

## PILOT PROJECTS

The Board encourages innovative curricular development which includes cooperation between one of the state colleges located in the county, the RESA, or neighboring schools or school districts.

Since its first concern is the education of the students enrolled in the Mercer County Public Schools, the following guidelines should be carefully considered by all concerned prior to submission of pilot projects to the Board for approval.

1. How will the project supplement, supplant, or alter the regular program?
2. What specific kinds of educational activities or training will the targeted students receive?
3. Have mental, emotional, educational, and physical safeguards been considered and taken?
4. How will student achievement or progress be measured?
5. An evaluation of the project must be made and presented to the Board at the conclusion of the project.
6. How is it to be funded initially and in the long term if the project is integrated into the existing curriculum?

While the Mercer County Board of Education encourages the use of pilot demonstration projects for the introduction of relevant materials in the curriculum, at some point a decision needs to be made as to whether that program should become a regular part of the school curriculum. This evaluation should be made upon the basis of approved evaluation instruments developed by the department of instruction. Pilot programs should operate for no more than three school years except by approval of the Board of Education.

Source: Board of Education Minutes

Date: 4/25/85