



State of New Jersey  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Discussion Resolution  
April 7, 2021

**Resolution to Amend the 2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards  
Curriculum Implementation Schedule**

**Whereas**, the New Jersey State Board of Education is empowered, pursuant to P. L. 1990, c. 52, P. L. 1991, c. 3 and P. L. 1991, c. 62, with the authority to establish the State's educational goals and standards; and

**Whereas**, the New Jersey Student Learning Standards define the knowledge and skills students should acquire within their kindergarten through grade 12 education careers to graduate high school with the ability to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs; and

**Whereas**, the State Board of Education adopted a resolution on June 3, 2020, that directs that the revised New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Visual and Performing Arts, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, Computer Science and Design Thinking, World Languages, and Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills will serve as standards of quality for public school students in kindergarten through grade 12 programs in New Jersey; and

**Whereas**, the adopted resolution required district boards of education to implement the revised New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Science, Visual and Performing Arts, World Languages, and Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills by September 2021 and Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, Social Studies, and Computer Science and Design Thinking by September 2022, align their curricula with the standards and ensure students learn and are assessed as required by federal law; and

**Whereas**, as of the date of this resolution, the Coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) Public Health Emergency, which was declared by Governor Murphy on March 9, 2020, through Executive Order No. 103, continues to exist; and

**Whereas**, the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency has made it difficult for school districts to engage in curriculum writing processes this year as planned because their focus and resources have been directed to providing effective hybrid instruction, ensuring safe and healthy school environments and addressing their students’ and staff mental health and wellness; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Board of Education acknowledges the challenges that school districts have been facing as a result of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and believes that, to support school districts in revising and rewriting curriculum aligned to the 2020 NJSLs in a manner that results in a robust and viable instructional resource, it is necessary to adjust the curriculum implementation schedule that is described above; and now therefore be it

**Resolved**, the State Board of Education reaffirms its commitment to ensuring the Standards both set expectations for and meet the needs of New Jersey’s students and, by adoption of this resolution, hereby directs school districts to integrate the New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Visual and Performing Arts, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, Computer Science and Design Thinking, World Languages, and Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills in kindergarten through grade 12; and be it further

**Resolved**, the school districts shall align their curriculum to the revised 2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Visual and Performing Arts, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, and Computer Science and Design Thinking, World Languages and Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills by September 2022 and ensure students learn and are assessed as required by federal law.

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Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner  
Acting Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education

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Kathy Goldenberg, President  
N.J. State Board of Education