

RC 19 – Curriculum
2017–2018 Curriculum Budget

INTRODUCTION

The Darien Public Schools offers all of our PK–12 students a robust and rigorous curriculum across content areas. Curriculum is created and aligned to national/state standards or frameworks and is anchored in research and best practice. Curriculum is inclusive and responsive to an ever changing world, with the goal of providing assured opportunities to grow in content as well as the capacities of communication, critical, creative, and global thinking skills. The Darien Public Schools’ curriculum reflects knowledge and understanding of students’ development, as well as providing structures to differentiate for the diversity among students’ academic, social and emotional needs. This means that our curriculum maps, scope and sequence are *dynamic* and *responsive*. Teacher feedback and reflection, along with student data and current research and relevance drive curriculum updates. The start of each school year requires thought, discussion and study from various sources to determine the priorities for the upcoming school year.

Teacher and administrator leadership play a significant role in how curriculum is developed. We expect that teachers and school-level leaders are experts in their craft and through professional conversation, research and study, the most powerful curriculum for students is created.

To achieve this goal, Responsibility Center 19, Curriculum and Instruction budgets and provides funding in a number of areas:

- professional development;
- curriculum writing/revision;
- state mandated initiatives;
- standardized testing and assessments;
- tuition reimbursement;
- material resources; and,
- staffing.

PERSONNEL – HIGHLIGHTED ACCOUNTS

Account 1912009 – Instructional Support Specialists: 2016-17 Budget \$1,142,742 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$1,112,333

The proposed budget continues funding for the reading and math interventionists for each of our schools. The primary role of each of the interventionists is to support students in SRBI, specifically in Tier 2 and 3. In addition, the SRBI interventionists support professional development of teachers, curriculum writing, coordinating assessments and providing parent workshops. Each elementary school has reading and math interventionists. The middle school is also supported by a math and reading interventionists.

Guiding principles supporting SRBI:

- Strong Tier 1 Instructional model
- Early Intervention;
- Shared Accountability;
- Tiered Intervention;
- Problem Solving;
- Differentiation;
- Scientifically Research Based Practices/Programs; and,
- Data-Driven Instruction: Universal, Diagnostic and Progress Monitoring.

Account 1912058 – Program Coordinators: 2016-17 Budget \$262,514 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$264,074

The proposed budget continues to fund two Program Directors, currently covering the areas of elementary English Language Arts/Social Studies and Mathematics/Science. The Directors assist the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the curriculum across all four academic domains. The Directors also collaborate with professional staff to collect and analyze assessment data and to utilize that information to design effective instructional programs, including collaborating the integration of programs with the SRBI and Special Education processes. Directors are also responsible for directing in-service professional development programs for teaching staff and supporting the supervision and evaluation of staff across the five elementary schools.

Account 21312 – Curriculum Development: 2016-17 Budget \$96,710 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$97,350

Curriculum development and revision in the Darien Public Schools occurs by reviewing and revising formatively throughout the school year as well as systematically during curriculum writing times. Study of current and relevant research supports the development and revision of curriculum maps, scope and sequence, units of study, assessments, along with creating and/or allocating supporting materials and resources. Curriculum in Darien is developed by and through collaboration of curriculum leaders, teachers and administrators.

Comprehensive teams that include members from each school ensure consistency and ownership across levels in the Darien Public Schools. Professional development is aligned to new curriculum and district goals.

Elementary Schools \$ 50,000

- Science
- Social Studies
- Gifted Education
- Mathematics
- Health Education

Middle School \$25,000

- Science
- Social Studies
- English Language Arts
- Gifted Education
- Health Education
- World Language

High School \$ 22,350

- Science
- Social Studies
- World Language
- English
- Health Education

OPERATING – HIGHLIGHTED ACCOUNTS

Account 12001 – Consultant Services: 2016-17 Budget \$30,000 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$30,000

The proposed budget includes consulting services in the area Reading/Writing/Social Studies with collaboration with Teachers College. The purpose of this service is to support content area curriculum work at the middle school.

Account 13013 – Dues and Memberships: 2016-17 Budget \$894 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$1,640

Dues and memberships include district-wide professional resources for both department and building-based leaders. Publications includes, ASCD, Marshall Memo, NCTE, etc., supporting continued professional awareness and growth.

Account 13015 – Local Travel: 2016-17 Budget \$1500 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$21,500

This budget line reimburses the travel of specific district-level itinerant staff to travel between and among schools as necessary. In addition, this line will cover travel of staff to district approved professional development.

Account 21405 – ESL Instruction: 2016-17 Budget \$24,000 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$24,000

This budget line supports training and direct services to ESL students as needed. In addition, this line may be used to purchase materials needed for specific English Language Learner(s)

Account 22001 – Textbooks-New: 2016-17 Budget \$173,709 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$210,324

Student data, research and student data drive budget requests for textbooks. Textbooks vary in type. Textbooks may be hard copy, online, or a part of a classroom library. Robust text types allow for differentiation in support of student learning needs. Increased emphasis is being directed towards reading nonfiction/informational reading, particularly those related to topics in grade level social studies, science, and math curriculum.

Elementary Schools

Description	Cost Per Item	No. of Items	Total Cost
Language Arts-Fiction, Non-Fiction, Mentor Texts	\$3,200 per school	5	\$16,000
Reading: Foundations- Grade 3/Word Study Grades 4-5	\$11,200 per school	5	\$56,000
Social Studies Text Resources	\$1000 per school	5	\$ 5,000
Science Text Resources	\$1000 per school	5	\$ 5,000
Mathematics Pilot	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cost is associated with all 5 schools	5	\$15,200
TOTAL			\$97,200

Middle School

Description	Cost Per Item	No. of Items	Total Cost
ELA/Social Studies	\$1000	16	\$16,000
TOTAL			\$16,000

High School

Description	Cost Per Item	No. of Items	Total Cost
Spanish 2	186	290	\$53,940
AP Environmental	142	85	\$12,059
300 Law and Gov	125	225	\$28,125
English			\$ 3,000
TOTAL			\$97,124

Account 24012 Standardized Testing: 2016-2017 Budget \$21,500 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$21,500

The proposed budget includes funding for The OLSAT (Otis Lennon School Ability Test), online DRP (Degrees of Reading Power Assessment) LAS Links, etc. These assessment tools are used support our understanding of student performance and are also aligned to our Idea program, state mandated RTI, and ESL guidelines.

Account 25003 Professional Development: 2016-17 Budget \$121,260 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$121,260

This account budgets for specific training for across content areas, for example:

- Orton-Gillingham training;
- Teachers College, Readers/Writers Workshop
- Wilson training/certification
- Institute for Inquiry at the Science Center;
- SRBI program training
- AP Training for New Courses/Teachers

- Educational Technology Training; and,
- Regional Education Service Center Fees for Professional Development (CES)

Account 23004 Resource Materials: 2016-2017 Budget \$0 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$7,000

This account will support the acquisition of a number of curriculum items to support the development of programs:

- Headphones for all K students;
- Idea supplies and materials

Account 23005 Curriculum Research & Development: 2016-2017 Budget \$35,500 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$26,420

This account is designed to provide funding to pilot programs and/or materials that are being considered for implementation in the coming year. Funds from this account also provide for unanticipated expenses related to curriculum development and implementation.

Account 52004 Field Trips: 2016-17 Budget \$0 2017-18 Proposed Budget \$14,720

This account will support the acquisition of a number of curriculum items to support the development of programs:

- District-selected field trips, for example: Historical Society (grades 3 & 5 for buses and admission(s))