

State's Curriculum Standards to Undergo Five-Year Review

Citizens have opportunities for public input

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Date: May 21, 2014 609-292-1126

Trenton, NJ – The New Jersey Department of Education is announcing that it will be taking public comment on revisions to the Core Curriculum Content Standards.

Every five years, the State Board of Education is required by law to review and re-adopt the Core Curriculum Content Standards. All nine subject areas of Core Curriculum Content Standards are being revised this year, and seven of the nine are available to the public for review and comment through June 20. The remaining two subject areas will be open for comment in the fall.

The standards include: Visual and Performing Arts; Comprehensive Health and Physical Education; English Language Arts; Mathematics; Science; Social Studies; World Languages; Technology; and 21st Century Life and Careers. No changes have been proposed to the English Language Arts and Mathematics standards as the State Board of Education fully reconsidered these standards in 2010, and elected to adopt New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards in these areas that reflect the Common Core State Standards.

The State Board of Education originally adopted the Core Curriculum Content Standards in 1996 so that school districts would have the same expectations about what students should know and be able to do by the time they graduate from high school. In each of the five-year review processes, the standards have been reviewed and adjusted by expert committees to incorporate new content where appropriate, so that the standards continue to address the educational needs of students.

The public review and comment period on the first set of standards runs until June 20. The public has the opportunity to review the draft standards and provide comments and suggestions at public hearings or by email before adoption by the State Board of Education.

Sessions for the first set of standards will be conducted from 4–7 p.m. at the following locations:

June 4, 2014 NJ Department of Education, Trenton, NJ 100 Riverview Plaza, Trenton, NJ 08625

June 11, 2014 Gloucester County Institute of Technology, Sewell, NJ 1360 Tanyard Rd, Sewell, NJ 08080

June 12, 2014 Somerset County Office, Somerville, NJ 27 Warren Street, Somerville, NJ 08876

For more information about the proposed standards, to register to speak at any of the public hearings, or for contact information to send comments, go to the NJDOE's 2014 Standards Public Review and Comment page at: http://www.nj.gov/education/news/2014/standards/.