



Policy: 9.61

SUBJECT: **BILINGUAL INSTRUCTION**

Supersedes: IGBF
Effective: September 8, 2008
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Approved by: Detroit Board of Education

1.0 Policy

The Detroit Board of Education, acting to promote the educational best interests of national-origin language-minority pupils, and in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations, approves and will financially support a comprehensive bilingual education program in the Detroit public schools.

The goals of the comprehensive bilingual education program in grades K-12 will be as follows:

1. To identify potentially eligible students for bilingual instruction in grades K-12.
2. To assess and determine the eligibility of students who are limited in English or not proficient.
3. To educate non-English speaking students to understand and communicate in English.
4. To engage and assist eligible students in developing academic skills in their native language while they are acquiring proficiency in English.
5. To provide instruction in the history and culture of the country, territory or geographic area represented by the many ethnic groups in the Detroit public schools.
6. To assist and encourage students of limited English proficiency (LEP) to become active participants in the mainstream of school activities.
7. To offer and improve comprehensive inservice training for all bilingual personnel involved in the bilingual education program.

8. To strengthen and expand parental and community involvement in the bilingual program and in school affairs generally.

The Board of Education of the Detroit public schools will remain committed to the maintenance and expansion of bilingual instruction.

Note: Bilingual education was included among education components of the 1975 court order on desegregating and the district's schools. The current bilingual program has been developed in compliance with that order and in line with state legislation which funded a three-year program for students with limited English-speaking ability.

Attachments to Policy 9.61: None

Legal References: Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
Bilingual Education Act, 1978 (P.L. 95-561, Amendment to Title VII, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965)
Equal Education Opportunities Act of 1975
MCLA § 380.1151-380.1153
MCLA § 380.1155
MCLA § 380.1157
MCLA § 380.1157b
Lau v. Nichols, U.S. Supreme Court, No. 72-6520, 1970
Bradley v. Milliken, memorandum Opinion, U.S. District Court of Eastern Michigan, 8/15/75

Labor Contract References: None