

GOALS OF EDUCATION

The Berlin Central School District Board of Education affirms its commitment to the delivery of an educational program that is in full compliance with State and Federal requirements and that assists individual students in the development of:

I. Basic Skills

Goal: Mastery of the basic skills of communication[s] and reasoning essential to live a full and productive life.

Topics:

- A. Functioning competently in today's society.
- B. Communicating effectively (e.g., reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing).
- C. Computational operations (e.g., mathematical conceptualization, problem-solving, data collection).
- D. The logical processes (e.g., research, analysis, planning, evaluation, etc.).

II. Mental, Physical, and Emotional Health

Goal: Develop capacity to maintain one's mental, physical, and emotional health.

Topics:

- A. Good health habits and the conditions necessary for physical and emotional well-being.
- B. Understanding the physical and health problems caused by drug addiction and other personally harmful activities.
- C. Sound community health practices.
- D. Understanding body processes and functions.
- E. Development of physical fitness through physical activities.
- F. Knowledge of safety principles and practices.

III. Knowledge

Goal: Achieving understanding in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences at a level required to participate in an ever more complex world.

Topics:

- A. Knowledge of the basic methods of inquiry in each field.
- B. Interdisciplinary efforts to focus knowledge on problems.

IV. Cultural Appreciation

Goal: Knowledge of and appreciation for our cultural heritage and development of an individual capacity for creativity, recreation, and self-renewal.

Topics:

- A. Knowledge of major art, musical, literary, and drama forms
- B. Appreciation of historic and cultural heritage.
- C. Appreciation of beauty.
- D. Development of individual creative talents.
- E. Wise use of leisure time

V. Career Education and Occupational Competence

Goal: Capacity to secure employment or business opportunities commensurate with ability and aspirations and to perform work in a manner that is gratifying to the individual and to those served.

Topics:

- A. Developing work skills.
- B. Developing awareness of work opportunities.
- C. Occupation selection.
- D. Post-secondary education (e.g., college- oriented training, development of vocational school-oriented skills).
- E. Actual occupational training.

VI. Self-Realization

Goal: Develop the capacity to sustain learning throughout a lifetime in order to adapt to the new demands, new opportunities, and values of a changing world.

Topics:

- A. Self-esteem, self-worth, self-respect, and personal dignity.
- B. Self-understanding, self-evaluation, self-direction, and self-development.
- C. Learning skills.
- D. Personal planning skills.

VII. Citizenship and Political Understanding

Goal: Understanding of the processes of effective citizenship in order to participate in and contribute to the government of our society.

Topics:

- A. Knowledge about political, economic, and legal systems with an emphasis on democratic institutions.
- B. Participation in the American political process.
- C. Knowledge about taxes and fiscal policy.

VIII. Human Relations

Goal: Understanding of, respect for, and ability to relate effectively to other people in our own and other nations, including those of different sex, race, religion, national origins, cultures, and personal and political orientation.

Topics:

- A. Recognizing and respecting other social, cultural, racial, religious and ethnic groups.
- B. Understanding one's relationship to his/her ecological, physical, economic, and social environment.
- C. Respect for the community [of man] and its law.
- D. The value of positive home and family relationships.
- E. The value of positive engagement in the home, community, civic life and society in general.

IX. Physical Environment

Goal: Knowledge of the environment and the relationship between one's own acts and lifestyle and the quality of the environment.

Topics:

- A. Awareness of one's relationship to his/her physical environment.
- B. Preservation and conservation of resources.
- C. Understanding the effects of technology and the population growth on the environment.

X. Values and Ethics

Goals: Competence in the processes of developing and understanding values -- particularly the formation of spiritual, moral, and ethical values which are essential to individual human dignity and a humane civilization.

Topics:

- A. Personal values.
- B. Cultural values.
- C. Ethical values.