**the waiver if the alternative standards are determined to be equivalent to the nutrition standards of 7 CFR Part 210.**

Ed 306.12 School Health Services.

**(a) In accordance with federal and state law, including, but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, RSA 141-C, RSA 169-C, RSA 200:26-41, and RSA 326-B, the local school board shall require that each school provides qualified personnel to carry out appropriate school health-related activities.**

**(b) Each school nurse employed by a school district shall hold current certification as a registered nurse under RSA 326-B. Each licensed practical nurse or certified nursing assistant employed by a school district shall hold such current certification under RSA 326-B. If a school nurse or licensed practical nurse is not available to a school for any reason, at least one other person who has a current first aid and cardiopulmonary certification (CPR) certification shall be available.**

Ed 306.13 Guidance Plan. The local school board shall ensure that every school provides a comprehensive guidance and counseling program. A comprehensive guidance and counseling program shall comply with all applicable provisions of Ed 306.39.

Ed 306.14 Basic Instructional Standards. The local school board shall require that each school has an instructional program which includes the following:

- (a) A policy for the appropriate assignment of all incoming students;
- (b) A policy on homework, including its relationship to the grading system;
- (c) An organized plan for recording student progress in meeting program objectives;
- (d) A policy for promoting students from one grade level to another;
- (e) Instructional materials and resources matched to the appropriate skill levels of students;
- (f) A policy for the awarding of credit for required subjects and open electives;
- (g) A policy encouraging students to pursue and demonstrate advanced course work, including advanced placement courses in high school; and
- (h) A policy encouraging students to have a plan for summer activities that support student learning.

Ed 306.15 Provision of Staff and Staff Qualifications.

(a) To carry out the educational program established by these rules and local school board policy, the local school board shall require that each school provides:

- (1) The services of a certified principal, a certified library media specialist and a certified guidance counselor(s);
- (2) For the hiring and training of teachers certified under Ed 500;
- (3) In each elementary school, the services of a reading specialist and library media specialist to facilitate the delivery of the language arts and reading program established in Ed 306.37(a);

- (4) In each middle and high school, a library media specialist to support the instructional resources program and facility requirements of Ed 306.08; and
  - (5) Teachers, including art, music, health, and physical education teachers, in accordance with class size requirements in Ed 306.17.
- (b) The local school board shall require that in carrying out the guidance plan established by Ed 306.13:
- (1) The counseling load in each elementary school shall not exceed the equivalent of one full-time guidance counselor per 500 students served; and
  - (2) The counseling load in each middle school and each high school shall not exceed the equivalent of one full time guidance counselor per 300 students served.
- (c) The local school board shall require that each school with an enrollment of 500 or more students provides the services of an associate principal or 2 or more persons with administrative certification under Ed 506 who together act as a full-time equivalent to carry out administrative duties assigned by the superintendent in accordance with local school board policy.
- (d) The local school board may provide for each school the services of additional staff to facilitate the use of the instructional resources described in Ed 306.08 and the technological resources needed to facilitate the information and communication technologies program described in Ed 306.42.
- (e) Pursuant to RSA 189:24 and in accordance with Ed 500 and Ed 600, the local school board shall require that each professional staff member is certified for assignment by the department.
- (f) In accordance with Ed 509, the local school board shall require that each professional staff member shall improve the content knowledge and teaching skills through participation in a local professional development plan.
- (g) A teacher with sufficient content knowledge as determined by the school principal may be given a minor assignment to teach in a program area in which he or she is not certified. A minor assignment shall be less than fifty percent of the individual's weekly work time.**

Ed 306.16 Professional Development. In accordance with Ed 512:

- (a) The local school board shall require:
- (1) That each professional and paraeducator staff member improves the content knowledge and teaching skills through participation in professional development activities as described in the district professional development master plan;
  - (2) That the goals in the professional development master plan align with the district/school improvement goals;
  - (3) That the professional development master plan guides each professional staff member's individual professional development plan in its design, implementation, and evaluation; and
  - (4) The regular assessment and evaluation of the needs, design, implementation, and impact on student learning of professional development activities and programs.
- (b) The school administration shall require that:

(1) Each certified educator's individual professional development plan required under Ed 512.03 is aligned with the professional development master plan;

(2) The professional development activities included in the professional development master plan are designed to improve professional knowledge, as measured in its success in meeting students' needs and improving students' learning; and

(3) The professional development activities included in the local professional development master plan under Ed 512.02(c)(7):

a. Are:

1. Student focused;
2. Data driven;
3. Research based;
4. Intensive; and
5. Sustained; and

b. Include:

1. Job-embedded activities;
2. Research;
3. Collaboration;
4. Practice; and
5. Reflection.

Ed 306.17 Class Size.

(a) Class size for instructional purposes, in each school shall:

(1) Be:

- a. Kindergarten – grade 2, 25 students or fewer per teacher, provided that each school shall strive to achieve the class size of 20 students or fewer per teacher;
- b. Grades 3 – 5, 30 students or fewer per teacher, provided that each school shall strive to achieve the class size of 25 students or fewer per teacher; and
- c. Middle and senior high school, 30 students or fewer per teacher; or

(2) Have received approval under alternative compliance requirements as provided in Ed 306.29, for any category listed in (1) above that does not meet the standards in (1) above.

(b) These class size requirements may be exceeded for study halls, band and chorus, and other types of large group instruction, including but not limited to, lectures, combined group instruction, and showing of educational television and films.

(c) In the interest of safety, the maximum number of students in laboratory classes in such areas as science and career and technical education shall be determined by the number of work stations and the size and design of the area. In no case shall the number of students in laboratory classes exceed 24.

Ed 306.18 School Year.

**(a) Pursuant to RSA 189:1 and 189:24 each school district shall maintain a school year as provided below:**

**(1) The school district shall maintain in each elementary school, a school year of at least 945 hours of instructional time and in each kindergarten at least 450 hours of instructional time;**

**(2) The school district shall maintain in each middle and high school, a school year of at least 990 hours of instructional time. Districts shall provide at least 990 hours of instructional time for grades 7 and 8 in elementary schools that include grades 7, 8 or both;**

**(3) The school day of an individual student shall not exceed 5.75 hours of instructional time in elementary schools and 6 hours of instructional time in middle and high schools;**

**(4) The school shall have in its school year an additional 60 hours in duration to provide for instructional time lost due to inclement weather or unexpected circumstances, staff development, and parent-teacher conferences. At least 30 of the 60 additional hours shall be available for rescheduling hours lost due to inclement weather or other emergencies. Schools shall use these additional hours to reschedule lost instructional time before requesting a waiver of the amount of instructional time under RSA 189:2, unless extraordinary circumstances exist that would place an unreasonable burden on the school or students such as but not limited to substantial building damage;**

**(5) A school may have a shortened day when an emergency condition exists which might adversely affect the health and safety of students, provided that the number of hours of instructional time originally planned for the day shall be credited to the number of hours of instructional time in the school year, if:**

**a. On that day, the school would normally have had at least 5.25 hours of instructional time; and**

**b. The school remained open for at least 3.5 hours of instructional time;**

**(6) There shall be no requirement to reschedule instructional time for kindergarten if morning or afternoon kindergarten sessions are cancelled due to delayed opening or early release for students in grade 1 or higher; and**

**(7) A school district may submit a plan to the commissioner that will allow schools to conduct instruction remotely for up to 5 days per year when the school has been closed**

due to inclement weather or other emergency. The plan shall include procedures for participation by all students. Academic work shall be equivalent in effort and rigor to typical classroom work. There shall be an assessment of all student work for the day. At least 80 percent of students shall participate for the day to count as a school day.

(b) Lunch time, home room periods, passing time, and breaks shall not be counted toward the required amount of instructional time. Elementary schools may count up to 30 minutes of recess per day as instructional time for pupils in kindergarten through grade 6. Advisory periods in middle and high schools shall be counted as instructional time.

(c) The school year for high school seniors may be reduced by no more than 5 days or 30 hours of instruction, whichever is less, from the number of days or hours of instruction for other high school students.

Ed 306.19 School Calendar. Each school shall maintain a school calendar.

Ed 306.20 **RESERVE**

Ed 306.21 Alternative Programs.

(a) “Alternative program” means the regular delivery of the majority of a student’s instruction through classroom or other methods designed to address the needs of individual students or particular groups of students that might be different than the methods of instruction used by the standard schools of the district.

(b) An alternative program may be housed in the same facility as a standard school or at a different location.

(c) An alternative program shall be:

(1) Designed to address the personalized needs to students, including, but not limited to, dropout prevention; and

(2) Approved by the local school board in a plan that:

a. States the goals of the program and curriculum to be provided;

b. Specifies the procedures for assessing and implementing its program plan consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III; and

c. Specifies when the program would be offered, which may be at a time other than during the regular school day.

(d) Alternative programs for students with disabilities shall meet the requirements of Ed 1119.

**(e) Prior to implementing an alternative program, a school administrative unit shall submit to the department the following:**

- (1) A copy of the local school board's approval, including the plan submitted;**
- (2) The location of the alternative program; and**
- (3) Copies of inspection reports from the municipal health officer and fire department if the alternative program is to be housed in a building other than an approved school.**

**(f) Each student participating in an alternative program shall participate in the state assessment exam, when applicable.**

**(g) Assignment of students to alternative programs shall be voluntary and shall require written approval from the parent or guardian.**

**(h) Staff assigned to alternative programs shall meet the same certification requirements as staff assigned to standard schools in accordance with Ed 306.15.**

**(i) Students in alternative programs shall be provided student services equivalent to those provided in standard schools including, but not limited to, food and nutrition services under Ed 306.11, health services under Ed 306.12, and guidance and counseling services under Ed 306.39.**

**(j) The school year for alternative programs shall meet the requirements of Ed 306.18.**

**(k) Alternative programs which result in the award of a high school diploma shall meet the requirements of Ed 306.27(m).**

**(l) Alternative programs which are supervised by the principal of a standard school shall be considered part of that standard school for reporting purposes under Ed 306.23, for assessment under Ed 306.24, and for school approval under Ed 306.28.**

**(m) Alternative programs which are supervised by a district level administrator shall be considered a separate school of the district for reporting purposes under Ed 306.23, for assessment under Ed 306.24, and for school approval under Ed 306.28.**

Ed 306.22 Distance Education.

(a) In this section, "distance education" means correspondence, video-based, internet-based, and online courses.

(b) If a district chooses to offer distance education, the provisions of (c) - (f) below shall apply.

(c) The local school board shall be responsible for:

- (1) The approval, coordination, and supervision of distance education courses offered for instructional purposes or high school credit, or both, in the district; and

- (2) Granting student credit for completion of distance education courses.
- (d) School districts may cooperate to share delivery of distance education courses.
- (e) The local school board shall adopt policies relative to all distance education courses offered by the school district to require that:
  - (1) The courses comply with all federal and state statutes pertaining to student privacy and to public broadcasting of audio and video;
  - (2) Credit courses require students to meet similar academic standards as required by the school for students enrolled in credit courses offered by the school;
  - (3) Only students approved by the school principal or designee shall be eligible to receive credit for distance education courses; and
  - (4) Students earning credit for distance education courses shall participate in all assessments required by the statewide education improvement and assessment program.
- (f) The local school board shall adopt policies relative to all distance education courses offered by the school district relative to:
  - (1) The number of students a teacher may be required to supervise;
  - (2) Monitoring of student progress, grading of assignments, and testing;
  - (3) Security of individual student records, provided that no individual student records obtained through participation in distance education courses shall be used for any purposes other than those that support the instruction of the individual student; and
  - (4) Gathering and disseminating of district-level aggregated data obtained through participation in distance education courses.

Ed 306.23 Statistical Reports; Accountability.

- (a) Each school district shall establish a local education accountability system in order to collect data needed for evaluation of the district's compliance with state and federal laws on school accountability. The department shall integrate its accountability system with local accountability systems so as to allow for comparison and analysis of such data.
- (b) Each district shall file statistical reports with the department as required under RSA 189:28. A request from a district to the department for statistical data needed by a district for filing a statistical report shall be submitted to the department at least 60 days before the district's report is due.
- (c) Each school district required under RSA 193-H:4 to create a local education improvement plan shall file such a plan with the department within 90 days of being found to be in need of improvement under RSA 193-H:3. The plan shall be aligned to meet state goals and student performance indicators.
- (d) Each school shall submit reports required by RSA 193-E demonstrating that the school is providing the opportunity for an adequate education through the online surveys for the Initiative for School Empowerment and Excellence (i4See), the Educator information System, and the Inputs Based Accountability System at <https://my.doe.nh.gov/myNHDOE/Login/Login.aspx>**

Ed 306.24 Assessment.

(a) The local school board shall require that each school:

- (1) Provides for the ongoing assessment of learning outcomes through the use of local assessments that are aligned with state and district content and performance standards as provided in (b) below;
- (2) Participates in the state-wide education improvement and assessment program as provided in (c) below; and
- (3) Selected by the United States Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics participates in the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP).

(b) The following elements shall be used as evidence by the department in determining whether a school complies with the requirements of (a) above:

- (1) The school maintains a policy that articulates the process for the selection, use, and interpretation of local assessment instruments;
- (2) The school supports the authentic assessment of student learning outcomes through multiple formative and summative assessment instruments, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Teacher observation of project-based learning, including off-site learning projects;
  - b. Competency-based assessments; and
  - c. Teacher-designed quizzes and tests;
- (3) The school provides professional development for teachers in the use of diagnostic tools to adjust instruction to meet personalized needs of students and to monitor progress; and
- (4) The school has a systematic process for collecting and analyzing assessment data to:
  - a. Identify needs for improvement; and
  - b. Determine the effectiveness of educational programs in meeting student performance goals.

(c) Each school shall maintain the following as evidence of participation in the state-wide education improvement and assessment program established under RSA 193-C:

- (1) Written guidelines for the inclusion of and accommodations for student participation, including, but not limited to, inclusion of and accommodations for:
  - a. Students in major racial and ethnic groups;
  - b. Students with disabilities;
  - c. Economically disadvantaged students; and
  - d. Students with limited English proficiency;
- (2) Procedures for test security and the accurate inclusion of student data;
- (3) Procedures by which assessment results are communicated to:

- a. Parents;
  - b. Faculty; and
  - c. The community; and
- (4) A policy that articulates the ongoing evaluation of the effectiveness of curriculum in improving student performance.

Ed 306.25 **RESERVE**

Ed 306.26 Kindergarten – Grade 8 School Curriculum.

- (a) The local school board shall require that in each school there is:
- (1) A broad and well-balanced elementary school curriculum in compliance with RSA 193-C:3, III; and
  - (2) An instructional program that includes:
    - a. Procedures for diagnosing learner needs, learning styles, and interests;
    - b. Methods and strategies for teaching students;
    - c. Research-based learning opportunities;
    - d. Techniques for the evaluation of student outcomes; and
    - e. Provision of differentiated instruction for students based on learning styles, needs, and interests.
- (b) The local school board shall adopt, for each school, a local time schedule which specifies the distribution of instructional time among the following learning areas to be taught in grades K-8, at all grade levels in the school:
- (1) For the elementary grades K-8, where no middle school has been established by vote of the local school board:
    - a. Ed 306.31, relative to arts education;
    - b. Ed 306.37, relative to English/language arts and reading program;
    - c. Ed 306.40, relative to health education program;
    - d. Ed 306.41, relative to physical education program;
    - e. Ed 306.42, relative to information & communication technologies program;
    - f. Ed 306.43, relative to mathematics program;
    - g. Ed 306.45, relative to science education; and
    - h.. Ed 306.46, relative to social studies program; and
  - (2) For middle school:

- a. Ed 306.31, relative to arts education;
- b. Ed 306.37, relative to English/language arts and reading program;
- c. Ed 306.38, relative to family and consumer science education;
- d. Ed 306.40, relative to health education program;
- e. Ed 306.41, relative to physical education program;
- f. Ed 306.42, relative to information & communication technologies program;
- g. Ed 306.43, relative to mathematics program;
- h. Ed 306.45, relative to science education;
- i. Ed 306.46, relative to social studies program; and
- j. Ed 306.47, relative to technology education.

(c) If the local school board determines that one or more world languages might be offered at a middle school in the district, the local school board shall develop a policy for each middle school relative to providing supplemental instruction in one or more world languages, including the extent of this instruction and the students to whom it is offered.

(d) If a cocurricular program is offered, it shall consist of those activities that are designed to supplement and enrich regular academic instruction, provide opportunities for social development, and encourage participation in clubs, athletics, performing groups, and service to school and community.

(e) The local school board may develop a policy that grants credits to students taking coursework in the seventh or eighth grade toward high school graduation, if the course demonstrates content requirements consistent with related high school course(s) and the student achieves satisfactory standards of performance.

(f) If a district chooses to offer extended learning opportunities in a middle school, the extended learning opportunities shall:

- (1) Consist of activities designed to:
  - a. Provide credit or supplement regular academic courses; and
  - b. Promote the schools and individual students' educational goals and objectives;
- (2) Be governed by a policy adopted by the local school board that:
  - a. Provides for the administration and supervision of the program;
  - b. Encourages that certified school personnel oversee an individual student's program;
  - c. Requires that each extended learning proposal meet rigorous measurable standards, and be approved by the school prior to its beginning;
  - d. Specifies whether or not credit can be granted for extended learning activities, including, but not limited to, independent study, private instruction, team sports, performing groups, internships, community service, and work study; and

- e. Requires that credit for an extended learning activity can only be approved by certified educators;
- (3) Incorporate student participation in selecting, organizing, and carrying out extended learning activities;
- (4) Provide opportunities for students to acquire knowledge and skill development comparable to knowledge and skill development in courses offered at the high school; and
- (5) Be available to all students.

Ed 306.27 High School Curriculum, Credits, Graduation Requirements, and Cocurricular Program.

(a) The local school board shall require that the required curriculum content developed for each high school is consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III.

(b) The required curriculum content shall comply with the following:

- (1) The program of studies shall include those courses for which credit is awarded as well as other educational experiences and instructional activities required by Ed 306;
- (2) Credit courses shall be planned for the attainment of specific educational objectives leading to the high school diploma;
- (3) The instructional program shall include:
  - a. Procedures for diagnosing learner needs;
  - b. Methods and strategies for teaching that incorporate learner needs;
  - c. Resource-based learning opportunities;
  - d. Techniques for the evaluation of student outcomes; and
  - e. The provision of remedial instruction as needed;
- (4) If a district chooses to offer extended learning opportunities, the extended learning opportunities shall:
  - a. Consist of activities designed to:
    - 1. Provide credit or supplement regular academic courses; and
    - 2. Promote the schools and individual students' educational goals and objectives;
  - b. Be governed by a policy adopted by the local school board that:
    - 1. Provides for the administration and supervision of the program;
    - 2. Encourages that certified school personnel oversee an individual student's program;
    - 3. Requires that each extended learning proposal meet rigorous standards, and be approved by the school prior to its beginning;

4. Specifies that credits can be granted for extended learning activities, including, but not limited to, independent study, private instruction, team sports, performing groups, internships, community service, and work study; and
  5. Requires that granting of credits shall be based on a student's demonstration of competencies, as approved by certified educators;
- c. Incorporate student participation in selecting, organizing, and carrying out extended learning activities;
  - d. Provide opportunities for students to acquire knowledge and skill development comparable to knowledge and skill development in courses offered at the high school; and
  - e. Be available to all students; and
- (5) A cocurricular program shall be offered that provides opportunities for all students to participate in activities designed to meet their needs and interests, including, but not limited to:
- a. Intramural and interscholastic athletics;
  - b. Performing groups;
  - c. Academic clubs and societies;
  - d. Student government;
  - e. Activities and services that afford students with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate; and
  - f. Any other activities that:
    1. Supplement and enrich regular academic courses;
    2. Provide opportunities for social development;
    3. Encourage participation in the arts, athletics, and other cooperative groups; and
    4. Encourage service to school and community.

(c) The local school board shall require that a program of studies shall be offered for each high school that includes credit courses or equivalent study and other educational experiences and instructional activities as specified in (e) below. Each high school shall offer maximum student opportunities, in and out of the classroom, while at the same time specifying a basic number of courses that each high school shall offer. If a student demonstrates knowledge and abilities on a placement pre-test developed by the local school district for a particular course, the student shall not receive credit for the course, but shall be allowed to take a more advanced level of the subject or an elective.

**(d) The local school board shall require that a high school credit can be earned by demonstrating mastery of required competencies for the course, as approved by certified school personnel. Each high school shall determine the number of credits to be awarded for successful demonstration of competencies following completion of a classroom course, independent study, distance learning course, or extended learning opportunity. One credit shall equate to the level of**

**rigor and achievement necessary to master competencies that have been designed to demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to progress toward college level and career work. Determination of the weight of each course competency on which credit is based, as well as the degree of mastery on which credit will be granted, shall be a local decision.**

**(e) Items (1) –(16) below shall not limit opportunities to develop programs that meet the needs of each student:**

- (1) Ed 306.31, relative to arts education;
- (2) Ed 306.33, relative to business education;
- (3) Ed 306.34, relative to career and technical education;
- (4) Ed 306.35, relative to career education;
- (5) Ed 306.37, relative to English/language arts and reading program;
- (6) Ed 306.38, relative to family and consumer science education;
- (7) Ed 306.39, relative to guidance and counseling program;
- (8) Ed 306.40, relative to health education program;
- (9) Ed 306.41, relative to physical education program;
- (10) Ed 306.42, relative to information and communication technologies program;
- (11) Ed 306.43, relative to mathematics program;
- (12) Ed 306.45, relative to science education;
- (13) Ed 306.46, relative to social studies program;
- (14) Ed 306.47, relative to technology education;
- (15) Ed 306.48, relative to world languages program; and
- (16) Ed 306.27(b)(4), relative to extended learning opportunities, if offered.

(f) There shall be a minimum of 20 credits for a regular high school diploma, unless the local school board has set a requirement of more than 20 credits for a regular high school diploma, in which case the local credit requirement shall apply. The local school board shall require that each high school offers courses or learning opportunities as specified in (c) above.

(g) The following shall apply relative to required program areas and credits:

- (1) Consistent with Ed 306, the local school board shall verify in writing to the commissioner that each high school shall offer courses which total at least 45 credits distributed as shown in Table 306-1 when the school seeks approval or renewal of approval under Ed 306.28;
- (2) Each high school's credit course offerings shall be composed of single credit courses, fractional credit courses, or integrated sequences of courses, or any combination of these;
- (3) Each high school may use any relevant title to identify a particular course;

(4) Local school boards may propose innovative ways to meet or exceed the requirements in Table 306-1, pursuant to Ed 306.29; and

(5) The required credits in program areas offered by each high school shall be distributed as specified in Table 306-1 below:

Table 306-1 Required Program Areas and Credits

<b>Required Program Areas</b>	<b>Credit(s)</b>
Arts education	3 credits
Business education	5 credits
Information and communication technologies	½ credit
Family and consumer science	3 credits
World languages	5 credits
Health education	½ credit
Physical education	2 credits
Technology education	4 credits
English	6 credits
Mathematics	6 credits
Science	5 credits
Social studies	5 credits

**(6) Credits requirements under Ed 306.27(g)(5) may be met through distance education programs under Ed 306.22 subject to the following:**

**a. The 13.5 program specific credits required for high school graduation in Ed 306.27(m), not including open electives and Information Communications Technology, shall be offered in a classroom setting. Duplicate, equivalent, or additional courses in those program areas may be offered through distance education, extended learning opportunities, or other alternative methods;**

**b. Distance education courses or other alternative courses or programs to be counted toward the 45 credits required by Ed 306.27(g)(5) shall meet the school’s competencies and shall be identified in the school’s program of studies;**

**c. The school shall provide all equipment, software, and internet connectivity necessary to participate in distance education programs that are to be counted toward the 45 credits required by Ed 306.27(g)(5);**

**d. The costs of registration shall be borne by the school district for courses or alternative programs to be counted toward the 45 credits required by Ed 306.27(g)(5); and**

**e. At least one staff member shall be identified and available to assist students having difficulty with distance education courses and other alternative programs;**

**(7) Introductory level courses offered at regional career and technical centers and available to all high school students may be counted toward the 45 credits required by Ed 306.27(g)(5) to be offered at each host or sending high school in the region. Such courses shall be identified in the school's program of studies. Career program level courses, not available to all students, shall not be counted toward the high school requirement, including career level courses offered at a regional career and technical center that is co-located with the high school. Career courses may be counted toward a student's requirements for a high school diploma under Ed 306.27(m);**

**(8) Nothing in this section shall prevent a high school from offering classroom courses, distance education courses, independent study programs, or extended learning opportunities in addition to the credits required by Ed 306.27(g)(5). Schools shall not be required to pay for student registration or similar fees for these additional courses or programs; and**

**(9) Nothing in this section shall prevent a student from completing any number of credits through classroom courses, career and technical center courses, distance education, independent study, or extended learning opportunities to meet the graduation requirements of Ed 306.27(m) consistent with local district policies.**

(h) The local school board of each high school shall award a regular high school diploma to those students who earn at least 20 credits for courses selected from the school's program of studies, provided that the student meets the requirements for high school graduation.

**(i) The local school board shall require that a high school have in place competency assessments for all courses offered through the high school.**

**(j) The local school board of each high school shall award a regular high school diploma to all students, with and without disabilities, who have earned at least their local high school's required units of credit for graduation, selected from the school's program of studies or comparable classes and courses or extended learning opportunities approved for credit by the applicable academic department or school program.**

**(k) The school board of a district which does not operate a high school may award a high school diploma if the following are met:**

**(1) The district has contracted with a public academy, as defined in RSA 193:23,II, to be the high school for the district, as authorized by RSA 194:2;**

**(2) Students have attended a school other than the public academy; and**

**(3) Students have met high school graduation requirements established by the local school board that meet or exceed the requirements of Ed 306.27(m).**

(l) The awarding of different types of diplomas shall be governed by the following:

- (1) A school shall award a regular diploma for completion of the district minimum earned course credit requirements;
- (2) A school may award a special diploma that recognizes academic achievement;
- (3) Credits earned in adult education, including but not limited to night school, may be used to earn a regular diploma; and
- (4) Students may earn certificates of completion or equivalency diplomas, but these shall not be equal to a regular high school diploma.

(m) All students with disabilities shall be entitled to continue with their high school educational program until such time as each student has earned a regular high school diploma or has attained the age of 21, whichever comes first, or until the IEP or Section 504 team, through a formal evaluation process, determines that such student is no longer in need of, and thereby not eligible for, special education and related services or accommodations and auxiliary supports.

(n) The 20 credits required for graduation shall be distributed as specified in Table 306-2:

Table 306-2 Required Subjects and Credits for High School Graduation

Required Subjects	Credit(s)
Arts education	½ credit
Information and communications technologies	½ credit or demonstrate proficiency
English	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits, including algebra credit that can be earned through a sequential, integrated, or applied program
Physical sciences	1 credit
Biological sciences	1 credit
US and NH history	1 credit
US and NH government/civics	½ credit
Economics	½ credit
World history, global studies, or geography	½ credit
Health education	½ credit
Physical education	1 credits
Open electives	6 credits
Totals	20 credits

(o) The ½ credit requirement in information and communications technologies education shall be met by successfully completing:

- (1) The equivalent of a ½ credit course comprised of the creation of a digital portfolio to demonstrate proficient, ethical, and responsible use of 21<sup>st</sup> century tools, including, but not limited to, digital technology and communication tools, in the context of core subjects; or
- (2) A ½ credit course in information and communications technologies education at the high school level.

(p) The 6 credits of open electives shall be selected from any of the school's course offerings.

(q) The local school board shall adopt a policy relative to counting credits for course work earned in one content area toward meeting any graduation requirements in another content area through the awarding of interdisciplinary credit. Any graduation requirement in a subject area may be earned through interdisciplinary credit, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Graduation requirements met by interdisciplinary credit shall be clearly designated on student transcripts;
- (2) Interdisciplinary credit shall be counted only once in meeting graduation requirements; and
- (3) The high school principal may approve a particular course for interdisciplinary credit if he/she determines that:
  - a. The course has been adopted by a faculty team; and
  - b. The course addresses the objectives for the subject area in which the credit is to be counted.

(r) If a local school board adopts policies relative to the awarding of credit for distance education as described in Ed 306.22, the policies shall require that:

- (1) Students may earn credit toward the number of units required for graduation through the successful completion of such courses; and
- (2) Credit shall be granted only if the high school principal determines that the distance learning course meets the academic standards required by the high school for students enrolled in a credit course offered by the high school.

(s) In each high school, the minimum yearly course load for a student shall be 4 credits, except that this requirement may be modified for:

- (1) Disabled students for which an individualized education program (IEP) has been developed in accordance with Ed 1109;
- (2) Students for whom early graduation has been approved as provided in (t) below; or
- (3) Those individuals in special or unusual circumstances as provided by local school board policy.

(t) A local school board may adopt policies pertaining to early graduation for individual students. Such policies shall require parental involvement for students under the age of 18. Consistent with local policy, the high school principal shall approve such requests if he/she determines that all state and local graduation requirements will be met and that early graduation is related to the career or educational plans of the student making the request. Upon approval by the high school principal, the minimum 4-credit requirement per year for enrolled students shall be waived, and the student shall be awarded a high school diploma.

(u) The principal shall evaluate the transcripts of students who transfer into a secondary school from another educational program, or state, to determine previous educational experiences toward meeting graduation requirements.

(v) Upon receipt of a written request from the local school board, the commissioner of education shall waive a particular graduation requirement and shall permit the local board to award a high school diploma to a student if the commissioner determines that:

- (1) Such action is in the best interests of the student; and
- (2) At least one of the following circumstances exists:
  - a. The student has a debilitating illness which limits school attendance;
  - b. The student has a physical disability which precludes participation in physical education;
  - c. The student moved into a New Hampshire school district from out of state during grade 12 and was not able to schedule a particular graduation requirement; or
  - d. Another condition exists beyond the control of the student similar to the conditions described in a., b., or c.

(w) Each local high school shall provide reasonable accommodations for cocurricular activities as appropriate in order to allow for full access and participation by students with disabilities.

Ed 306.28 Approval Process.

(a) Pursuant to RSA 186:8, I, and RSA 21-N:6, V, the department shall administer Ed 306.

**(b) The following school approval categories shall apply to the administration of Ed 306:**

- (1) Approved for a five year period, which means that a school meets and continues to meet all requirements of Ed 306?**
- (2) Conditionally approved; and**
- (3) Unapproved.**

**(c) A school which does not meet all of the applicable requirements of Ed 306 shall be designated as conditionally approved for a period of one year, provided that:**

- (1) All identified deficiencies and a timetable for their correction shall be incorporated into the approval designation;**
- (2) In no case shall a school be designated as conditionally approved for more than 3 consecutive school years for the same violation;**
- (3) A conditionally approved school which fails to meet the requirements of an approved school within 3 consecutive school years shall be designated as unapproved unless approved for delay in full compliance under Ed 306.30;**
- (4) The department shall work with the local school board to correct all deficiencies until such time as an unapproved school meets all applicable standards and is designated as an approved school;

(5) Readoption of any of the rules in Ed 306 shall not extend time periods for compliance; and

(6) The local school board and superintendent have submitted an application for an alternative method of compliance under Ed 306.29.

(d) One year prior to the expiration of a school's approval, the department shall notify the chairperson of the local school board and the superintendent of the respective district that documentation of compliance with all applicable standards shall be submitted to the department within 4 months.

(e) The commissioner of education shall designate staff members of the department to visit schools to verify the information submitted.

(f) Each year the commissioner, based on staff recommendations, shall prepare a proposed approval designation, as provided in (b) above, for each public school and public academy whose approval is due to expire.

(g) The commissioner shall notify in writing the chairperson of the local school board and the superintendent of the respective district of his/her proposed approval designation.

(h) If local school officials consider the commissioner's proposed approval designation to be in error, the superintendent shall prepare written evidence to justify its modification.

(i) Such evidence shall be submitted to the commissioner or designee within 30 days of receipt of the commissioner's proposed designation.

(j) The commissioner shall review all requests for modification and notify, in writing, the chairperson of the local school board and the superintendent of his/her final approval designation and the school shall be designated as approved, conditionally approved, or unapproved.

(k) If a request for modification of a proposed approval designation has not been received within 30 days, it shall become the commissioner's final approval designation and the school shall be designated as approved, conditionally approved, or unapproved.

(l) The commissioner shall notify the local school board chairperson and the superintendent of the respective district of each school's final approval designation.

(m) If the commissioner has designated a school as "conditionally approved" or "unapproved," the chairperson of the local school board may appeal the decision and request a state board hearing. Said appeal shall be filed in writing with the office of legislation and hearings within 20 days of the receipt of the final approval designation and shall specify the basis for the appeal. The office of legislation and hearings shall schedule a hearing on the appeal in accordance with timelines and procedures established in Ed 200.

(n) Pursuant to RSA 21-N:11, III, any person directly affected by said decision may request a state board hearing. A request for a hearing shall be filed in writing with the office of legislation and hearings within 20 days of the decision and shall specify the basis for such hearing. The office of legislation and hearings shall schedule the hearing in accordance with timelines and procedures established in Ed 200.

(o) Each year, the state board of education shall direct the commissioner to publish a list of all public schools and public academies by approval category. The term of approval for each school shall also be listed. A school's approval designation shall remain in effect until changed by the commissioner.

(p) It shall be the responsibility of the chairperson of the local school board and the superintendent to notify the commissioner of any change in conditions which affects a schools compliance with these

rules. If the commissioner of education determines that a school is no longer in compliance with the provisions of these rules, the commissioner shall provide notice of the right to a hearing to the chairperson of the local school board and the superintendent. If a hearing is requested, the local district shall have the opportunity to show compliance with the rules. If the commissioner determines after the hearing that the school is not in compliance with the provisions of these rules, or if no hearing is requested, the commissioner shall revoke the school's approval.

(q) The commissioner shall notify the local school board chairperson and the superintendent of his/her decision to revoke a school's approval.

(r) The chairperson of the local school board may appeal the decision and request a state board hearing. The appeal shall be filed in writing with the office of legislation and hearings within 20 days of the receipt of the decision and shall specify the basis for the appeal. The office of legislation and hearings shall schedule a hearing on the appeal in accordance with timelines and procedures established in Ed 200.

(s) Pursuant to RSA 21-N:11, III, any person directly affected by such a decision may request a state board hearing. A request for a hearing shall be filed in writing with the office of legislation and hearings within 20 days of the decision and shall specify the basis for such hearing. The office of legislation and hearings shall schedule the hearing in accordance with timelines and procedures established in Ed 200.

Ed 306.29 Alternative Compliance.

(a) In order to meet the provisions of these rules and encourage innovation to achieve high standards for students, a local school board may request approval of an alternative method of compliance with the relevant rule or rules.

(b) To apply for approval, the local school board shall submit a written request to the commissioner of education that includes:

- (1) The name(s) of school(s)/district;
- (2) The SAU number;
- (3) The contact person and telephone number;
- (4) The grades covered by the request;
- (5) The number of students affected;
- (6) Identification of the rule(s) for which the alternative plan is being submitted;
- (7) The local school board chairperson's signature;
- (8) A clear and concise written justification of the request; and
- (9) A plan which describes the alternative and consists of a statement of intent, method of implementation, evaluation procedures, timetable for development and implementation, and an explanation of how the alternative is consistent with the statement(s) of philosophy, goals, and objectives adopted pursuant to Ed 306.05.

(c) The commissioner shall grant approval of the alternative for that period of time consistent with the school(s) approval designation, issued pursuant to Ed 306.28, if the request meets the following criteria:

- (1) The information provided is thorough and complete;
- (2) The school district has demonstrated that it is able to implement the alternative; and
- (3) The alternative is educationally sound and is consistent with the intent of the rule(s).

(d) The commissioner shall notify the local school board chairperson and the superintendent in writing of the decision.

(e) If the commissioner denies the request, the chairperson of the local school board may appeal the decision and request a state board hearing. The appeal shall be filed in writing with the office of legislation and hearings within 20 days of the receipt of the decision and shall specify the basis for the appeal. The office of legislation and hearings shall schedule a hearing on the appeal in accordance with timelines and procedures established in Ed 200.

(f) Pursuant to RSA 21-N:11, III, any person directly affected by the decision may request a state board hearing. A request for a hearing shall be filed in writing with the office of legislation and hearings within 20 days of the decision and shall specify the basis for such hearing. The office of legislation and hearings shall schedule the hearing in accordance with timelines and procedures established in Ed 200.

Ed 306.30 Delay in Full Compliance.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of these rules and in accordance with the provisions of RSA 194:23-c, the state board of education shall have the power to approve, for a period of 1 year, a school, although it does not fully meet the requirements for an approved school, as established in these rules, if any of the conditions listed in (c)(1) – (4) below justify delay in full compliance.

(b) A request for delay in full compliance shall be submitted in writing by the chairperson of the local school board to the commissioner. Each request shall specify the standard(s) to be delayed and provide written evidence to justify delay in full compliance, including the reason(s) for the request and a local plan and timetable for bringing the school/district into full compliance.

(c) Upon review of the request, the state board shall grant a delay in full compliance and approve the school for a period of one year if any of the following conditions exists:

- (1) Reduction in local tax base;
- (2) Closing of a major industry;
- (3) Sudden influx of school-age population; or
- (4) Emergency beyond the control of the school district, such as a fire or natural disaster.

**(5) The district has made progress toward meeting the standards, but more time is required to implement the district's plan for corrective action.**

(d) The commissioner shall notify the local school board chairperson and the superintendent of the state board's decision.

(e) If the state board denies the request, the chairperson of the local school board may appeal the decision and request a reconsideration of the state board's decision. The appeal shall be filed in writing with the office of legislation and hearings within 20 days of receipt of the decision and shall specify the basis for the appeal. The office of legislation and hearings shall schedule a hearing on the appeal in accordance with timelines and procedures established in Ed 200.

(f) Pursuant to RSA 21-N:11, III, any person directly affected by the decision may request a state board hearing. A request for a hearing shall be filed in writing with the office of legislation and hearings within 20 days of the decision and shall specify the basis for such hearing. The office of legislation and hearings shall schedule the hearing in accordance with timelines and procedures established in Ed 200.

Ed 306.31 Arts Education Program. Pursuant to Ed 306.26 and Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that an arts education program for grades K-12 provides:

(a) Systematic and sequential instruction in the arts disciplines of music and visual art, while developing opportunities for dance and theatre, where students will:

- (1) Create, perform, and respond with understanding;
- (2) Participate actively in at least one of the art forms of dance, music, theatre or visual art;
- (3) Analyze and evaluate works of art from structural, historical, and cultural perspectives, including acquiring the ability to understand and evaluate works of art in various arts disciplines;
- (4) Recognize exemplary works of art from a variety of historical periods and cultures, as well as understand historical development within and among the arts disciplines;
- (5) Relate various types of arts knowledge and skills within and across the arts and other disciplines;
- (6) Use technology as ways to create, perform, or respond in various arts disciplines; and
- (7) Become familiar with career opportunities in the arts or with the impact of the arts on everyday life;

(b) Planned curriculum that is consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III; that will provide for:

- (1) A variety of developmentally appropriate techniques and processes as well as learning materials such as tools, equipment, facilities and supplies, including but not limited to musical instruments, current recording devices, computers and software, and expendable art-making supplies, that meet the diverse needs, interests and capacities of each student;
- (2) The best interests of students regarding safety and health issues associated with materials, tools, equipment, supplies and procedures;
- (3) The ability to guide student development in observing, imagining, visualizing, listening, transforming, and synthesizing their thoughts and ideas into artworks through traditional and nontraditional means such as, but not limited to, choreography, reading and writing music, improvisation, script-writing, set design, two and three-dimensional artworks, and media arts;
- (4) The ability to guide students in selecting and applying subject matter and movements, sounds, language, or symbols, or any combination of them, with ideas to express meaning in artwork;
- (5) Developing artistry and artistic skill sequentially over time;
- (6) Critical thinking skills and artistic choices in the creation and evaluation of artworks;
- (7) Addressing opportunities available beyond the regular classroom; and
- (8) Embedding in the students global arts-related history and culture; and

(c) Sound assessment practices as stated in Ed 306.24.

Ed 306.32 Automotive Technology Education Program.

(a) Each receiving district school board that oversees a regional career and technical education center under RSA 188-E shall require that an automotive technology education program provides:

(1) Instruction and student activities that meet or exceed the 2002 automobile program standards established by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) for secondary level programs, including, but not limited to:

a. NATEF standards for minimum contact hours between student and teacher, which shall be specified in a written agreement between the sending district and:

1. An automotive dealership; or
2. A postsecondary program; and

b. Instruction enabling students to develop competencies in the following areas:

1. Suspension and steering;
2. Brakes;
3. Electrical/electronic systems; and
4. Engine performance;

(2) One or more ending examinations approved by:

- a. NATEF;
- b. Automotive Youth Educational Systems (AYES);
- c. National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI); or
- d. The automotive technology advisory council established under RSA 188-E:19; and

(3) Systematic instruction and laboratory activities designed to enable students to:

a. Achieve high employability, and performance skills and work habits in the following areas:

1. Decision making and problem solving;
2. Self management;
3. Ability to work with others;
4. Written and oral communication;
5. Ability to effectively use information to meet safety requirements, to analyze and diagnose problems, and to perform automotive service;
6. Personal work habits;
7. Positive attitude;

8. Dependability; and
  9. Ability to learn; and
- b. Understand all aspects of automotive technology, including:
1. Management structure;
  2. Training;
  3. Health, safety, and environmental issues;
  4. Technology;
  5. Shop operations;
  6. Consumer relations;
  7. Quality;
  8. Productivity; and
  9. Safety.

(b) An automotive technology education program shall meet the requirements of Ed 306.34(a) and (b), relative to career and technical education programs.

(c) A student successfully completing a program in automotive technology shall be eligible to receive high school credit for the program in accordance with Ed 306.27.

(d) Each teacher of automotive technology shall:

- (1) Be certified as a teacher of career and technical education under Ed 507.02; and
- (2) Hold National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certification in each content area taught in the program, including the content areas listed in (a)(1)b. above.

Ed 306.33 Business Education Program.

(a) Pursuant to Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that a business education program provides:

- (1) A student-centered learning environment, guiding learners as they prepare skills needed to be effective citizens, consumer, workers, and business leaders;
- (2) Opportunities for students to become familiar with business principles, practices, attitudes, and procedures basic to successful participation in the business world;
- (3) Opportunities for students to acquire basic knowledge in:
  - a. Accounting;
  - b. Business law;
  - c. Career development;
  - d. Communication;

- e. Computation;
  - f. Economics;
  - g. Personal finance;
  - h. Entrepreneurship;
  - i. Information technology;
  - j. International business;
  - k. Management;
  - l. E-business; and
  - m. Marketing;
- (4) Opportunities for students to participate in cooperative education and work experience programs;
- (5) Courses totaling at least 5 credits in business education which shall be distributed as follows:
- a. Three credits in business communication where students will:
    - 1. Learn to communicate effectively as writers, listeners, and speakers; and
    - 2. Apply and enhance technology and processing skills that are critical for acquiring, recording, interpreting, evaluating, and managing information;
  - b. One credit in accounting, banking, or finance to develop and apply principles and procedures through recording, analyzing, and interpreting financial data necessary for success in society and the workplace;
  - c. One credit in fundamental business and economic education dealing with:
    - 1. The United States enterprise system;
    - 2. Saving and investment planning;
    - 3. Supply and demand;
    - 4. Management, consumption and distribution of goods and services;
    - 5. Marketing and distribution to the consumer;
    - 6. Business decision making;
    - 7. Careers in business and marketing;
    - 8. Human relation skills;
    - 9. The global economy;
    - 10. International finance; and

11. Trade relations; and

(6) Systematic instruction and activities designed to enable students to:

- a. Function as economically literate citizens by developing and applying personal consumer economic skills, knowledge of social and government responsibility, and business operations;
- b. Select and apply the tools of technology as they relate to personal and business decision making;
- c. Locate, retrieve, evaluate, and use information from traditional and emerging resources;
- d. Demonstrate leadership, teamwork and interpersonal skills needed to function in diverse business settings;
- e. Develop an awareness of career opportunities and lifelong learning skills that will enable students to:
  1. Have an understanding of career choices and their interrelations; and
  2. Make wise career decisions and successful career transitions;
- f. Apply the principles of law in personal and business venues;
- g. Develop and apply skills in administrative support; and
- h. Develop an understanding of the global business environment, including its cultural, political, legal, economic, and ethical systems.

Ed 306.34 Career and Technical Education Program.

(a) Pursuant to Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that a high school career and technical education program, either locally or through regional technical vocational education centers under RSA 188-E, provides:

- (1) Planned activities designed to prepare each student for employment in current or emerging occupations, and for further postsecondary education or training, or both;
- (2) Instruction and activities which emphasize the development of:
  - a. Competency-based academic knowledge related to the career field the student is studying;
  - b. High employability and performance skills, including the following skills:
    1. Decision making and problem solving;
    2. Self-management;
    3. Communications;
    4. Ability to work with others; and
    5. Ability to use information for research, analysis, technology, safety, and career development;

c. Understanding all aspects of the career field that the student is studying, including:

1. Planning
2. Management;
3. Finances;
4. Technical and production skills;
5. Underlying principles of technology;
6. Labor, and community issues;
7. Health, safety, and environmental issues; and
8. Personal work habits; and

d. Occupational-specific skills that provide the individual student with the ability to obtain employment and to adapt to the changing demands of the workplace;

(3) A safe environment for students in laboratory classes and at work stations which shall:

- a. Meet safety standards established by national associations and adopted as administrative rules by New Hampshire licensing boards for the particular career;
- b. Not exceed 24 students in each laboratory class; and
- c. Comply with all state and federal child labor laws;

(4) Coordination with postsecondary or apprenticeship programs, or both; and

(5) A dedicated staff person in each center, either certified in school guidance counseling or holding a current certificate of training from a nationally recognized program as a career development specialist/facilitator, who, working with the school's comprehensive developmental school guidance and counseling program, provides students with:

- a. Career interest and aptitude appraisal activities; and
- b. Individual planning, services and support, and follow-up guidance.

(b) Each career and technical education program shall provide experiences leading to licensure, certification, and further education or training.

(c) A school district shall be eligible for reimbursement of vocational education tuition and transportation in accordance with RSA 188-E:9 and Ed 1403.

Ed 306.35 Career Education Program.

(a) Pursuant to Ed 306.26 - Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that a comprehensive career education program provides for the infusion of developmentally appropriate knowledge and skill development throughout all areas of the K-12 curriculum, in accordance with RSA 193-C:3, III and recognized national standards.

(b) At all grade levels, this comprehensive career education program shall include opportunities for students to:

- (1) Develop self-knowledge, self-confidence, and self-awareness in defining and refining life and work roles; and
  - (2) Become familiar with the skills and knowledge essential for making individual career and educational decisions.
- (c) At the middle and high school level, this program shall include systematic instruction and activities designed to enable students to:
- (1) Develop basic knowledge, attitudes, and competencies that promote success on the job;
  - (2) Collect and evaluate data related to current and emerging employment opportunities;
  - (3) Use available resources in planning and decision making regarding educational and career objectives;
  - (4) Understand the wide variety and interrelatedness of occupations; and
  - (5) Develop career interests and an awareness of the training and skills required for success.

Ed 306.36 RESERVE

Ed 306.37 English/Language Arts and Reading Program.

- (a) Pursuant to Ed 306.26, the local school board shall require that an English/language arts and reading program in each elementary school provides:
- (1) Systematic and continuous instruction which develops students' knowledge of language arts, including listening, speaking, reading, writing, and viewing;
  - (2) Instruction which emphasizes how to clarify, order, interpret, and communicate experiences through the skillful use of language;
  - (3) Opportunities for each student to exercise, with fluency and ease, oral and written skills and to become acquainted with others' interpretations of experiences through fiction and informational materials, film, television, and other media;
  - (4) An environment which promotes the importance of reading;
  - (5) Opportunities for each child to become literate;
  - (6) Methods for assessing students for appropriate placement in the reading/language arts program, including diagnostic assessment for remediation;
  - (7) Support for teachers on interpreting test results;
  - (8) Continuous monitoring of each student's progress from grade to grade;
  - (9) Early intervention or remediation;
  - (10) Instruction for teachers in reading in the content areas; and
  - (11) Training for instructional staff on methods for effectively meeting the language arts/reading needs of all students and on current developments in language arts/reading.

(b) Pursuant to Ed 306.26, the local school board shall require that an English/language arts and reading program in each middle school provides:

- (1) Instruction which emphasizes the use of language to clarify, order, interpret, and communicate experiences including instruction in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and viewing;
- (2) Opportunities for each student to develop oral and written skills and to become acquainted with others' interpretations of experiences through fiction and informational materials, film, television, and other media; and
- (3) Systematic instruction and activities designed to enable student to:
  - a. Comprehend and produce progressively more complex oral and written language using various patterns of organization, such as narration, description, enumeration, sequence, cause/effect, comparison/contrast, and problem/solution;
  - b. Recognize and create literary elements, such as plot, character, setting and point of view in a variety of genres;
  - c. Apply the writing process, including choosing a topic, generating ideas and locating information, drafting, revising, and editing;
  - d. Increase vocabulary through semantics, use of the dictionary, structural analysis, including prefixes and suffixes, and other strategies;
  - e. Apply previously learned reading skills to content materials;
  - f. Acquire new reading skills and fluency through remedial, developmental, and enrichment programs;
  - g. Use appropriate reading techniques to acquire knowledge, including setting the purpose for reading, varying reading speed, and reading for comprehension at the literal, inferential, evaluative, critical, and analytical levels;
  - h. Read to satisfy personal interests and recognize that fiction and informational materials can offer insight into life; and
  - i. Employ appropriate study skills, including the ability to locate materials, take notes, organize information, and use a variety of sources.

(c) Pursuant to Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that an English/language arts program in each high school provides:

- (1) Opportunities for students to become familiar with the history, structure, and use of English as the basic medium of communication in our society;
- (2) Opportunities for students to develop proficiency and control in the use of language, an appreciation of a variety of literary forms, an understanding and appreciation of various aspects of past and present cultures as expressed in literature, and interests for lifelong learning;
- (3) Courses totaling at least 6 credits in English which shall be distributed as follows:

- a. At least 4 credits required of all students and planned as a purposeful sequence of study which promotes the development of the basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and viewing; the acquisition of knowledge, and the understanding of literature and our literary heritage; and
  - b. At least 2 elective credits designed to provide increased proficiency in the basic language skills and/or an expanded knowledge and understanding of literature and which may be met by such courses as advanced writing, public speaking, debating, dramatics, humanities, and world literature; and
- (4) Systematic instruction and activities designed to enable students to:
- a. Develop effective listening and discussion techniques, distinguish fact from opinion, and identify the principle idea;
  - b. Write and present speeches for a variety of purposes and audiences;
  - c. Understand and apply the writing process by choosing a topic, generating ideas and locating information, drafting, revising, and editing in order to write well-organized, legible, well-supported papers;
  - d. Use correctly the conventions of standard English, such as grammar, punctuation, spelling, capitalization, and word usage, in all written work;
  - e. Increase reading speed and comprehension and develop thinking skills, such as inference, applying knowledge, and making judgments;
  - f. Develop word recognition skills, such as context clues, prefixes, suffixes, and phonetic analysis, in order to develop an increased vocabulary;
  - g. Understand ideas presented in a variety of visual formats such as television advertisements and political cartoons;
  - h. Know and appreciate both traditional and contemporary literature, including English, American, and works in translation;
  - i. Understand literary analysis through discussion and writing activities;
  - j. Recognize how our literary heritage relates to the customs, ideas, and values of today's life and culture; and
  - k. Develop study skills which contribute to academic success, such as using the dictionary, note taking, locating information, distinguishing good sources of information from bad sources, and applying information in solving of real-life problems.

Ed 306.38 Family and Consumer Science Education Program.

- (a) Pursuant to Ed 306.26, the local school board shall require that a family and consumer science education program in each middle school provides:
- (1) Instructions which emphasizes the use of critical and creative thinking skills to address problems as individuals in diverse family, community, and work environments;
  - (2) Planned activities designed to promote becoming responsible citizens and leaders in family, community, and work settings;

(3) Experiences which develop students' information-gathering techniques, including, but not limited to:

- a. Collecting, analyzing, organizing, and presenting information;
- b. Decision making and problem solving;
- c. Self-management;
- d. Communication and conflict resolution; and
- e. Technological literacy;

(4) Instruction in both subject matter and process, with an emphasis on breadth rather than depth;

(5) Experiences which develop students' knowledge and skills in:

- a. Managing foods and nutrition;
- b. Consumer and family resource management;
- c. Interpersonal relationships; and
- d. Human growth and development; and

(6) Systematic instruction and activities designed to enable students to:

- a. Manage foods and nutrition as follows:
  1. Identify behaviors that influence nutrition and wellness practices;
  2. Evaluate personal nutritional needs and how they can affect health, appearance, and performance; and
  3. Demonstrate basic skills in selecting, storing, preparing, and serving foods that meet personal and family nutritional needs;
- b. In the area of consumer and resource management:
  1. Demonstrate basic skills needed for management of individual and family resources, including food, clothing, recreation, and transportation;
  2. Demonstrate behaviors that conserve, reuse, and recycle resources to maintain the environment;
  3. Examine how to make decisions to satisfy personal needs and wants; and
  4. Demonstrate responsible management of personal financial resources to meet needs and wants;
- c. In the area of interpersonal relationships:
  1. Explain the impact of personal standards and codes of conduct on interpersonal relationships;
  2. Examine the effect of self-esteem and self-image on relationships;

3. Explore factors that contribute to healthy and unhealthy relationships;
4. Demonstrate basic communication skills that encourage positive relationships;
5. Demonstrate skills that can address and reduce conflict; and
6. Demonstrate processes for cooperating, compromising, and working together; and

d. In the area of human growth and development:

1. Explore the different areas of development, including physical, emotional, social, and intellectual;
2. Explore factors that can affect human growth and development; and
3. Demonstrate basic skills that promote human growth and development.

(b) Pursuant to Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that a family and consumer science education program in each high school provides:

- (1) Opportunities for students to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors needed for balancing personal, home, family, and work lives;
- (2) Instruction which emphasizes the development of all individuals into effectively literate consumers and managers of resources;
- (3) Instruction which emphasizes knowledge and skills to promote optimal food, nutrition, and wellness practices;
- (4) Opportunities for students to develop an awareness of career opportunities and to function as leaders in family, community, and work settings;
- (5) Courses totaling at least 3 credits, of which:

a. At least  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit is devoted to adult roles and responsibilities covering:

1. Personal financial literacy;
2. Interpersonal relationships;
3. Communications and conflict resolution; and
4. Positive adult roles; and

b. At least  $2\frac{1}{2}$  credits are from the following areas of study:

1. Career, community, and family relations;
2. Consumer and resource management;
3. Foods, nutrition, and wellness;
4. Hospitality, tourism, and facilities management;
5. Housing and textiles; and
6. Human growth and development; and

- (6) Systematic instruction and activities designed to enable students to:
- a. Balance personal, home, family, and work lives;
  - b. Promote optimal nutrition and wellness across the life span;
  - c. Function effectively as providers and consumers of goods and services;
  - d. Manage resources to meet the needs of individuals and families;
  - e. Strengthen the well-being of individuals and families;
  - f. Develop attitudes and habits conducive to career planning, preparation, and success;
  - g. Understand the principles of human growth and development;
  - h. Manage housing, furnishings, clothing, and textiles; and
  - i. Understand the hospitality and tourism industry.

Ed 306.39 Guidance and Counseling Program.

(a) The local school board shall require that each school in its district provides for the implementation of a comprehensive developmental school guidance and counseling program based on Ed 306.39 and “The ASCA National Model: A Foundation for School Counseling Program,” published by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) in 2003 as an integral part of the total educational program.

(b) The department shall develop and distribute a comprehensive school guidance and counseling program model implementation manual that may be used by schools and districts as a resource in professional development and planning activities.

(c) The local school board shall require that each district develop, and have on file a comprehensive K-12 developmental school guidance and counseling policy and implementation plan.

(d) This policy and plan shall:

- (1) Address the applicable state frameworks consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III;
- (2) Be based on Ed 306.39 and “The ASCA National Model: A Foundation for School Counseling Program,” published by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) in 2003;
- (3) Support the local school district’s improvement plans and goals; and
- (4) Identify measures of success for student competencies in each of the 3 areas of academic, individual/social, and career learning, based on planned and periodic assessment of the comprehensive developmental school guidance and counseling program.

(e) The comprehensive school guidance and counseling plan shall include:

- (1) A guidance curriculum that provides all K-12 students the knowledge and skills appropriate to their developmental level through a collaborative model of delivery involving the school counselor, classroom teachers, and other appropriate education professionals, and including prevention and pre-referral activities;

(2) Individual planning with all students to assist in establishing individual goals and developing future plans through coordinated, ongoing systemic activities, including personalized, individual goal setting and parental involvement;

(3) A responsive services component of supportive, short-term counseling with the goal of facilitating the educational functioning or academic achievement of all students K-12, or both, including:

- a. Individual and group counseling;
- b. Crisis assessment and referral;
- c. Consultation with school personnel, parents, local agencies, or appropriate others;
- d. Conflict resolution;
- e. Drop out prevention;
- f. Substance and abuse issues;
- g. College and career counseling; and
- h. Individual, school, family, or peer issues impacting the educational environment; and

(4) A systems support component that establishes, maintains, and enhances the total school guidance and counseling program, including:

- a. The maintenance of organized, clear, and useful records in a confidential manner, utilizing technology relevant to provision of services in a confidential manner;
- b. The maintenance of records in a manner compliant with current state and federal laws, rules, policies, and standards, and with Ethical Standards for School Counselors as adopted by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Delegate Assembly March 19, 1984, revised March 27, 1992, June 25, 1998, and June 26, 2004 for school counseling, as they apply to the implementation of comprehensive school guidance and counseling services within a school setting;
- c. Systematic, goal oriented professional development directly applicable to the goals and outcomes of implementing a comprehensive school guidance and counseling program and school and district improvement goals;
- d. Counselor evaluation based on the professional competencies of the school counseling profession; and
- e. Program evaluation based on student outcomes, stakeholder surveys, and self-assessment against national model recommendations.

(f) The staff requirements for provision of the comprehensive developmental guidance and counseling program shall be as follows:

(1) The counseling load in each elementary school shall not exceed the equivalent of one full time guidance counselor per 500 students enrolled;

(2) The counseling load in each middle school and each high school shall not exceed the equivalent of one full time guidance counselor per 300 students enrolled;

(3) High schools with more than 4 guidance counselors shall provide a high school level director of school guidance and counseling, unless (4) below applies; and

(4) District level directors of school guidance and counseling shall be provided in districts where the number of guidance counselors across all schools exceeds 10.

Ed 306.40 Health Education Program.

(a) Pursuant to Ed 306.26 and Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that a school health education program for grades K-12 provides:

- (1) Health education;
- (2) School health services;
- (3) Food and nutrition services;
- (4) A comprehensive guidance and counseling program;
- (5) Healthy school facilities; and
- (6) Family and community partnerships.

(b) The local school board shall require that each school health education program provides:

(1) Systematic instruction in grades K-12, designed to enable students to:

- a. Comprehend concepts related to health promotion and disease prevention, linking to all content areas;
- b. Demonstrate functional knowledge of the most important and enduring ideas, issues, and concepts related to achieving good health;
- c. Demonstrate the ability to access valid health information and health-promoting products and services;
- d. Demonstrate the ability to practice health enhancing behaviors and reduce health risks;
- e. Analyze the effect of culture, media, technology, and other influences on health;
- f. Demonstrate the ability to use interpersonal communications skills to enhance health;
- g. Demonstrate the ability to use goal-setting and decision making skills to enhance health; and
- h. Demonstrate the ability to advocate for personal, family, and community health;

(2) A planned K-12 curriculum in health education designed to teach the skills listed in (b)(1) above across the following content areas of health education:

- a. Alcohol and other drug use prevention, in accordance with RSA 189:10;
- b. Injury prevention;
- c. Nutrition;

- d. Physical activity;
  - e. Family life and comprehensive sexuality education, including instruction relative to abstinence and sexually transmitted infections in accordance with RSA 189:10;
  - f. Tobacco use prevention;
  - g. Mental health;
  - h. Personal and consumer health; and
  - i. Community and environmental health; and
- (3) Sound assessment practices in health education that:
- a. Match goals and objectives;
  - b. Require evaluation and synthesis of knowledge and skills;
  - c. Emphasize higher order thinking skills;
  - d. Clearly indicate what the student is asked to do but not how to do it;
  - e. Are at the appropriate reading level;
  - f. Have criteria that are clear to students and teachers;
  - g. Are engaging and relevant to students;
  - h. Link to ongoing instruction;
  - i. Provide feedback to students;
  - j. Provide cost-effective benefits to students;
  - k. Reflect real world situations; and
  - l. Emphasize use of available knowledge and skills in relevant problem contexts.

Ed 306.41 Physical Education Program.

(a) Pursuant to Ed 306.26 and Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that a school physical education program for grades K-12 provides:

- (1) Physical education as provided in (b) below; and
- (2) Family and community partnerships.

(b) In the area of physical education, the local school board shall require that each school physical education program provides:

- (1) Systematic instruction in grades K-12, designed to enable students to:
  - a. Demonstrate competency in motor skills and movement patterns needed to perform a variety of physical activities;
  - b. Demonstrate understanding of movement concepts, principles, and performance of physical activities;

- c. Participate regularly in physical activity;
  - d. Achieve and maintain a health enhancing level of physical fitness;
  - e. Exhibit responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others in physical activity settings; and
  - f. Value physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self expression, and social interaction;
- (2) A planned K-12 curriculum in physical education that will provide for:
- a. A variety of motor skills that are designed to enhance the physical, mental, social, and emotional development of every child;
  - b. Fitness education and assessment to help children understand and improve or maintain their physical well-being;
  - c. Development of cognitive concepts about motor skills and fitness;
  - d. Opportunities to improve children's emerging social and cooperative skills and to gain a multicultural perspective;
  - e. Promotion of regular amounts of appropriate physical activity now and throughout life; and
  - f. Utilization of technology in attaining instruction, curricular, and assessment goals; and
- (3) Sound assessment practices in physical education that:
- a. Match goals and objectives;
  - b. Require evaluation and synthesis of knowledge and skills;
  - c. Emphasize higher-order thinking skills;
  - d. Clearly indicate what the student is asked to do;
  - e. Are at an appropriate skill level according to:
    - 1. State standards; and
    - 2. The needs of the individual;
  - f. Have criteria that are clear to students and teachers;
  - g. Are engaging and relevant to students;
  - h. Link to ongoing instruction;
  - i. Provide feedback to students;
  - j. Provide cost-effective benefits to students;
  - k. Reflect real-world situations; and

1. Emphasize use of available knowledge and skills in relevant problem contexts.

Ed 306.42 Information and Communication Technologies Program.

(a) The local school board shall require an integrated approach to the use of 21<sup>st</sup> century tools, including, but not limited to digital technology and communication tools, within all curriculum areas through the adoption of an information and communication technologies literacy (ICT) program in grades K - 12 that provides opportunities at developmentally appropriate levels for students to:

- (1) Develop knowledge of ethical, responsible use of technology tools in a society that relies heavily on knowledge of information in its decision-making;

- (2) Become proficient in the use of 21<sup>st</sup> century tools to access, manage, integrate, evaluate, and create information within the context of the core subjects of:

- a. Reading;
- b. Mathematics;
- c. English and language arts;
- d. Science;
- e. Social studies, including civics, government, economics, history, and geography;
- f. Arts; and
- g. World languages;

- (3) Use 21 century tools to develop cognitive proficiency in:

- a. Literacy;
- b. Numeracy;
- c. Problem solving;
- e. Decision making; and
- f. Spatial / visual literacy;

- (4) Use 21<sup>st</sup> century tools to develop technical proficiency at a foundation knowledge level in:

- a. Hardware;
- b. Software applications;
- c. Networks; and
- d. Elements of digital technology; and

- (5) Create digital portfolios which:

- a. Address the following components:
  1. Basic operations and concepts;

2. Social, ethical, and human issues;
  3. Technology productivity tools;
  4. Technology communications tools;
  5. Technology research tools; and
  6. Technology problem solving and decision-making tools;
- b. Represent proficient, ethical, responsible use of 21<sup>st</sup> century tools within the context of the core subjects; and
- c. Include, at a minimum, such digital artifacts as:
1. Standardized tests;
  2. Observation;
  3. Student work; and
  4. Comments describing a student's reflection on his/her work.

(b) The local school board shall provide opportunities for students to demonstrate ICT competency by the end of 8th grade using assessment rubrics applied to the contents of digital portfolios as required in (a)(5) above. Students who successfully demonstrate knowledge, skill, and understanding of these competencies shall have the opportunity, as high school students, to take a higher level computer course to meet the ½ credit requirement.

(c) The local school board shall provide opportunities for students to complete a ½ credit ICT course prior to high school graduation, including, but not limited to:

- (1) Use of common productivity and web based software;
- (2) Use of a variety of multimedia software and equipment;
- (3) Configuring computers and basic network configurations; and
- (4) Applying programming concepts used in software development.

Ed 306.43 Mathematics Program.

(a) Pursuant to Ed 306.26, the local school board shall require that a mathematics program in each elementary grade provides:

- (1) Opportunities for all students to solve problems by:
  - a. Using multiple strategies;
  - b. Communicating mathematical ideas through speaking and writing; and
  - c. Making logical connections between different mathematical concepts;
- (2) Opportunities for all students to build and construct knowledge and understanding of mathematical concepts through developmentally appropriate activities that include concrete experiences and interactions with manipulatives, technology, and their environment;

- (3) Opportunities for authentic tasks that:
  - a. Promote student decision making and questioning;
  - b. Encourage students to develop unique problem solving strategies while allowing students to defend their strategies and results;
- (4) Planned activities that promote developing mathematical concepts from the concrete to the representational and finally to the abstract level;
- (5) Opportunities for all students to develop positive attitudes such as inquisitiveness and appreciation of the multiple ways to approach and solve mathematical situations;
- (6) Interactive instruction and sustained activities designed to enable all students to demonstrate proficiency using the concepts and skills articulated in any grade level expectations that are adopted at the state level; and
- (7) A developed curriculum incorporating number and operations, geometry and measurement, data, statistic and probability, and functions and algebra consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III.

(b) Pursuant to Ed 306.26, the local school board shall require that a mathematics program in each middle school grade provides:

- (1) Opportunities for all students to solve problems by:
  - a. Using multiple strategies;
  - b. Reading and interpreting mathematics;
  - c. Communicating mathematical ideas through speaking and writing; and
  - d. Making connections within and among mathematical ideas and across disciplines;
- (2) Opportunities for all students to build and construct knowledge and understanding of mathematical concepts through developmentally appropriate activities that include concrete experiences and interactions with manipulatives, technology, and their environment;
- (3) Opportunities for authentic tasks that:
  - a. Promote student decision making and questioning; and
  - b. Encourage students to develop unique problem solving strategies while allowing students to defend their strategies and results through inductive and deductive reasoning;
- (4) Opportunities for all students to explore the historical and cultural development of mathematics;
- (5) Opportunities for all students to:
  - a. Explore mathematically-related careers; and
  - b. Have direct interaction with the mathematics involved in various careers;

- (6) Planned activities that promote developing mathematical concepts from the concrete to the representational and finally to the abstract level;
  - (7) Opportunities for all students to develop positive attitudes such as inquisitiveness, appreciation of the multiple ways to approach and solve mathematical situations, and an appreciation of mathematical patterns;
  - (8) Sustained projects and labs that are designed to:
    - a. Incorporate multiple mathematical ideas, research, technology, mathematical communication, and interdisciplinary interaction; and
    - b. Encourage students to solve problems that are meaningful and unique to their lives;
  - (9) Interactive instruction and sustained activities designed to enable all students to demonstrate proficiency using the concepts and skills articulated in any grade-level expectations that are adopted at the state level; and
  - (10) A developed curriculum incorporating number and operations, geometry and measurement, data, statistic and probability, and functions and algebra consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III.
- (c) Pursuant to Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that a mathematics program in each high school provides:
- (1) Opportunities for all students to solve problems by:
    - a. Using multiple strategies;
    - b. Reading and interpreting mathematics;
    - c. Communicating mathematical ideas through speaking and writing; and
    - d. Making connections within and among mathematical ideas and across disciplines;
  - (2) Opportunities for all students to build and construct knowledge and understanding of mathematical concepts through developmentally appropriate activities that include concrete experiences and interactions with manipulatives, technology, and their environment;
  - (3) Opportunities for authentic tasks that:
    - a. Promote student decision making and questioning; and
    - b. Encourage students to develop unique problem-solving strategies while allowing students to defend their strategies and results through inductive and deductive reasoning and proof;
  - (4) Opportunities for all students to explore the historical and cultural development of mathematics;
  - (5) Opportunities for all students to:
    - a. Research mathematically-related careers;
    - b. Have direct interaction with the mathematics involved in various careers; and

- c. Research the mathematical requirements of various college majors;
- (6) Planned activities that promote developing mathematical concepts from the concrete to the representational and finally to the abstract level;
- (7) Opportunities for all students to develop positive attitudes such as inquisitiveness, appreciation of the multiple ways to approach and solve mathematical situations, appreciation of mathematical patterns, and the ability to make predictions from patterns;
- (8) Sustained projects and labs designed to incorporate multiple mathematical ideas, research, technology, mathematical communication, and interdisciplinary interaction, and to encourage students to solve problems that are meaningful and unique to their lives;
- (9) Interactive instruction and sustained activities developed to increase mathematical maturity and allow students to be successful in solving problems outside of the classroom;
- (10) Courses totaling at least 6 credits in mathematics in courses that are sequential, integrated, or applied, or a combination of the 3, with at least one credit to be offered in each of the following areas:
  - a. Introduction to high school mathematics and applications;
  - b. Elementary algebra;
  - c. Geometry;
  - d. Intermediate algebra; and
  - e. Advanced mathematics;
- (11) Interactive instruction and sustained activities designed to enable all students to demonstrate proficiency on the state assessment; and
- (12) A developed curriculum incorporating number and operations, geometry and measurement, data, statistic and probability, and functions and algebra consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III.

Ed 306.44 Psychologist Program.

- (a) If a district employs a school psychologist, the standards in (b) – (e) below shall apply.
- (b) Employing school districts shall require that school psychological services are provided in a coordinated, organized fashion, and are deployed in a manner that results in the provision of a comprehensive continuum of services.
- (c) The comprehensive continuum of services shall include:
  - (1) Consultation with school personnel and parents concerning specific issues and problems of preschool and school aged children and youth, including the following areas:
    - a. Psychological foundations relating to the following issues and problems:
      - 1. Mental health disorders and diagnosis;
      - 2. Biological basis of behavior;

3. Cultural diversity;
  4. Child and adolescent development;
  5. Human exceptionalities;
  6. Human learning;
  7. Social basis of behavior;
  8. Causes and nature of deviant behavior;
  9. Theories of counseling;
  10. Knowledge of crisis and response; and
  11. Prevention, including pre-referral problem solving;
- b. Foundations of education, including the following areas:
1. Identification, evaluation, and education of exceptional learners;
  2. Research-based instructional and remedial techniques;
  3. Organization and operation of schools; and
  4. Educational law;
- c. Assessment, including assessment of the following areas:
1. Intellectual ability;
  2. Cognitive processing;
  3. Academic achievement;
  4. Behavior;
  5. Social and emotional functioning;
  6. Learning environment; and
  7. Adaptive functioning;
- d. Statistics and research design; and
- e. Professional school psychology, including the following areas:
1. History and foundations of school psychology;
  2. Legal and ethical issues;
  3. Professional issues and standards; and
  4. Roles and functions of the school psychologist;
- (2) Psychological and psychoeducational evaluation and assessment, including:
- a. Obtaining and interpreting psychological and educational data,

- b. Functioning as a professional school psychologist on interdisciplinary teams,
- c. Synthesizing information,
- d. Linking assessment results and contributing to educationally relevant decisions, and
- e. Communicating effectively, in written and oral form, findings and recommendations to parents, classroom teachers, and other educational personnel;

(3) Intervention and facilitation of the functioning of individuals and groups of preschool and school aged children and youth, including:

- a. Counseling and work with children and families,
- b. Development of behavior improvement plans, including appropriate supports, based on results of behavioral assessments,
- c. Plans and recommendations for mental health interventions, and
- d. Referral as necessary; and

(4) Professional implementation of a psychological services delivery model, within a school setting, including:

- a. The maintenance of organized, clear, and useful records in a confidential manner, utilizing technology relevant to provision of services in a confidential manner;
- b. The maintenance of records in a manner compliant with current state and federal laws, rules, policies, and standards, and with the “Professional Conduct Manual: Principles for Professional Ethics; Guidelines for the Provision of School Psychological Services” as approved by the Delegate Assembly of the National Association of School Psychologists July 15, 2000, as they apply to the implementation of psychological services within a school setting; and
- c. Understanding of research design and statistics in sufficient depth to plan and conduct basic investigations and program evaluations for improvement of services and advocate for students’ academic, social, and vocational success and emotional needs through the application of research-based clinical, developmental, and instructional practices.

(d) Employing school districts shall insure that an effective program of supervision and evaluation of school psychological services exists. School psychologists, in cooperation with their employing districts or agencies, shall be responsible for the overall development, implementation, and professional supervision of school psychological service programs.

(e) The following shall apply to supervision of school psychologists:

- (1) Supervision shall be available to all school psychologists to the extent sufficient to ensure the provision of effective and accountable services;
- (2) Supervisors shall meet department requirements for certification as a school psychologist and shall have at least 3 years’ experience as a school psychologist in a school system;

(3) Except as provided in (4) below, supervision shall consist of a minimum of one hour of face-to-face contact per week each school year for beginning school psychologists in their first 2 years of employment as a school psychologist; and

(4) Beginning school psychologists who have successfully completed a 1,200 hour internship as part of their school psychology training preparation shall receive a minimum of one hour of face-to-face supervision contact per week in their first year of employment.

Ed 306.45 Science Education Program.

(a) Pursuant to Ed 306.26, the local school board shall require that a science education program in each school with the grades K-4 provides:

(1) Planned activities designed to:

- a. Develop students' critical thinking skills;
- b. Promote the acquisition of positive attitudes, including, but not limited to, curiosity, initiative, self-reliance, and persistence; and
- c. Develop an awareness of and involvement with the natural world;

(2) Planned activities designed to increase students' factual knowledge and conceptual understanding of the nature of science, unifying themes of science, and physical, biological, and earth space sciences; and

(3) Opportunities for students to develop a knowledge and understanding of process skills such as observing, classifying, measuring, and inferring through activities that allow each student to:

- a. Explore, collect, handle, sort, and classify natural objects;
- b. Use strategies to organize and identify the questions children ask from natural world observations;
- c. Use tools, including, but not limited to, nonstandard measures, rulers, and magnifiers, to enhance observations and collect represent and interpret data;
- d. Organize data in multiple ways using tools of technology, including calculators, computers, and handheld electronic devices;
- e. Communicate through reading, writing, speaking, listening, creating, and viewing to describe their observations of the natural world; and
- f. Model and communicate safety and health related issues relating to exploration, activities, and inquiry associated with materials, tools, and procedures.

(b) Each district shall establish a comprehensive curriculum that meets the needs of the students as described in (a) above and helps students progress as provided in RSA 193-C:3, III.

(c) Pursuant to Ed 306.26, the local school board shall require that a science program in each middle school provides:

- (1) Planned activities in grades 5-8 designed to increase students' factual knowledge and conceptual understanding of the nature of science, unifying themes of science, and physical, biological, and earth space sciences;
  - (2) Instruction in grades 6 to 8 which provides a semester or yearlong and content connected experiences in biology life science, physical science, and earth space science;
  - (3) Opportunities for students to develop a knowledge and understanding of process skills such as observing, classifying, measuring, graphing, inferring, experimenting, and communicating; and
  - (4) Systematic instruction, laboratory experiences and activities designed to enable students to:
    - a. Gather scientific data through laboratory and field work;
    - b. Employ safe practices and techniques in the laboratory and on field trips;
    - c. Apply scientific concepts and skills in solving real problems and in everyday situations;
    - d. Understand the impact of science and technology on daily life;
    - e. Be aware of science-related societal issues;
    - f. Investigate the natural world and acquire an understanding of scientific explanations of natural phenomena;
    - g. Acquire an understanding of the history of science and its impact on society and the realization that science is a human endeavor;
    - h. Become familiar with science and technology related careers;
    - i. Engage in full and partial inquiries;
    - j. Use their understanding of background content and theories to guide their design of observations and investigations;
    - k. Shape and modify their background knowledge through experiments and observations;
    - l. Develop their abilities in systematic observation, making accurate measurements, and identifying and controlling variables; and
    - m. Express their understanding through the use of writing, labeling drawings, completing concept maps, developing spreadsheets and creative representations, and designing computer images and representations.
- (d) Each district shall establish a comprehensive curriculum that provides for continued growth in all content areas consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III.
- (e) Pursuant to Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that a science program in each high school provides:
- (1) Opportunities for students to become familiar with the impact, limitations, fundamental principles, and methods of science;

(2) Opportunities for students to acquire knowledge of the natural world through the application of logical thought processes such as observation, hypothesizing, experimentation, and the drawing of conclusions;

(3) Opportunities for students to develop a knowledge and understanding of attitudes and problem-solving techniques essential for life in an increasingly complex technological society;

(4) Courses totaling at least 5 credits in science comprised of offerings in each of the following areas:

a. Physical science which shall include:

1. Conservation of matter;
2. Conservation of energy, matter and energy in nuclear phenomena;
3. Newton's Laws involving the structure and interaction of matter and energy;
4. Chemical principles, including the ability to distinguish among materials by utilizing observable properties; and
5. Physical principles, including the application of knowledge of forces and motion to all types of motion in the universe;

b. Biology which shall include:

1. Molecular and cellular biology;
2. Genetics;
3. Plant and animal diversity and the structure and function of plants and animals;
4. The principles of classification, including fundamental structures, functions, and mechanisms of inheritance found in the major grouping of organisms including bacteria, fungi, protists, plants, and animals;
5. Population biology;
6. Organic evolution and patterns and products of evolution, including genetic variation, specialization, adaptation, and natural selection;
7. Ecology, and animal behavior and how environmental factors affect all living systems, including individuals, communities, biomes, and the biosphere, as well as species to species interactions; and
8. The concept that organisms are linked to one another and to their physical setting by the transfer and transformation of matter and energy to maintain a dynamic equilibrium;

c. Chemistry which shall include:

1. Structure of matter;
2. States of matter;

3. Chemical classification;
  4. Introductory organic chemistry;
  5. Reactions of matter such as acids, bases, oxidation-reduction, electrochemistry, equilibrium, kinetics; and
  6. Thermodynamics;
- d. Physics which shall include:
1. Principles of mechanics;
  2. Laws of conservation;
  3. Basics of waves;
  4. Fundamentals of electricity and magnetism; and
  5. Atomic and nuclear physics;
- e. Earth space science which shall include the concepts that the earth:
1. Is a unique member of our solar system, located in a galaxy, within the universe;
  2. Is a complex planet with 5 interacting systems, namely:
    - i. Solid earth or lithosphere;
    - ii. Air or atmosphere;
    - iii. Water or hydrosphere;
    - iv. Ice or cryosphere; and
    - v. Life or biosphere; and
  3. Contains a variety of renewable and nonrenewable resources; and
- f. General or advanced science which shall include subject matter appropriate to the disciplines listed in e. above; and
- (5) Systematic instruction, fieldwork, experimentation and activities designed to enable students to:
- a. Know about the diversity of natural phenomena and the methods of studying and classifying them;
  - b. Recognize the interrelationship and interdependence of living organisms and the role of a biological organism in a physical world;
  - c. Understand the scientific method of investigation, including the role of observation and experimentation in the advancement of scientific knowledge;
  - d. Gather scientific data through laboratory and field work;

- e. Construct tables and graphs from given data and interpret data presented in tables and graphs;
- f. Draw conclusions and inferences from data;
- g. Apply scientific concepts and skills in solving real problems and in everyday situations;
- h. Communicate observations and experimental results both quantitatively, through the use of mathematical relationships, and qualitatively, in clear and concise spoken or written language;
- i. Appreciate the unifying concepts and principles within the natural sciences;
- j. Be aware of the philosophical, ethical, legal, political, and economic impacts of science and technology;
- k. Acquire an understanding of the history of science and the realization that science is a human endeavor; and
- l. Be aware of concerns about the current and future impacts of science and technology on society and the environment.

(f) Science courses in high schools shall teach the fundamentals of science and incorporate all of the content-specific components listed in (e) above and as many of the other non-course frameworks and concepts, including, but not limited to science as inquiry/science and technology and society/unifying themes, as are appropriate.

(g) High school science courses shall be designed to prepare students for meeting or exceeding the end of grade 10 proficiencies in science consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III, regardless of the grade in which the course occurs.

Ed 306.46 Social Studies Program.

(a) Pursuant to Ed 306.26, the local school board shall require that a social studies program in each elementary school provides:

- (1) Opportunities for students to:
  - a. Acquire knowledge and understanding of civics, economics, geography, and history in a program consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III; and
  - b. Become familiar with the skills of decision making, data gathering, and critical thinking;
- (2) Pursuant to RSA 186:13, opportunities to practice citizenship in the school and community;
- (3) Pursuant to RSA 189:11, instruction in history and government and the constitutions of the United States and New Hampshire; and
- (4) Opportunities for students to acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for effective participation in the life of the community, the state, the nation, and the world.

(b) Pursuant to Ed 306.26, the local school board shall require that a social studies program in each middle school provides:

- (1) Opportunities for students to acquire knowledge and understanding of civics, economics, geography, and history in a program consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III;
- (2) Pursuant to RSA 186:13, opportunities to practice citizenship in the school and community;
- (3) Pursuant to RSA 189:11, instruction in history and government and the constitutions of the United States and New Hampshire; and
- (4) Systematic instruction and activities designed to enable students to:
  - a. Acquire and use information to clarify issues and seek solutions to societal problems;
  - b. Value and apply critical thinking, interpersonal relations, and decision-making skills in both individual and group problem-solving situations;
  - c. Participate in and contribute to the well-being of the home and school as well as the larger communities of the state, nation, and world; and
  - d. Become familiar with careers in history, the humanities, and the social sciences.

(c) Pursuant to Ed 306.27, the local school board shall require that a social studies program in each high school provides:

- (1) Opportunities for students to acquire knowledge and modes of inquiry in the areas of civics, economics, geography, world history, and United States and New Hampshire history in a program consistent with RSA 193-C:3, III, including the related areas of sociology, anthropology, and psychology;
- (2) Opportunities for students to acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for effective participation in the life of the community, the state, the nation, and the world;
- (3) Pursuant to RSA 186:13, opportunities to practice citizenship in the school and community;
- (4) Courses totaling at least 5 credits in social studies comprised of offerings in each of the following areas:
  - a. At least one credit in national and state history pursuant to RSA 189:11;
  - b. At least one credit in world history or global studies;
  - c. At least one credit in geography;
  - d. At least ½ credit in United States and New Hampshire government/civics;
  - e. At least ½ credit in economics; and
  - f. At least one credit, which may be interdisciplinary or integrated, to be chosen from the areas of geography, economics, world history, civics/government, state or national history or both, or behavioral studies; and

(5) Systematic instruction and activities designed to enable students to acquire the skills of critical thinking, effective decision making, and human relations.

Ed 306.47 Technology/Engineering Education Program.

**(a) Technology/engineering education is the discipline devoted to the study of human invention and innovation and their influence on our natural and human-made environment.**

**(b) The local school board shall require that a technology/engineering education program in each middle school provides:**

**(1) Opportunities for students to develop an understanding of the technological world in which they live and will someday work;**

**(2) Opportunities for students to develop positive attitudes and knowledge about present and future technologies in 3 or more of the following content areas:**

- a. Medical technologies;
- b. Agricultural;
- c. Biotechnologies;
- d. Energy and power technologies;
- e. Information and communications technologies;
- f. Transportation technologies;
- g. Manufacturing technologies;
- h. Construction technologies; and
- i. New and emerging technologies;

**(3) Opportunities for students to develop a knowledge and understanding of how social forces like demographics and prevailing economic systems can influence the free-enterprise system and the global marketplace;**

**(4) Opportunities to promote the development of problem-solving skills as well as basic skills in planning, design, fabrication, and evaluating technical processes technology/engineering principles and design, encouraging those habits of mind necessary to be a lifelong learner; and**

**(5) Systematic instruction and activities designed to enable students to:**

- a. Acquire an understanding of technical processes, the practical application of mathematics and scientific principles, and the interrelationships between

technology/engineering education and other academic disciplines in the school curriculum;

b. Be aware of the right to, and the knowledge of what constitutes, safe work environments as well as the safe and appropriate use of tools, small machines, and processes;

c. Understand industry and technology, their systematic structures, and their place in our culture;

d. Understand the technological systems model requiring inputs, processes, outputs and feedback, where the processes include the resources of people, information, tools, energy, capital, time, materials;

e. Learn leadership and group-process skills;

f. Recognize and build upon individual talents and interests; and

g. Become familiar with opportunities and requirements for careers in new and emerging technologies like medicine, agriculture, biotechnology, energy and power, information and communications, transportation, manufacturing, and construction.

(c) The local school board shall require that a technology /engineering education program in each high school provides:

(1) Opportunities for students to develop insight, understanding, and application of technological concepts, processes, and systems;

(2) Opportunities for students to develop safe and efficient habits in the application of tools, materials, machines, processes, and technical concepts;

(3) Planned activities designed to increase students' knowledge and skills related to technologies like medicine, agriculture, biotechnology, energy and power, information and communications, transportation, manufacturing, and construction;

(4) Courses totaling at least 4 credits in technology/engineering education with a minimum of one credit offered in 3 of the 4 areas of:

a. Energy and power technologies, including electricity, electronics, power mechanics, transportation, alternative energy, and energy conservation;

b. Process technologies, including manufacturing, construction, wood, metal, medical, agricultural, and biotechnology;

c. Communication and information technologies, including engineering graphics/CAD fundamentals, architectural design including modeling and the virtual environment, photography, printing, desktop publishing, graphic arts and design; and

d. Engineering principles and design; and

(5) Systematic instruction and activities designed to enable students to:

- a. Understand the factors of production, including capital, labor, and management, in relation to industrial organization, systems and structure;**
- b. Utilize the engineering design process to propose, build, test and assess technological problems in a systematic and economically sound manner;**
- c. Develop skills in specific machine and tool operations;**
- d. Plan, design, produce and/or use measuring instruments, jigs, fixtures, and templates to control, test and assess parts of a technological process;**
- e. Use a variety of problem-solving tools to develop and apply critical thinking skills to technological problems;**
- f. Exhibit an understanding for the importance of using resources in a way that is economical, efficient and respectful of our shared environment;**
- g. Develop those habits of mind necessary to a lifelong learner such as the ability to question, investigate, design, experiment, and evaluate; and**
- h. Develop leadership abilities required in a technological society such as communication, cooperation, and collaboration with individuals and groups.**