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## **Board holds first public hearing on proposed science standards, adopts new physical education standards**

The South Dakota Board of Education held the first of four public hearings on proposed K-12 science standards earlier today.

A work group of South Dakota science educators, higher education representatives and members of the business community drafted the proposed science standards, incorporating the latest research on student learning. Their recommendations were brought before the board for first consideration. The second public hearing will be held at the state board meeting Nov. 17 in Pierre. The third and fourth public hearings will be held at state board meetings in 2015. The board has not yet determined its 2015 meeting schedule.

The proposed South Dakota science standards provide a foundation for students in grades K-12 to attain knowledge of scientific concepts and engage in the practices of science and engineering. Decisions regarding how those standards are applied to curriculum and instruction are made by local school districts.

“These proposed standards infuse science and engineering practices into physical science, life science, and earth and space science. The goal is for students to not only learn science concepts, but to also apply those concepts through the use of the specific practices,” said Sam Shaw with the South Dakota Department of Education’s Division of Learning and Instruction. “The standards emphasize a continuous progression of knowledge and skills, so that throughout their K-12 education, students keep building on their previous learning.”

The last review of South Dakota’s science standards was conducted in 2005. According to state law, the Board of Education must review academic content standards on a cyclical basis.

To view the proposed science standards, [click here](#).

After conducting the final of four public hearings, the board adopted new physical education standards. [Click here](#) to read them.

The board also held initial public hearings on K-12 fine arts and educational technology standards. [Click here](#) to view the proposed fine arts standards. [Click here](#) to view the proposed educational technology standards.

Public comment on the proposed standards is being accepted in several ways. Visit the [board's webpage](#) to learn more.