

**MEDICINE HAT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 76****PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT****BACKGROUND**

The District must continue to remain current with both pedagogical developments and with the need to serve its students to the best of its ability in a changing environment. The board expects that its staff will be diligent in its research of areas in which to improve instructional practices, resources and program offerings to students.

**POLICY**

The Board of Trustees encourages the development and operation of programs which best meet the needs of students and parents, while keeping within the resources available.

**GUIDELINES**

In order to receive board approval, new program and pedagogical proposals must meet the following requirements:

1. Sufficiency
  - Evidence of need
  - Estimates of resources required - funding, facilities, materials, transportation
  - Implementation plan
  - Long-term staffing plan
2. Congruency
  - Evidence of compatibility with Mission, Beliefs and Values
  - Compatibility with Board Policies and Provincial regulations
  - 'Fit' with current program offerings
  - Compatibility with community expectations
  - Open to all student
3. Research
  - Evidence of effectiveness and educational value
  - Evidence of possible risk inherent in the program.
4. Review
  - Monitoring process and schedule
  - Standards for success
  - Sunset plan for ending a program.

**Approved & Adopted:  
September 7, 2004**

**Reviewed:  
June 17, 2014**