



Ohio Revised Code

Section 3301.079 Academic standards - model curriculum.

Effective: September 17, 2014

Legislation: House Bill 487 - 130th General Assembly

(A)(1) The state board of education periodically shall adopt statewide academic standards with emphasis on coherence, focus, and essential knowledge and that are more challenging and demanding when compared to international standards for each of grades kindergarten through twelve in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

(a) The state board shall ensure that the standards do all of the following:

(i) Include the essential academic content and skills that students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level that will allow each student to be prepared for postsecondary instruction and the workplace for success in the twenty-first century;

(ii) Include the development of skill sets that promote information, media, and technological literacy;

(iii) Include interdisciplinary, project-based, real-world learning opportunities;

(iv) Instill life-long learning by providing essential knowledge and skills based in the liberal arts tradition, as well as science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and career-technical education;

(v) Be clearly written, transparent, and understandable by parents, educators, and the general public.

(b) Not later than July 1, 2012, the state board shall incorporate into the social studies standards for grades four to twelve academic content regarding the original texts of the Declaration of Independence, the Northwest Ordinance, the Constitution of the United States and its amendments, with emphasis on the Bill of Rights, and the Ohio Constitution, and their original context. The state board shall revise the model curricula and achievement assessments adopted under divisions (B) and (C) of this section as necessary to reflect the additional American history and American government content. The state board shall make available a list of suggested grade-appropriate



supplemental readings that place the documents prescribed by this division in their historical context, which teachers may use as a resource to assist students in reading the documents within that context.

(c) When the state board adopts or revises academic content standards in social studies, American history, American government, or science under division (A)(1) of this section, the state board shall develop such standards independently and not as part of a multistate consortium.

(2) After completing the standards required by division (A)(1) of this section, the state board shall adopt standards and model curricula for instruction in technology, financial literacy and entrepreneurship, fine arts, and foreign language for grades kindergarten through twelve. The standards shall meet the same requirements prescribed in division (A)(1)(a) of this section.

(3) The state board shall adopt the most recent standards developed by the national association for sport and physical education for physical education in grades kindergarten through twelve or shall adopt its own standards for physical education in those grades and revise and update them periodically.

The department of education shall employ a full-time physical education coordinator to provide guidance and technical assistance to districts, community schools, and STEM schools in implementing the physical education standards adopted under this division. The superintendent of public instruction shall determine that the person employed as coordinator is qualified for the position, as demonstrated by possessing an adequate combination of education, license, and experience.

(4) When academic standards have been completed for any subject area required by this section, the state board shall inform all school districts, all community schools established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, all STEM schools established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code, and all nonpublic schools required to administer the assessments prescribed by sections 3301.0710 and 3301.0712 of the Revised Code of the content of those standards. Additionally, upon completion of any academic standards under this section, the department shall post those standards on the department's web site.



(B)(1) The state board shall adopt a model curriculum for instruction in each subject area for which updated academic standards are required by division (A)(1) of this section and for each of grades kindergarten through twelve that is sufficient to meet the needs of students in every community.

The model curriculum shall be aligned with the standards, to ensure that the academic content and skills specified for each grade level are taught to students, and shall demonstrate vertical articulation and emphasize coherence, focus, and rigor. When any model curriculum has been completed, the state board shall inform all school districts, community schools, and STEM schools of the content of that model curriculum.

(2) Not later than June 30, 2013, the state board, in consultation with any office housed in the governor's office that deals with workforce development, shall adopt model curricula for grades kindergarten through twelve that embed career connection learning strategies into regular classroom instruction.

(3) All school districts, community schools, and STEM schools may utilize the state standards and the model curriculum established by the state board, together with other relevant resources, examples, or models to ensure that students have the opportunity to attain the academic standards. Upon request, the department shall provide technical assistance to any district, community school, or STEM school in implementing the model curriculum.

Nothing in this section requires any school district to utilize all or any part of a model curriculum developed under this section.

(C) The state board shall develop achievement assessments aligned with the academic standards and model curriculum for each of the subject areas and grade levels required by divisions (A)(1) and (B)(1) of section 3301.0710 of the Revised Code.

When any achievement assessment has been completed, the state board shall inform all school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and nonpublic schools required to administer the assessment of its completion, and the department shall make the achievement assessment available to the districts and schools.

(D)(1) The state board shall adopt a diagnostic assessment aligned with the academic standards and



model curriculum for each of grades kindergarten through two in reading, writing, and mathematics and for grade three in reading and writing. The diagnostic assessment shall be designed to measure student comprehension of academic content and mastery of related skills for the relevant subject area and grade level. Any diagnostic assessment shall not include components to identify gifted students. Blank copies of diagnostic assessments shall be public records.

(2) When each diagnostic assessment has been completed, the state board shall inform all school districts of its completion and the department shall make the diagnostic assessment available to the districts at no cost to the district. School districts shall administer the diagnostic assessment pursuant to section 3301.0715 of the Revised Code beginning the first school year following the development of the assessment.

(E) The state board shall not adopt a diagnostic or achievement assessment for any grade level or subject area other than those specified in this section.

(F) Whenever the state board or the department consults with persons for the purpose of drafting or reviewing any standards, diagnostic assessments, achievement assessments, or model curriculum required under this section, the state board or the department shall first consult with parents of students in kindergarten through twelfth grade and with active Ohio classroom teachers, other school personnel, and administrators with expertise in the appropriate subject area. Whenever practicable, the state board and department shall consult with teachers recognized as outstanding in their fields.

If the department contracts with more than one outside entity for the development of the achievement assessments required by this section, the department shall ensure the interchangeability of those assessments.

(G) Whenever the state board adopts standards or model curricula under this section, the department also shall provide information on the use of blended or digital learning in the delivery of the standards or curricula to students in accordance with division (A)(4) of this section.

(H) The fairness sensitivity review committee, established by rule of the state board of education, shall not allow any question on any achievement or diagnostic assessment developed under this



section or any proficiency test prescribed by former section 3301.0710 of the Revised Code, as it existed prior to September 11, 2001, to include, be written to promote, or inquire as to individual moral or social values or beliefs. The decision of the committee shall be final. This section does not create a private cause of action.

(I)(1)(a) The English language arts academic standards review committee is hereby created to review academic content standards in the subject of English language arts. The committee shall consist of the following members:

- (i) Three experts who are residents of this state and who primarily conduct research, provide instruction, currently work in, or possess an advanced degree in the subject area. One expert shall be appointed by each of the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor;
- (ii) One parent or guardian appointed by the president of the senate;
- (iii) One educator who is currently teaching in a classroom, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
- (iv) The chancellor of the Ohio board of regents, or the chancellor's designee;
- (v) The state superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the committee.

(b) The mathematics academic standards review committee is hereby created to review academic content standards in the subject of mathematics. The committee shall consist of the following members:

- (i) Three experts who are residents of this state and who primarily conduct research, provide instruction, currently work in, or possess an advanced degree in the subject area. One expert shall be appointed by each of the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor;



- (ii) One parent or guardian appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
 - (iii) One educator who is currently teaching in a classroom, appointed by the president of the senate;
 - (iv) The chancellor, or the chancellor's designee;
 - (v) The state superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the committee.
- (c) The science academic standards review committee is hereby created to review academic content standards in the subject of science. The committee shall consist of the following members:
- (i) Three experts who are residents of this state and who primarily conduct research, provide instruction, currently work in, or possess an advanced degree in the subject area. One expert shall be appointed by each of the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor;
 - (ii) One parent or guardian appointed by the president of the senate;
 - (iii) One educator who is currently teaching in a classroom, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
 - (iv) The chancellor, or the chancellor's designee;
 - (v) The state superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the committee.
- (d) The social studies academic standards review committee is hereby created to review academic content standards in the subject of social studies. The committee shall consist of the following members:
- (i) Three experts who are residents of this state and who primarily conduct research, provide instruction, currently work in, or possess an advanced degree in the subject area. One expert shall



be appointed by each of the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor;

(ii) One parent or guardian appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(iii) One educator who is currently teaching in a classroom, appointed by the president of the senate;

(iv) The chancellor, or the chancellor's designee;

(v) The state superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the committee.

(2)(a) Each committee created in division (I)(1) of this section shall review the academic content standards for its respective subject area to ensure that such standards are clear, concise, and appropriate for each grade level and promote higher student performance, learning, subject matter comprehension, and improved student achievement. Each committee also shall review whether the standards for its respective subject area promote essential knowledge in the subject, lifelong learning, the liberal arts tradition, and college and career readiness and whether the standards reduce remediation.

(b) Each committee shall determine whether the assessments submitted to that committee under division (I)(4) of this section are appropriate for the committee's respective subject area and meet the academic content standards adopted under this section and community expectations.

(3) The department of education shall provide administrative support for each committee created in division (I)(1) of this section. Members of each committee shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses related to the operations of the committee. Members of each committee shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

(4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in division (N) of section 3301.0711 of the Revised Code, the department shall submit to the appropriate committee created under division (I)(1) of this section copies of the questions and corresponding answers on the relevant assessments required by section 3301.0710 of the Revised Code on the first day of July following the school year



that the assessments were administered. The department shall provide each committee with the entire content of each relevant assessment, including corresponding answers.

The assessments received by the committees are not public records of the committees and are not subject to release by the committees to any other person or entity under section 149.43 of the Revised Code. However, the assessments shall become public records in accordance with division (N) of section 3301.0711 of the Revised Code.

(J) Not later than forty-five days prior to the adoption by the state board of updated academic standards under division (A)(1) of this section or updated model curricula under division (B)(1) of this section, the superintendent of public instruction shall present the academic standards or model curricula, as applicable, to the respective committees of the house of representatives and senate that consider education legislation.

(K) As used in this section:

(1) "Blended learning" means the delivery of instruction in a combination of time in a supervised physical location away from home and online delivery whereby the student has some element of control over time, place, path, or pace of learning.

(2) "Coherence" means a reflection of the structure of the discipline being taught.

(3) "Digital learning" means learning facilitated by technology that gives students some element of control over time, place, path, or pace of learning.

(4) "Focus" means limiting the number of items included in a curriculum to allow for deeper exploration of the subject matter.

(5) "Vertical articulation" means key academic concepts and skills associated with mastery in particular content areas should be articulated and reinforced in a developmentally appropriate manner at each grade level so that over time students acquire a depth of knowledge and understanding in the core academic disciplines.