

Idaho State Board of Education
GOVERNING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION: IV. ORGANIZATION SPECIFIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
Subsection: B. State Department of Education

June 2016

1. Purpose

The State Department of Education is established by Section 33-125, Idaho Code, as an executive agency of the State Board of Education for elementary and secondary school matters.

2. State Superintendent of Public Instruction

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is an elected public official, serves as the executive secretary of the Board, and is the chief executive officer of the State Department of Education. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction (hereinafter known as the "superintendent") is responsible for carrying out the policies, procedures, and duties authorized by applicable state and federal statutes and the policies and procedures of the Board for the elementary and secondary schools in Idaho.

3. Department Organization

The State Department of Education (hereinafter known as the "department") is organized in a manner as determined by the Board acting on recommendations by the superintendent.

4. General Scope of Department Responsibilities

The department is responsible for public elementary and secondary school matters as provided by Title 33, Idaho Code, or as determined by the State Board of Education.

5. Consultant and Advisory Services

The Board allows payments to be made to staff members of the department for consultative services to agencies or organizations other than the public elementary and secondary schools. Such payments may be in addition to the certified salary of the employee and be made during the periods for which any regular salary is paid, as determined by the superintendent. Consultative services must not interfere with the time or duties of the staff member for the department. Requests to undertake consultative services must be submitted to the superintendent or his or her designee and to the Board for prior approval.

6. Policy Manual for Idaho Public Schools

The superintendent or his or her designee is responsible for the development, establishment, maintenance, and dissemination of the *State Board of Education Rules and Regulations for Public Schools K-12* as approved by the Board. The procedures used to establish, amend, or otherwise modify the Policy Manual will be in accordance with Board policy and applicable state laws.

7. Internal Policies and Procedures

The superintendent, as the chief executive officer, may establish such additional policies and procedures for the internal management of the department as are necessary and in alignment with the Board policies, Administrative Code, and Idaho code.

8. Basic Educational Technology Standards for Continuing Educators

The proliferation of technology in our daily lives makes it essential that all students are provided an opportunity to become technologically literate. The State Board of Education has established a statewide goal that teachers and administrators be trained in the use of technology for education. This policy was created as a plan of action which provides recognition, encouragement and documentation of demonstrated competencies for educators and school districts by certificates of achievement and by school accreditation.

a. Accountability and Recognition

All state approved teacher education institutions or their trained designees (i.e., state department employees, district employees or community college faculty) will issue a State Certificate of Educational Technology Competency to those certificated personnel who have documented mastery of the required basic technology standards.

The State Department of Education will issue annually a State Certificate of a Technology School of Excellence to those schools documenting that at least 90% of the certificated staff have earned the State Certificate of Educational Technology Competency.

The State Department of Education will provide the State Board of Education an annual report on certificated personnel demonstrating mastery of the required basic technology standards by state, by district, and by school beginning with a baseline skill inventory that identifies the number of certificated personnel who have already demonstrated competency by the approved assessments. The results of this baseline will be available for Board review at the September 1998 Board meeting. Reports will continue annually on September 1999 through September of 2001 providing current data from the 1998-1999 school year and continuing through the 2000-2001 school year. The baseline and each annual report will include the following information by state, by district, and by school:

- i. Total certificated personnel
- ii. Total certificated personnel demonstrating technology competency
- iii. Total certificated administrative personnel
- iv. Total certificated administrative personnel demonstrating technology competency
- v. Total certificated instructional personnel
- vi. Total certificated instructional personnel demonstrating technology competency.

Information from the annual reports may be used to inform the citizens of Idaho of the relative standing of each school and each school district. The information will also be used to give proper recognition to schools making excellent progress towards or achieving the Board's goal. The Board staff will evaluate the policy annually.

9. Standards Approval

While maintaining a balance between the local control of school districts and the Idaho constitutional requirement for a uniform and thorough system of public education, the State Board of Education sets minimum standards to provide the framework through which our public school then provide educational opportunities to Idaho students. Prior to any standards being brought forward to the Board the applicable stakeholders and the public shall be provided with an opportunity to provide feedback. All standards being brought to the Board for consideration shall include the standards themselves, a description of how feedback was solicited, and a summary of the feedback that was received. Amendments to existing standards shall also include a redlined version of the standards showing all amendments.

a. Content Standards

The Idaho Content Standards articulate the minimum knowledge a student is expected to know and be able to use within a content (subject) area at specific grade levels. Content standards are reviewed and updated on a rotating basis in relation to the curricular materials adoption schedule, but may be updated more frequently if an area is identified as needing to be updated in advance of that schedule. Content standards review will be scheduled such that the content standard is reviewed in the year prior to the scheduled curricular materials review. At a minimum all content areas, including those without corresponding curricular materials, will be reviewed every six (6) years and notification will be made to the Office of the State Board of Education of the review and if the review will result in amendments to the standard or if it was determined that no amendments are necessary for the review cycle. Career Technical Education (CTE) content standard reviews will be facilitated by the Division of Career Technical Education and must meet the same review requirements as academic content standards.

The content standards review process will include at a minimum:

- i. A review committee consisting of Idaho educators with experience in the applicable content area. The committee shall be made up of elementary and secondary instructional staff and at least one postsecondary faculty member from a four-year institution and at least one from a two-year institution, at least one public school administrator, and at least one parent of school aged children or representative of an organization representing parents with school aged children. Instructional staff and postsecondary faculty members must have experience providing instruction in the applicable content area. Additional members may be included at the discretion of the Department. To the extent possible, representatives shall

be chosen from a combination of large and small schools or districts and provide for regional representation.

- ii. The review committee will make an initial determination regarding the need to update the standards.
- iii. Based on the review, the committee shall meet to develop initial recommendations for the creation of new content standards or amendments to the existing content standards. The Department will provide multiple opportunities for public input on the draft recommendations including but not limited to the Department website and processes that allow for individuals in each region of the state to participate.
- iv. Drafts of the recommended amendments will be made available to the public for comment for a period of not less than 20 days. At the close of the comment period the committee will finalize recommendations for Board consideration.

b. Standards for the Initial Certification of Professional School Personnel

The Standards for the Initial Certification of Professional School Personnel set the minimum standards certificated school personnel must meet in each certification and endorsement area to be eligible for certification or to receive subject area endorsements. Teacher preparation programs must be in alignment with these standards to be considered for approval or re-approval.

The standards are reviewed and updated based on a five (5) year cycle, where 20% of the standards are reviewed each year. Standards may be identified for review in advance of the five (5) year cycle, however, all standards must be reviewed every five (5) years. Reviews of CTE educator standards will be facilitated by the Division of Career Technical Education. The Professional Standards Commission (PSC) is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations to the Board on amendments or additions to the Standards for the Initial Certification of Professional School Personnel. The PSC will report annually to the Office of the State Board of Education the standards reviewed during the previous year and if that review resulted in recommendations for amendments or if no amendments were recommended during the review cycle.