



Colorado Standards Review and Revision Summary of Proposed Revision: Science

October 16, 2017

Colorado state law requires a review and revision of the Colorado Academic Standards every six years with the first review to be completed by July 2018. Stronger alignment of learning expectations within and across grades has been the primary focus of the review and revision process. When aligning expectations within standards, the result is deletions, revisions, additions, and reorganization. This includes additions, deletions, revisions and reorganizations of the standards. This document provides a summary of the substantive revisions that the drama and theater arts standards review committee recommends. Public feedback is being sought from Oct. 16 through Nov. 27, 2017. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/casreview-publicfeedbackresources>.

The review committees are proposing common changes to the structure of the standards that apply to all content areas. These include:

- Changes to the title of the *Prepared Graduate Competencies* section of the standards document to *Prepared Graduate Statements* to reduce confusion with competency-based learning systems of instruction and assessment practices.
- Changes to the title of the right side of the standards document from *21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies* to *Academic Context and Connections*. The sections within the *Academic Context and Connections* continue to focus on essential skills and relevant connections to the *Grade Level Expectations*. The committees are proposing some variation to the sub-sections in order to capture the unique subject specific elements needed to create context for learning.

Finally, revisions to the preschool standards for all content areas contain proposed revisions to align the expectations with Colorado's Early Learning and Development Guidelines and the latest revision of the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.

Proposed Revisions Applicable to All Grades (Preschool through 12th grade):

- The revision committee proposes changing sections within the *Academic Context and Connections* from Inquiry Questions, Relevance and Application, and Nature of Science to Colorado Essential Skills and Science and Engineering Practices, Elaboration on the GLE, and Cross Cutting Concepts to create better alignment with the postsecondary workforce readiness skills.
- The revision committee recommends adding Clarification Statements, which provide examples or clarification of the evidence outcomes, and Boundary Statements, which identify the limits to conceptual development at the end of each grade level.
- The science revision committee proposes modifying the format of the *Prepared Graduate Competencies* to include a sentence stem that emphasizes the connections to science and engineering practices to make sense of natural phenomena and solve problems.
- The revision committee recommends adding a new *Prepared Graduate Competency* for waves because it was not explicit in the standards.

Proposed Revisions for Preschool through 5th Grade:

- The committee proposes shifting some science concepts and skills between elementary grades in order to establish greater coherence and alignment with research-based learning progressions for science.

Proposed Revisions for Middle School (6th grade through 8th grade):

- The science committee recommends shifting some science concepts and skills between middle grades in order to establish greater coherence and alignment with research-based learning progressions for science.
- The committee proposes shifting the eighth grade chemistry components of the evidence outcomes to a lower grades while strengthening the physics components.

Proposed Revisions for High School (9th grade through 12th grade):

- The science committee recommends shifting some concepts and skills previously taught at the high school level to the middle school to allow for additional topics to be taught at the high school level.

For further detail regarding the standards review and revision process the following resources are available:

- [Review Criteria for High Quality Academic Standards](#): This resource provides a compilation of critical elements needed for high quality state standards.
- [Online feedback system](#): This system enables all Coloradans to review the revisions embedded within the standards and offers commenting capabilities to share feedback directly to the review and revision committees.
- [Complete lists of proposed revisions](#): These spreadsheets outline each revision proposed including a side by side comparison between the current standards and the proposed revision and the rationale for the recommendation.

For more information about the standards review and revision process, please visit:

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/casreview>.

For more information about the Drama and Theatre Arts committee, please visit:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/cas-committees-science>.