

Series 6000 – Instruction**1. Elementary and Secondary****E. Instructional Arrangements****(3) Grouping**

The placement of students in instructional groups, classrooms, and programs of study, has a significant impact on the educational and social development of all students. No one grouping or placement practice is best for all children under all circumstances, but some general principles are common to all proper grouping and placement decisions. It is the policy of the Board of Education that grouping and placement decisions be based exclusively on educational considerations and that their primary goal be to promote the best educational interests of the students in question.

In making grouping and placement decisions, staff members must give due regard to the following general principles:

- Students can learn much from students whose skills and interests are different from their own in heterogeneous groups.
- Students have varied skills and interests.
- Students develop at different rates in different areas of learning.
- Students learn from other students in addition to adults.

Grouping and placement decisions should also reflect the fact that changes in a student's educational development may require changes in his or her placement. Grouping and placement decisions, consequently, should be flexible, and they should be reviewed regularly to assure their appropriateness. Regardless of placement, all students must have appropriate access to essential learning in the curriculum, including higher order thinking.

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SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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