

Connecticut State Board of Education
Hartford

Draft Minutes
of the
April 17, 2014, Academic Standards and Assessment Committee Meeting

Pursuant to notice filed with the Secretary of the State, the Academic Standards and Assessment Committee met on Thursday, April 17, 2014, in Room 223, State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Stephen Wright called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Stephen Wright, Chairperson
Theresa Hopkins-Staten

Absent: Allan Taylor

II. Presentation on Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Dr. Roberge-Wentzell introduced Liz Buttner, Ron Michaels and Jeff Greig, Education Science Consultants, who presented an overview of the development and contents of the two components of Next Generation science standards: the vision and recommendations in the Framework for K-12 Science Education and the three-dimensional Performance Expectations in the Next Generation Science Standards. Committee members received highlights of how Next Generation Science Standards compare to current Connecticut standards in terms of expectations for K-12 student engagement in the practices of reasoning with scientific evidence. Topics for future discussion include adoption implications for the science education system, including curriculum development, upgrades to facilities and instructional materials, and changes to assessments, teacher preparation and certification.

III. Presentation on Social Studies Standards Development

Dr. Roberge-Wentzell introduced Stephen Armstrong, Dr. John Tully and Dr. Alan Marcus, Social Studies Leadership Drafting Committee, who presented an overview on the work of the Social Studies Drafting Committee, composed of content area specialists, charged with revising the K-12 Social Studies Framework for the purpose of aligning Connecticut's Social Studies Framework with the College, Career and Civic Life (C3) developed by the National Council for the Social Studies. Its objectives are to enhance the social studies disciplines, build critical thinking, problem solving and prepare students to become engaged citizens and align academic programs to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies.

IV. Presentation on Arts Standards

Dr. Roberge-Wentzell introduced Dr. Scott Shuler, provided an overview of the variety of art forms and paths in education in the arts. Schools must offer a variety of art forms and variety of paths within each art form to attract a variety of students, he noted. To ensure all students are able to continue doing what they do while they are in the arts classroom and after they leave the arts classroom, students must begin arts study early and continue in high school. The National Core Arts Standards are slated to be released in June 2014. These standards will include links to College- and Career-Ready Common Core State Standards and 21st century skills, and are expected to serve as the foundation for an updated Connecticut Arts Framework. The final Arts Standards will be presented to the State Board for approval at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

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