

# Build What Works: Curriculum Design that's Built for Your District

Curriculum is one of the most important learning investments a district makes, particularly when it comes to helping students realize the promise of college and career readiness. At Public Consulting Group (PCG), we believe the best curriculum is one that's designed for your district and reflects your context and values. We have partnered with some of the country's largest school districts—like the City of Chicago, for example—as well as smaller districts and charter schools to design and implement customized curriculum. Our team is ready to help you design high-quality, rigorous curriculum reflective of your district and community.

## Which type of custom curriculum design is right for you?

1. Text Set Updates
2. Supplemental Unit/Project Development
3. District-Created Curriculum Revision
4. Complete Custom Curriculum Development

Customized curriculum design looks different for every district because every district needs different things. To meet the unique needs of our partners nationwide, PCG offers a variety of options for curriculum design. The following guide is intended to help you think about your curriculum design goals and identify the right approach and focus area(s) for your district, team, and stakeholders.

### **Text Set Updates** This option is best suited for districts seeking to...

- ✓ Refresh their existing texts
- ✓ Build a strong foundation for designing their own curricula
- ✓ Augment district resources related to a specific topic or area of concern

#### What does this approach entail?

Analysis > Recommendations

PCG will analyze the texts in use, meet with district stakeholders, and create text set recommendations based on the focus areas or parameters set by the district.

#### Examples

- Leveled text sets on a specific topic
- Contemporary texts sets
- Text sets that reflect your community demographics

### **Supplemental Unit/Project Development** This option is best suited for districts seeking to...

- ✓ Supplement curricula with instructional unit(s) to meet a specific district goal
- ✓ Fill identified content gaps
- ✓ Build a model for future teacher-created curricula

#### What does this approach entail?

Content Creation

PCG will meet with stakeholders to identify development goals and design requirements and create customized, standards aligned, supplementary core instructional units covering topics identified by the district.

#### Examples

- Cross curricular units
- Project-based learning units
- Skills-based units

### **District-Created Curriculum Revision** This option is best suited for districts seeking to...

- ✓ Revise their existing curriculum materials
- ✓ Leverage catalog of curriculum outlines and/or foundational documents to build a more fully developed and cohesive curriculum

#### What does this approach entail?

Analysis > Revision + Content Creation

PCG will meet with stakeholders to identify revision goals and requirements, analyze existing curriculum materials (unit outlines, performance tasks, texts, and assessments) and revise materials as necessary to improve standards alignment or alignment in a focus area selected by the district.

#### Examples

- Revision to improve standards alignment
- Revision to enhance culturally responsive instructional strategies
- Revision to turn unit outlines into daily lesson plans



### Complete Custom Curriculum Development

This option is best suited for districts seeking to...

- ✓ Build a new custom curriculum from the ground up
- ✓ Establish a more coherent learning experience for all students in the district
- ✓ Rebound from past curriculum development efforts that weren't successful
- ✓ Align curricula to new district priorities

#### What does this approach entail?

Stakeholder Meetings > Content Creation + Recommendations

PCG will work with the district to design a curriculum from the ground up, including identifying requirements and parameters, recommending texts, creating assessment maps and assessments, and creating bell-to-bell lesson plans with texts, tasks, instruction, and assessments that align to district priorities.

#### Examples

- EngageNY
- CPS Skyline Curriculum

Still unsure which is the best fit for your district? PCG will work with you to customize an approach tailored to meet your specific curriculum needs and goals.

### Which focus area(s) could your custom curriculum be designed to address?

Customized curriculum can be designed for a wide range of focus areas: for example, your curriculum design project could focus on one or more core content areas—such as English Language Arts (ELA)—teaching approaches, instructional frameworks, learning principles, and so on. Here are just a few of the focus areas your custom curriculum design project could address:

- Equity and Cultural Responsiveness
- Content Areas
- Social-Emotional Learning
- Universal Design for Learning
- Co-teaching/Inclusion
- Special Education

### Why should your district partner with PCG?

Our team will work in close partnership with key district stakeholders to deliver custom curriculum that reflects your students, community, priorities, and values. When we help you build what works, your curriculum will:

- ✓ Address your needs
- ✓ Represent your stakeholders
- ✓ Assess learning effectively
- ✓ Work with your technology
- ✓ Highlight your community
- ✓ Ensure equitable access for your students

Customized curriculum design looks different for every district because every district needs different things. PCG can help.

"PCG worked closely with me to embed culturally responsive teaching while focusing on connecting theory to instructional practice. The participant feedback was amazing!"

- Susan O'Brien, former State Director of Literacy, New Mexico Public Education Department

### Sample Project Focused on Equity and Culturally-Responsive Curricula

PCG can design and develop customized curriculum that focuses on culturally responsive practices and teaching for equity. Development could take any of the following forms:

### Ready to build what works?



#### **Text Set Updates** | PCG will...

- **Analyze your texts for cultural responsiveness and diversity of perspectives, authorship, characters, and topics.**
- **Create customized text set recommendations that represent your local context and stakeholders so that the materials students read provide both mirrors and windows.**



#### **Supplemental Unit/Project Development** | PCG will...

- **Create customized, standards-aligned supplementary core instructional units to enhance your focus on equity (leveraging culturally responsive teaching moves, texts, etc.) and/or to directly address equity issues.**



#### **District-Created Curriculum Revision** | PCG will...

- **Analyze and revise your existing curriculum materials with a focus on equity and culturally responsive texts, lesson plans, instruction, and assessments.**



#### **Complete Custom Curriculum Development** | PCG will...

- **Work with your district to design an equity curriculum from the ground up including equity-focused texts, assessments, bell-to-bell lesson plans and student materials.**

**Contact PCG today to discuss your curriculum needs, ideas, and/or questions you may have about customized curriculum design.**

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