

# Visioning & Sustaining Academic Programs



## IPAC: Defining a World-Class Education in Niskayuna

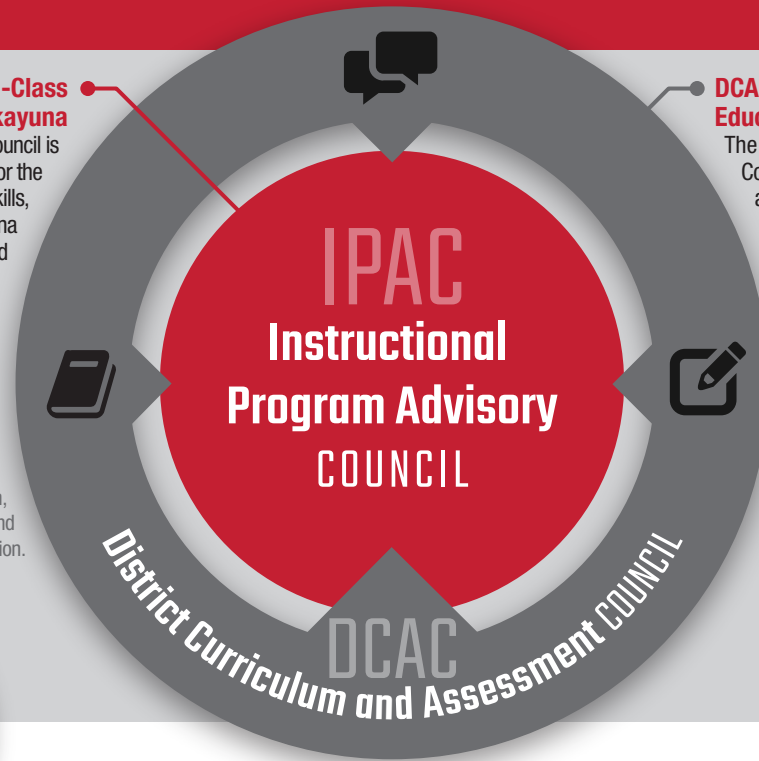
The Instructional Program Advisory Council is charged with developing a broad vision for the future of school programs based on the skills, attributes and experiences that Niskayuna graduates will need for success in life and the modern economy. IPAC's work will help identify opportunities, engage the community, and guide decisions in areas such as program needs and priorities, school facilities, and partnerships.

**Membership includes the superintendent of schools, assistant superintendent for instruction, and representatives from the administration, faculty, Board of Education, community, student body, business and industry, and higher education.**

## DCAC: Creating a World-Class Education in Niskayuna

The District Curriculum and Assessment Council is charged with monitoring, assessing, and ultimately guiding program, instructional, and assessment decisions across the district. The Instructional Program Advisory Council, regular program reviews and committee work will inform the DCAC.

**Membership includes the assistant superintendent for instruction, directors, three principals (one from each level), and K-12 faculty.**



Instructional Program Review Teams will be formed in alignment with the program review cycle established by the DCAC. Each review will focus on current curriculum, resources, assessments and data, and future priorities. Recommendations for curriculum development, growth of program, or change of resources will be made to the DCAC following each review.

**When a department is in an active stage of the program review cycle, the director will lead a Program Review Team comprised of K-12 faculty from the department.**



The Professional Development Committee will develop the district Professional Development Plan each year based on an annual faculty and staff survey, strategic goals, and priorities identified through program reviews. The plan will be presented to the Board of Education for approval each summer.

**Membership includes the assistant superintendent for instruction, two DCAC members, and K-12 faculty.**



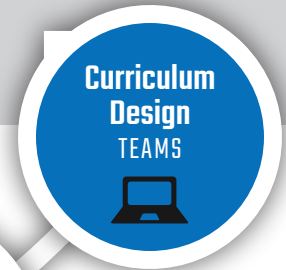
The Technology Committee will inform and support a vision for the effective use of technology in Niskayuna classrooms including, but not limited to, assessing best practices and emerging uses in the field, identifying hardware priorities, and addressing targeted technology issues and needs.

**Membership includes the assistant superintendent for instruction, principals, district directors and K-12 faculty, and members of the Technology Services department.**



The Conference Advisory Committee helps create opportunities for faculty to attend professional conferences based on requests, goals, and identified needs.

**Membership includes the assistant superintendent for instruction, K-12 faculty members, two directors and a principal.**



Design teams at all levels are guiding the creation of a common curriculum, with vertical and horizontal alignment, that provides for engaging and relevant learning experiences. Plans for program growth and development identified through the Program Review process will inform the plan for ongoing curriculum design.

**Curriculum design teams include K-12 academic directors and faculty members from across the district. The specific makeup of the design team depends upon the grade level, subject area and scope of the work.**

# Preparing students for success in a changing world

