

1. Standards should define what all students should know and be able to do.
2. Standards should be aligned with national and world-class standards.
3. Standards should serve as an appropriate basis for the development of an objective and reliable statewide assessment.
4. Standards should reflect the recognized essential concepts and basic knowledge of a particular discipline.
5. Standards should be demanding and precise requiring students to master challenging content and processes (college and career-ready).
6. Standards should be written at a level of specificity that will best inform instruction, neither so narrow nor so broad as to be meaningless.

Then, reporting for the panel members that reviewed the math standards were: Jim Reynolds, President of Total Comfort Solutions, Dr. Ed Dickey, Professor of Education of Mathematics at the University of South Carolina, Jack Hatfield, parent, Dr. Tommy Hodges, elementary education professor at USC, and Ben Stilwell, math teacher at Pendleton High as presenters for the math standards. The panel members recommended substantive recommendations at each grade level for grades K-8 and suggested the inclusion of an accelerated pathway for students who may take Algebra I in grade 8. The panel also recommended that the current Mathematical Process Standards be maintained across all grade levels. For high school, the panel found that the proposed standards do not improve upon the current standards and, in some areas, weaken and detract from the preparation of high school students in mathematics. The panel recommended a complete rewrite of the high school math standards. Missing from the draft standards were the minimum mathematical competencies that all students should have in high school. Mr. Reynolds also explained how the high school math standards do not adequately prepare students for careers. For example, 93 percent of the jobs in the nation require a Level 5 on the WorkKeys.

For the draft English language arts standards, Debbie Barron, ELA Coordinator for Greenville County School District; Dr. Susan Shi, a community member from Greenville; and Josie Stratton an AP/IB English teacher at Wilson High School in Florence addressed the subcommittee. The panel found that the draft ELA standards were insufficient for students and teachers and inferior to the existing standards. They lacked depth, clarity, organization and specificity which drive the rigor of the standards. The standards had no clear progression of learning targets, lacked rigor or alignment to college and career ready expectations and had no consistency in taxonomy. They suggested a complete re-write of the standards. Given the short-time frame of Act 200, the panel recommended starting with the existing standards and moving forward.

The subcommittee members asked follow-up questions of the panel members regarding the taxonomies used in writing the standards as well as what other state standards were consulted.

There being no further business, the Subcommittee adjourned.

SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
Subcommittee on Academic Standards and Assessments

Minutes of the Meeting
December 1, 2014
10:00 AM, Room 433 Blatt Building

Subcommittee Members Present: Dr. Danny Merck (Chair); Mr. Neil Robinson (Vice-Chair); Sen. Mike Fair, Ms. Barbara Hairfield, Sen. Wes Hayes and Ms. Patti Tate

EOC Staff Present: Kevin Andrews, Melanie Barton, Bunnie Ward, Paulette Geiger; Rainey Knight, and Dana Yow

Other EOC Members Present: Ms. Deb Marks and Mr. David Whittemore

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Merck welcomed members and guests to the meeting. He also issued his appreciation to the members of the standards review team, thanking them for the many hours of service to the Committee and to the state.

Minutes of September 22, 2014

The minutes of September 22, 2014 were approved as distributed.

Presentation from Panel that Reviewed Existing and New Draft English language arts and Mathematics Standards

Ms. Barton began by reminding the subcommittee that Act 200 of 2014 required the EOC to review the existing state standards and any draft English language arts and mathematics standards that will form the new South Carolina College and Career Readiness State Standards. Ms. Barton then summarized the results of the fall survey of stakeholders regarding the existing state standards. Approximately 716 individuals completed an online survey between July 11 and September 30 of 2014. Individuals were asked to comment on each of the standards and appendices using open-ended statements. Approximately 60 percent of the respondents were teachers and 20 percent were parents. There were 13,274 individual comments made. A private contractor analyzed the results of the survey and found that 65 percent of the comments recommended keeping the existing standard, 24 percent proposed revising the standard, and 8 percent eliminating the standards. The results were comparable for English language arts and mathematics.

The subcommittee then heard from representatives from the evaluations panels that reviewed the draft standards written by the South Carolina Department of Education Writing panels. There were 50 individuals who served on the panel that met five times from October 2 through November 24. The panel revised the standards based on their: (1) comprehensiveness/balance; (2) rigor; and (3) organization/communication. The panels worked with six expectations of the standards:

AGENDA

Academic Standards & Assessments Subcommittee

Monday, March 2, 2015
1:00 pm
Blatt Building, Room 433

- I. Welcome & Introductions..... Dr. Danny Merck
- II. Action: Approval of Minutes – December 1, 2014
- III. Public Comment on Revised Standards Dr. Merck
Comments will be limited to 5 minutes per person and all those wishing to speak need to arrive prior to 1 PM to sign-in to speak.
- IV. Information Item: Discussion of analyses requested by
EOC Members Dr. Merck
- V. Action Item: Approval of SC College-and Career-Ready Standards and
Addenda in ELA and Mathematics Dr. Merck
- VI. Other Business
- VII. Adjournment

David Whittemore
CHAIR

Daniel B. Merck
VICE CHAIR

Anne H. Bull

Bob Couch

Mike Fair

Raye Felder

Margaret Anne Gaffney

Barbara B. Hairfield

Nikki Haley

R. Wesley Hayes, Jr.

Dwight A. Loftis

Deb Marks

John W. Matthews, Jr.

Joseph H. Neal

Neil C. Robinson, Jr.

Molly Spearman

Patti J. Tate

Academic Standards & Assessments Subcommittee Members:

Dr. Danny Merck, Chairman
Sen. Mike Fair
Mrs. Barbara Hairfield
Sen. Wes Hayes
Mr. Neil Robinson
Mrs. Patti Tate

Melanie D. Barton
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR