

# Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



Agenda Item: H

Date: July 28, 2016

<b>Title</b>	Report on the Schedule for the Adoption of History and Social Science, Mathematics, English, and Science Textbooks and Instructional Materials		
<b>Presenter</b>	Ms. Christonya Brown, History and Social Science Coordinator		
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**Purpose of Presentation:**

For information only. No action required.

**Previous Review or Action:**

No previous review or action.

**Action Requested:**

No action requested.

**Alignment with Board of Education Goals: Please indicate (X) all that apply:**

X	Goal 1: Accountability for Student Learning
	Goal 2: Rigorous Standards to Promote College and Career Readiness
	Goal 3: Expanded Opportunities to Learn
	Goal 4: Nurturing Young Learners
	Goal 5: Highly Qualified and Effective Educators
	Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success
	Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools
	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify:

**Background Information and Statutory Authority:**

The Board of Education’s authority for approving textbooks and other instructional materials is prescribed in the Virginia Constitution and in the *Code of Virginia*. The Board of Education’s *Regulations Governing Textbook Adoption* specifies the types of materials that may be adopted.

*Virginia Constitution, Article VIII, § 5 (d)*

It [the Board of Education] shall have authority to approve textbooks and instructional aids and materials for use in courses in the public schools of the Commonwealth.

*Code of Virginia, § 22.1-238*

A. The Board of Education shall have the authority to approve textbooks suitable for use in the public schools and shall have authority to approve instructional aids and materials for use in the public schools. The Board shall publish a list of all approved textbooks on its website and shall list the publisher and the current lowest wholesale price of such textbooks.

B. Any school board may use textbooks not approved by the Board provided the school board selects such books in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Board.

C. For the purposes of this chapter, the term "textbooks" means print or electronic media for student use that serve as the primary curriculum basis for a grade-level subject or course.

*Regulations Governing Textbook Adoption (8 VAC 20-220-30)*

Only those materials which are designed to provide basic support for the instructional program of a particular content area at an appropriate level will be adopted.

*Regulations Governing Local School Boards and School Divisions (8VAC20-720-170)*

A. Textbook approval.

1. The Board of Education shall have the authority to approve textbooks for use in the public schools of Virginia.

**Summary of Important Issues:**

The Board of Education approves the textbook review process and determines the schedule for approval of specific content area textbooks. The Virginia Department of Education administers the review process on behalf of the Board of Education. During each of the previous textbook and instructional materials reviews, the Department of Education worked with a state committee to review and evaluate publishers' submissions with respect to correlation to the content of the *Standards of Learning (SOL)* and certain quality- and curriculum-related factors. Following each review, the Department of Education provided school divisions with a list of the adopted materials, which included detailed profiles of each adopted submission. On March 24, 2011, the *Virginia's Textbook Review Process* was revised and approved by the Virginia Board of Education.

Local school boards may approve textbooks that are not on the Board-approved list. In accordance with the *Code of Virginia*, §22.1-238, any school board may use textbooks not approved by the Board provided the school board selects such books in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Board. Local school boards that choose to approve textbooks that are not on the Board-approved list are required to engage in a process similar to the Board's new process, where they request certifications of accuracy from publishers.

Generally, state textbook adoption in a core subject area should be conducted shortly after the standards are revised if current materials have been on the state contract for at least six years.

The Board approved the 2015 *History and Social Science Standards of Learning* on March 26, 2015 and the Curriculum Framework on January 28, 2016. It is anticipated that the Board of Education will approve the revised Standards of Learning and Curriculum Frameworks for the following by:

- *Mathematics Standards of Learning* by September 2016;
- *English (K-5 Reading and 6-12 English and Literature)* by July 2017; and
- *Science Standards of Learning* by January 2018.

Attachment A provides a chart that illustrates the proposed timeline for adopting history and social science, mathematics, English, and science textbooks and instructional materials in relationship to other key SOL processes and dates.

Using an established review process and criteria, the Department of Education will administer the state adoption process for the Board of Education. The Department will submit a list of recommended materials to the Board for approval.

**Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:**

The approximate cost of each review is \$20,000. This cost is based on twenty reviewers for each textbook and instructional materials review and includes an incentive for each participant, lodging, meals, and travel expenses.

**Timetable for Further Review/Action:**

The approved textbook adoption schedule will be announced via a Superintendent's Memorandum on July 29, 2016, and the adoption schedule will be posted on the textbook page of the Department's Web site on the same date.

**Superintendent's Recommendation:**

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education receive this report.

**Textbook and Instructional Materials Adoption Schedule for History and Social Science, Mathematics, English, and Science**  
 (Based on the seven-year revision cycle for the *Standards of Learning*)  
 July 29, 2016

<b>Adoption Area</b>	<b>Anticipated SOL Adoption</b>	<b>SOL Curriculum Framework Adoption</b>	<b>State Textbook/ Instructional Materials Review</b>	<b>Expiration of Existing Contracts</b>	<b>LEA Textbook/ Materials Review</b>	<b>New Contract Date</b>
<b>History and Social Science</b>	2015	2016	2016-2017	2016	2017	2017
<b>Mathematics</b>	2016	2016	2017-2018	2018	2018	2018
<b>English</b>	2017	2017	2018-2019	2018	2019	2019
<b>Science</b>	2018	2018	2018-2019	2017	2019	2019