



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

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Commissioner

August 21, 2017

TO: District Superintendents
District Curriculum Directors/Supervisors
District Board of Education Presidents

FROM: Pamela J. Garozzo *PJG*
Director, County Office Administrative Unit and QSAC

SUBJECT: **QSAC Statement of Assurance (SOA)**
Instruction and Program #3 – Curriculum Alignment and Adoption
Requirements

The purpose of this memo is to clarify the requirements for board-adopted, aligned curricula, so that you can provide an accurate response to the QSAC Statement of Assurance (SOA), Instruction and Program indicator #3. As required by N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1, all curricula must include:

- Interdisciplinary connections through the K-12 curriculum;
- Integration of 21st century themes and skills; and
- Supportive curricula and instructional tools for helping students acquire required knowledge and skills. These tools include at a minimum:
 - Pacing guide
 - List of core instructional materials, including various levels of texts at each grade level
 - Benchmark assessments
 - Modifications for special education students, English language learners, students at risk of school failure and gifted students

Further, all curricula must be aligned to current academic standards. As you know, the New Jersey State Board of Education has adopted academic standards in Visual and Performing Arts, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, World Languages, Technology and 21st Century Life and Careers. Refer to the following chart for the State Board adoption and district implementation dates:

Standard	Content Area	State Board Adoption Date	Required District Implementation of Revised Curricula
1	Visual and Performing Arts	July 9, 2014	September 2015
2	Comprehensive Health and Physical Education	July 9, 2014	September 2015
3	English Language Arts	May 4, 2016	September 2017
4	Mathematics	May 4, 2016	September 2017
5	Science	July 9, 2014	Grades 6-12 Sept. 2016
			Grades K-5 Sept. 2017
6	Social Studies	July 9, 2014	September 2015
7	World Languages	July 9, 2014	September 2015
8	Technology	October 1, 2014	September 2015
9	21st Century Life and Careers	October 1, 2014	September 2015

Finally, SOA indicator #3 requires that a district board of education adoption date be entered for each of the nine content areas. When you complete your responses for indicator #3, enter the month and year that each content area of the curriculum was initially adopted TO ALIGN WITH THE CURRENT STATE STANDARDS. Do not enter the board's annual readoption date; enter the original adoption date that the curricula were first aligned to the revised standards. As a way to track curricula adoption, consider inserting the "born on" date into all district curriculum documents as a header or footer. Note that for SOA Instruction and Program indicator #3, full compliance is achieved by meeting all of the requirements outlined in this memo (paragraphs one and two) AND by having board adopted curricula that are fully aligned to the current content standards (refer to the chart above).

If you have any questions, please email qsac@doe.state.nj.us or call 609-984-6755.

PJG:qsac2017/i&p#3

c: Executive County Superintendents
 Executive County Business Officials
 County Education Specialists
 County Child Study Supervisors
 County QSAC Support Staff