



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: June 3, 2020
 To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
 Route To: Principals, Vice Principals. Curriculum Supervisors
 From: Linda P. Eno, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
 Division of Academics and Performance

Updated New Jersey Student Learning Standards Adopted

Today, the New Jersey State Board of Education adopted the 2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education; Computer Science and Design Thinking (formerly Technology); Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills (formerly 21st Century Life and Careers); World Languages; Science; Social Studies; and Visual Performing Arts.

These standards represent a foundation from which districts will build coherent curriculum and instruction that will equip each New Jersey student with the knowledge and skills to succeed in a rapidly changing world. New Jersey continues to be at the national forefront of education by including the following in the updated NJSLS:

- Climate Change standards across all content areas and grade levels, leveraging the passion students have shown for this critical issue and providing them opportunities to better understand and identify comprehensive solutions to tackling the global crisis;
- Computer science standards in grade bands K-12, ensuring all students receive a world-class education in the critical computational thinking skills that are essential to the world’s work; and
- National standards for Science and Visual and Performing Arts, ensuring access to, and opportunity in, science and the arts, for every New Jersey public school student.

The process for reviewing and revising the NJSLS was informed by teachers, administrators, higher education faculty, and stakeholders throughout the State. There was representation from public and nonpublic schools from rural, urban, and suburban districts; non-profit organizations and agencies; and the military.

The 2020 NJSLS were revised following public input and feedback received through regional testimony sessions, written comments, and feedback submitted through the NJDOE website.

The curriculum implementation schedule for the 2020 NJSLS is as follows:

Curriculum Implementation Schedule

Date of Implementation	New Jersey Student Learning Standards
September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills • Science • Visual and Performing Arts • World Languages
September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Health and Physical Education • Computer Science and Design Thinking • Social Studies

The NJDOE will support schools as they prepare for implementation through stakeholder outreach, professional learning opportunities, and additional resources for curriculum development to support equitable access to high-quality, standards-based instruction, and assessment.

The NJDOE thanks all stakeholders for their support and feedback during the NJSLS adoption process and looks forward to working with educators across the State to build professional capacity, curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

Please email the Office of Standards at standards@doe.nj.gov if you have questions regarding the adopted 2020 NJSLS.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner
NJDOE Staff
NJ LEE Group
Garden State Coalition of Schools
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network