



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: May 5, 2021
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: Assistant Superintendents, Curriculum Supervisors, Principals
From: Lisa J. Gleason, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Academics and Performance

State Board of Education Adopts an Extended Schedule for Districts to Implement the 2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards

On June 3, 2020, the State Board of Education adopted a resolution that set forth the schedule for school districts to implement the 2020 New Jersey Student Learning (NJSLS). Under that resolution, school districts were required to implement the 2020 NJSLS for Science, Visual and Performing Arts, World Languages, and Career Readiness, Life Literacy, and Key Skills by September 2021, and the standards for Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, Social Studies, and Computer Science and Design Thinking by September 2022. Today, the State Board of Education voted to revise that schedule as a result of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

The closure of school facilities and disruption to in-person learning due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency have made it difficult for many school districts to engage in the curriculum writing processes necessary to meet the original implementation schedule for the 2020 NJSLS. Therefore, to provide relief to districts and allow them to focus their efforts and resources on ensuring safe and healthy school environments and providing high-quality instruction, the revised schedule adopted today grants districts an extension until September 2022 to implement all seven content areas of the 2020 NJSLS.

Therefore, no later than September 2022, districts shall align all curricula and instruction to the 2020 NJSLS in the following content areas:

- Visual and Performing Arts;
- Comprehensive Health and Physical Education;
- Science;
- Social Studies;
- World Languages;
- Computer Science & Design Thinking; and
- Career Readiness, Life Literacies & Key Skills.

The NJDOE appreciates the great strides that many districts have made thus far in aligning curricula and instruction to the revised standards and encourages districts to proceed with curricula planning. In school year 2021-2022, districts will be compliant with state regulations (*N.J.A.C.* 6A:8 and 32) if using curricula in the above content areas that align to either the **2014 or 2020 NJSLS**. By school year 2022-2023, districts will be required to adopt curricula in the above content areas aligned with the **2020 NJSLS**.

To assist in the transition to the 2020 NJSLS, the NJDOE will continue to provide professional learning opportunities, to collaborate with educators to build a resource toolkit, and to support districts as they develop curricula.

If you have any questions, please contact standards@doe.nj.gov or the [County Office of Education](#) at countyed@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group