Content Standards Revision Process
Idaho State Department of Education

Content Standards: General Background

What are learning standards*?*
Learning standards describe **what** students should know and be able to do at each grade level. In Idaho, as in most states, standards are adopted statewide. Content Standards describe a consistent level of expectation of student learning.

What is Curriculum?
Curriculum is **how** the standards are taught. This includes any resources, texts, and specific instructional units or strategies used in the classroom. In Idaho, curriculum is adopted at the district level, and selecting it is the right and responsibility of each public school district or charter school. Curriculum is how districts reach the goals or expectations of learning set by the standards.

What is the normal cycle of standards review?
The Idaho State Department as a standard operating procedure reviews all learning standards on a rotating 6 year cycle.

Content Standards Review Process

- The Idaho State Department of Education relies on the expertise and collective knowledge of experienced Idaho educators from different regions of the state to consider whether changes, revisions or additions are indicated or needed to existing Idaho Content Standards. Multiple face-to-face sessions are typically conducted in Boise at the Idaho State Department of Education where the team reviews the current standards and considers possible changes that are clearly warranted.

- Proposed changes are then taken to the Idaho State Board of Education for approval at the Board's August meeting. If they are approved, there is an immediate 21 day open public comment period where anyone can weigh in on the proposed revisions. The State Board of Education considers these comments and may choose to modify the original set of revised standards. The Board then can approve or not approve the revised standards.

- If the Board approves the standards a second time in the fall of the year after the public comment period, the revised standards move next to the Idaho Legislature for final approval.

When reviewing the documents on the webpage listed above, proposed changes to specific standards are indicated in the following ways:

- o Blue strikethrough indicates the portion of the original standard which needs to be removed
- o Red Underline indicates language added to the standards