

**NOTICE OF ACADEMIC STANDARDS**

**THE OCONOMOWOC AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTICE OF ACADEMIC STANDARDS**

***What are academic standards?***

The District's academic standards identify what students should know and be able to do within a given content area or subject. Standards serve as goals and guideposts for both classroom instruction and student learning. The standards also help parents and students gain a better understanding of the District's expectations for student learning.

Academic standards provide a critical foundation and framework for the District's sequential curriculum plans and for the District's student assessments in each content area. **However, the standards are not an actual classroom curriculum. The curriculum that the District's schools implement in the various content areas remains flexible and adaptable, and there are many different instructional techniques and activities that could all be consistent with the District's academic standards.** Stated another way, academic standards attempt to identify and focus on the most essential and fundamental aspects of student learning, but they do not attempt to describe all that can or should be taught. A great deal is left to the discretion of curriculum developers and teachers. In addition, OASD's adoption and use of academic standards should not be confused with standardized testing of students. While the District implements various state and federal testing mandates and also implements various locally-selected student assessments, the District's academic standards do not mandate the use of any specific standardized test or assessment.

***Why does the District have academic standards?***

State law requires all school districts, charter schools, and certain private schools to adopt academic standards in mathematics, science, reading and writing, geography, and history. In addition, the School Board and the District's administrative team believe that identifying and implementing a set of District-wide academic standards in various content areas is highly beneficial to staff, students, and parents. One example of the value of having District-wide academic standards is that they help to ensure that students who are taking the District's typical 4<sup>th</sup> grade curricula arrive at 5<sup>th</sup> grade with a sufficient and similar academic foundation in critical concepts and skills regardless of their previous elementary school and individual teachers within the District.

***What are the academic standards that will be in effect during this school year?***

State law requires the District to provide the parents and guardians of all enrolled students with notice of the academic standards in mathematics, science, reading and writing, geography, and history that have been adopted by the School Board and that will be in effect during each school year. Accordingly, the District academic standards that will be in effect in these specific content areas for this school year are listed below. Electronic links to the detailed version of the applicable standards are provided when available. To the extent a parent or guardian would like to review a copy of any of the standards in an alternative format, please contact: *John Flannery, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning:* [Flannerj@oasd.org](mailto:Flannerj@oasd.org)

<b>Content Area / Subject</b>	<b>Oconomowoc Area School District's 2023-2024 Student Academic Standards</b>
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<p>English Language Arts (includes reading and writing)</p>	<p>The District has adopted the Wisconsin Standards for English Language Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Standards for English Language Arts &amp; Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects in grades 5K–5;</li> <li>● Standards for English Language Arts &amp; Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects in grades 6–12;</li> <li>● Standards for Literacy in All Subjects for grades 5K-5; and</li> <li>● Standards for Literacy in All Subjects for grades 6-12</li> </ul> <p>A complete copy of these standards can be located and reviewed at this Internet address: <a href="https://dpi.wi.gov/ela/standards">https://dpi.wi.gov/ela/standards</a></p>
<p>Mathematics</p>	<p>The District has adopted the Wisconsin Standards for Mathematics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Standards for mathematical content</li> <li>● Standards for mathematical practice</li> </ul> <p>A complete copy of these standards can be located and reviewed at this Internet address: <a href="https://dpi.wi.gov/math/standards">https://dpi.wi.gov/math/standards</a></p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>The District has adopted the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Science, recently updated in 2017. <a href="https://dpi.wi.gov/science/standards">https://dpi.wi.gov/science/standards</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Wisconsin Standards for Science (WSS) build from the National Research Council's Framework for K-12 Science Education</li> <li>● the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).</li> </ul>

<p>Social Studies (includes geography and history)</p>	<p>The District has adopted the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Social Studies. The State Superintendent formally adopted revised Social Studies Standards in 2018. Our District also outlines the teaching of controversial issues through Board Policy 381.</p> <p><a href="https://dpi.wi.gov/social-studies/standards">https://dpi.wi.gov/social-studies/standards</a></p>
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Physical Education and Health	<p>Physical Education and Health utilize the National SHAPE (Society of Health and Physical Educators) Standards, as well as the Wisconsin Physical Education Standards when determining curriculum decisions</p> <p><a href="https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sspw/pdf/pewiscstandards.pdf">https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sspw/pdf/pewiscstandards.pdf</a></p>
Career and Technical Education	<p><b>OASD'S Business, Construction/Trades, Digital Design, Electronics, Engineering, Manufacturing, and Transportation (2019)</b> all reference the WI Model Academic Standards for Career and Technical Education:</p> <p><a href="https://dpi.wi.gov/cte/resources/standards">https://dpi.wi.gov/cte/resources/standards</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Our 2018 approved Manufacturing courses utilize the MSSC (Manufacturing Skills Standards Council) as a benchmark for instruction to support student certification processes within or following coursework.</li> <li>● The Business Department is using the High School of Business Standards and Curriculum, since 2017</li> <li>● The Project Lead the Way Standards and Curriculum are used to teach Engineering and Biomedical Science courses within OASD</li> <li>● Technology-based courses reference the ISTE (International Society for Technology Education) Standards: <a href="https://www.iste.org/standards/for-students">https://www.iste.org/standards/for-students</a></li> </ul>
Agriculture, Natural Resources and Outdoor Learning	<p>Agriculture courses utilize the WI Model Academic Standards for Agriculture, Food Science, and Natural Resources: <a href="https://dpi.wi.gov/ag/standards">https://dpi.wi.gov/ag/standards</a></p> <p>Agriculture curriculum development also cross-references:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● the Career and Technical Education WI Model Academic Standards</li> <li>● Science (Earth and Life Science) Standards</li> </ul> <p>OASD is also working toward integrating outdoor learning spaces within an expanded outdoor &amp; environmental educational options</p> <p><u>Agriculture Education</u>: The teaching of agriculture, food, natural resources, and land management through classroom instruction, experiential learning, and leadership education (National Association of Agricultural Educators)</p> <p><u>Outdoor Education</u>: Use of natural and built areas to meet student learning objectives through hands-on learning experiences. These experiences connect multiple content areas or academic disciplines</p> <p><u>Environmental Education</u>: Learning experiences that analyze environmental problems with an effort toward developing solutions (North American Association for Environ. Education)</p>

<p>Visual Arts and Performance Arts</p>	<p>In 2016-17, the Visual Arts and Performance Arts Department, as part of their curriculum development process, realigned their curriculum to the National Core Arts Standards. This was done with the purpose of aligning Visual Arts, Music, and Performance Arts during current and future curriculum cycles.</p> <p><a href="http://www.nationalartsstandards.org/">http://www.nationalartsstandards.org/</a></p>
<p>World Languages</p>	<p>The World Language Department aligns its curriculum to the Wisconsin Standards for World Languages, which were recently updated in 2019.</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>In 2016-17, the Music Department, as part of their curriculum development process, realigned their curriculum to the National Core Arts Standards. This was done with the purpose of aligning Visual Arts, Music, and Performance Arts during current and future curriculum cycles.</p> <p><a href="http://www.nationalartsstandards.org/">http://www.nationalartsstandards.org/</a></p>

Who can I contact for more information about the District’s academic standards?

If you have any questions about this notice, please contact: *John Flannery*,  
*Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning: flannerj@oasd.org*

This notice is issued pursuant to section 120.12(13) of the state statutes.

Date Adopted: 07/28/2017