**Considerations for Creating a Curriculum Document**

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| Possible areas of emphasis in the curriculum document include:* An articulation of the depth at which students need to learn, demonstrate their understanding of and apply a given concept
* Identification of and support for implementing evidence-based practices into classroom instruction aligned to the articulated philosophy
* Instructional strategies for teaching standards
* Scope and sequence of the curriculum that specifies what content knowledge and skills should be taught, and at approximately which point during a school year in order to create a coherent learning experience
* Best practices for delivering content at key points in the curriculum, particularly for concepts and skills that have traditionally proven challenging for students
* Time required to address essential content with flexibility for teachers to respond to student needs
* Assessments aligned to depth of standards
* When and how to use assessments, including formative assessments, to determine whether students are making progress in attaining a particular standard or set of standards
* Specific instructional resources to support standards-based instruction
* Culturally responsive texts and resources that respect and celebrate the cultural, ethnic and linguistic diversity of students.
* Interdisciplinary connections.
* Concepts and skills where large numbers of students are likely to have learning gaps, with suggested guidance that will help students fill those gaps while simultaneously accessing grade-level material.
* Natural coherence within and across content areas and across grade levels.
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Council of Great City Schools. (2017). *Supporting Excellence: A Framework for Developing, Implementing, and Sustaining a High-Quality District Curriculum.* Retrieved from: <https://www.cgcs.org/cms/lib/DC00001581/Centricity/Domain/4/Curriculum%20Framework%20First%20Edition%20Final.pdf>