

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DECEMBER 17, 2025

TAB	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
1	SUPERINTENDENT’S K-12 UPDATE	Information Item
2	2025 CURRICULAR MATERIALS	Action Item

**IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DECEMBER 17, 2025**

SUBJECT

Superintendent's K-12 Update

APPLICABLE STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

Idaho State Board of Education Bylaws (Operational Procedures) Section E.4.
Section 33-125, 125A, and 127, Idaho Code

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Idaho State Board of Education bylaws establish the Superintendent of Public Instruction as responsible for carrying out policies, procedures, and duties prescribed by the Constitution of the State of Idaho and by Idaho Code or as established by the Board for all elementary and secondary school matters.

Debbie Critchfield was sworn into office as the Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction on January 2, 2023. She will update the State Board of Education on the Superintendent's priorities moving forward.

- Statewide Professional Development Day for 2026
- Civics Seal for High School Diplomas
- Idaho Reading Indicator Implementation
- 2026 Legislative Outlook

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Superintendent's K-12 Update December 2025

BOARD STAFF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Informational item; no Board staff recommendation.

BOARD ACTION

This item is for informational purposes only.



K-12 Update: December Board Meeting

December 17, 2025





Statewide Professional Development Day

October 9, 2026 in all six superintendent regions.

The **three breakout sessions**, offered in all regions and to every participant:

- Artificial Intelligence

- Classroom Management

- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

Surveys to superintendents and charter administrators have been sent out to determine interest and key logistical considerations.



Department's K-12 Civics Initiative

Vision: Fulfilling Idaho's constitutional obligation for public schools: Preparing students to become self-governing citizens in a constitutional, democratic-republic.

Several pillars of this initiative:

- Updated Standards— Civics, US History, Western Civilization
- New State Civics Test (Approved by State Board next year)
- Updated Supplementary and Core Curricula

New proposal for 2026 legislative session: **civics seal on high school diploma (next slide).**



Civics Seal of Excellence for H.S. Diploma

Similar to the biliteracy diploma, Workforce Readiness and Career Technical Education (CTE) Diploma. **This would be proposed legislation for 2026 session.**

To earn the Idaho State Seal of Excellence in Civics, a student must meet requirements in Civic Knowledge and Civic Participation:

Civic Knowledge Requirements (could include):

- Successful completion of all state-required social studies coursework for graduation with an **overall GPA of 3.25 or higher in those courses**;
- Demonstrating mastery (90% or higher) on the **Idaho Civics Test**;

Civic Engagement Requirements (could include):

- Service Learning or Community Service**, such as completion of at least 50 hours of voluntary service with a public agency, school, nonprofit, or charitable organization that contributes to the public good.



Idaho's First Ever Civics Bee

The **National Civics Bee** is an annual competition that inspires young Americans to engage in civics and contribute to their communities. It's an initiative led by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Idaho's 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students can submit an essay on or before February 3 to compete.

Statewide Competition: May 29, 2026 in Idaho Falls.

- The top 20 students will be invited to compete in the first-ever Idaho Statewide Competition for a chance at winning GREAT prizes for themselves (\$1,000 for first prize) and \$5,000 for their school.



2026 Legislative Outlook

FY 2027 Budget Outlook for K-12

Special Education Block Grant— \$50 million

Alternative Administrator Route for School Districts

Strategic Performance Plans (replacing existing CIP requirements)

Civics Seal of Excellence for High School Diploma

Questions?



Idaho Department
of Education

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SUBJECT

2025 Curricular Materials

REFERENCE

August 2020

Board approved the recommendations made by the Curricular Materials Selection Committee of curricular materials for K-12 science, K-12 computer applications, K-12 computer science, and career technical education.

August 2025

Board approved the recommendations made by the Curricular Materials Selection Committee of curricular materials for K-12 Science and career technical education.

APPLICABLE STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

Idaho State Board of Education Governing Policies & Procedures, Section IV.B.9. Section 33-118, Idaho Code – Courses of study – Curricular materials
Section 33-118A, Idaho Code – Curricular materials – Adoption procedures
IDAPA 08.02.03.128 – Rules Governing Thoroughness, Curricular Materials
Selection and Online Course Approval

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The curricular materials review and adoption process is established in Sections 33-118 and 33-118A, Idaho Code, and is further defined in IDAPA 08.02.03.128, Rules Governing Thoroughness. Curricular materials are defined as textbooks and instructional media including software, audio/visual material, and internet based instructional material (Section 33-118A, Idaho Code). Idaho is a multiple-adoption state and adopts several materials in a designated subject area from a variety of publishing companies.

The adoption process provides for the continuous review and evaluation of new curricular materials. This process ensures that all Idaho school districts and charter schools have quality products available to purchase at a guaranteed low contract price. This process maintains local control in the instructional materials adoption by providing multiple lists of approved materials. While school districts and charter schools can choose materials from the list of vetted and approved materials, this is not a requirement.

In accordance with IDAPA 08.02.03.128, Idaho adopts materials in the areas of reading, English, spelling, speech, journalism, languages other than English, art, drama, social studies, music, mathematics, business education, career technical education and counseling, science, health, physical education, handwriting, literature, driver education, and limited English proficiency. In addition, computer science is adopted annually, and computer applications are adopted biennially.

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The Curricular Materials Selection Committee (Committee), the members of which are appointed by the State Board of Education (Board) for a five (5) year term, has the responsibility of overseeing the adoption process for the state. The Executive Secretary of this Committee is an employee of the State Department of Education (Department) and a voting member of the committee.

The Committee consists of not less than ten (10) total members from the following stakeholder groups:

- certified Idaho classroom teachers
- Idaho public school administrators
- Idaho higher education officials
- parents
- trustees
- local board of education members
- members of the Division of Career Technical Education
- State Department of Education personnel

The Committee, assisted by content specialists from throughout the state, meets for approximately one (1) week in June to review and evaluate all materials against Idaho Content Standards and specific course requirements. The Committee votes to recommend materials to the Board, and these recommendations are forwarded to the Board for adoption. All meetings of the Committee are open to the public.

If the Board accepts the recommendation of the Committee and adopts the materials, the Department executes contracts with the publishing companies, and the listing of newly adopted materials is published in the Department's Curricular Materials Adoption Guide. In accordance with IDAPA 08.02.03.128, a state curriculum depository is maintained at Caxton Printers Ltd., in Caldwell, Idaho. Curriculum libraries are also maintained at seven (7) regional centers.

The 2025 curricular materials review included K-12 science and career technical education (CTE) materials. One hundred, twenty-four (124) content area specialists assisted eight (8) Committee members in the evaluation of curricular materials and related instructional materials. The recommended curricular materials and related instructional materials are catalogued in Attachment 1.

IMPACT

The curricular review and adoption process helps to ensure that all Idaho school districts and charter schools, regardless of size, can purchase quality materials at a guaranteed low price for the length of the adoption cycle while maintaining local control in the choice of instruction materials.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Curricular Materials Recommendations
- Attachment 2 – Curricular Materials Selection Committee
- Attachment 3 – Regional Center locations

STAFF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Some K-12 science and CTE curricular materials were approved by the Board in August 2025; however, others remained in the review process. The curricular materials proposed for adoption differ from those previously approved.

The recommendations from the Curricular Materials Selection Committee are presented in one of the four following categories: comprehensive, basic, Component / Supplemental, and Not Recommended. Definitions of the classifications may be found in Attachment 1 at the bottom of page 2.

Board staff recommends approval.

BOARD ACTION

I move to approve the recommendation of the Curricular Materials Selection Committee to adopt curricular materials and related instructional materials for K-12 Science and CTE, as submitted in Attachment 1.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____ Carried Yes _____ No _____

2025 Curricular Materials Review

Content Area	Publisher	Title	Grade Level/Program Area	Recommendation
Science	Activate Learning	OpenSciEd High School Chemistry	9-12	Basic
CTE	Cengage	The Science of Animal Agriculture	AFNR	Basic
CTE	Cengage	Beginnings & Beyond: Foundations in Early Childhood Education	FCS	Basic
CTE	Cengage	Auto Body Repair Technology	TI	Comprehensive
CTE	Cengage	Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair	TI	Comprehensive
CTE	Cengage	Dental Assisting: A Comprehensive Approach	HPPS	Comprehensive
CTE	iCEV	Animal Science	AFNR	Basic
CTE	iCEV	Early Childhood Education	FCS	Basic
CTE	iCEV	Pre-Engineering	ETE	Supplemental
CTE	iCEV	Law Enforcement	HPPS	Basic
Science	MacMillan	Living by Chemistry	9-12	Comprehensive
Science	McGraw Hill	K-8 Inspire Science, Integrated	8	Comprehensive
CTE	McGraw Hill	Careers and Basics of Early Childhood Education	FCS	Basic
CTE	McGraw Hill	Introduction to Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement, and the Courts	HPPS	Not Recommended
Science	News-O-Matic	Earth & Space Science	6-8	Component
CTE	Pearson	<i>Automotive Technology: Principles, Diagnosis, and Service 7th Edition</i> ©2024, Halderman, Ward	TI	Basic
CTE	Pearson	<i>Introduction to Engineering</i>	ETE	Supplemental
CTE	Pearson	<i>Criminal Justice Today 16th Edition</i>	HPPS	Supplemental
CTE	Pearson	<i>Emergency Care 14th Edition, ©2021, Limmer, O'Keefe, Dickinson</i>	HPPS	Comprehensive

CTE	Pearson	<i>Prehospital Emergency Care 12th Edition, ©2024, Mistovich, Karren</i>	HPPS	Comprehensive
Science	TCI	Bring Science Alive! Exploring Science Practices	5	Comprehensive
Science	TCI	Bring Science Alive! 7th Grade Integrated	7	Basic

***LEGEND**

COMPREHENSIVE: A recommended program which meets the focus, coherence, depth, and rigor of the Idaho Content Standards with minimal or no need for supplemental material.

BASIC: A recommended program which meets the focus, coherence, depth, and rigor of the Idaho Content Standards with some need for supplemental material.

COMPONENT/SUPPLEMENTAL: A program designed and intended to be used to supplement a comprehensive or basic program. A component program will support and/or enhance the focus, coherence, depth, and rigor of a comprehensive or basic program.

NOT RECOMMENDED: A program that does not meet the focus, coherence, depth, and rigor of the Idaho Content Standards.

Selection Committee

Curricular Materials

COMMITTEE LISTING

Committee Member	Stakeholder Group
Summer Cook	Executive Secretary, Idaho State Department of Education
Kristi Enger Term Expires: December 13, 2028	Idaho Career & Technical Education
Vacant	Idaho Higher Education Official
Vacant	Idaho Higher Education Official
Kelli Schroeder Term Expires: February 28, 2026	Idaho Public School Administrators Filer School District #413
Nathan Tracy Term Expires: February 28, 2026	Parent & Idaho Public School Administrators Jerome School District #261
Bernadette Edwards Term Expires: December 13, 2028	Local Board of Education Member Mountain View School District #244
Laree Jansen Term Expires: September 30, 2026	Parent
Vacant	Parent
Stacey Jensen Term Expires: September 30, 2026	Certified Idaho Classroom Teacher Pocatello/Chubbuck School District #25
Robyn Hill Term Expires: February 28, 2026	Certified Idaho Classroom Teacher Nampa School District #131

Committee Member	Stakeholder Group
Vacant	Certified Idaho Classroom Teacher
Darlene Dyer Term Expires: September 30, 2026	Certified Idaho Classroom Teacher Blaine County School District #61
Emalee Merrell Term Expires: December 13, 2028	Idaho State Department of Education Personnel

For Questions Contact

Content & Curriculum – Curricular Materials
Idaho State Department of Education
650 W State Street, Boise, ID 83702
208 332 6800 | www.sde.idaho.gov

Regional Centers

Curricular Materials

The Regional Centers serve as public depositories for curricular materials currently under adoption in the state of Idaho. Publishing companies are required to provide samples of approved materials for public viewing.

REGIONAL CENTER LISTING

Location	Contact
Boise State University Albertson Library 1910 University Blvd Boise, ID 83725-1430	Marlena Hooyboer 208-426-2132 marlenahooyboer@boisestate.edu
Brigham Young University–Idaho David O McKay Library, MCK 306 525 South Center Street (0405) Rexburg, ID 83460-0405	Holly Green 208-496-9539 greenh@byui.edu
Idaho State University Instructional Materials Center College of Education 638 E. Dunn Street Pocatello, ID 83209-8059	Dr. Shu-Yuan Lin, Ed.D. 208-282-3185 linshu@isu.edu
Lewis Clark State College Curriculum Library 500 8th Avenue Lewiston, ID 83501	Jennifer Cromer 208-792-2829 jjcromer@lcsc.edu

Location	Contact
Northwest Nazarene University John Riley Library 623 S. University Boulevard Nampa, ID 83686-5897	Sheryll Hampton 208-467-8357 sheryllhampton@nnu.edu
University of Idaho Gary Strong Curriculum Center College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences University of Idaho 875 Perimeter Dr. Moscow, ID 83844-3089	Marco Seiferle-Valencia 208-885-2504 marcosv@uidaho.edu curriculumcenter@uidaho.edu **Request shipment boxes to be less than 50 lbs each

For Questions Contact

Content & Curriculum – Curricular Materials
Idaho State Department of Education
650 W State Street, Boise, ID 83702
(208) 332-6800 | www.sde.idaho.gov