FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016
CONTACT: Mary Stadick Smith, South Dakota Department of Education, (605) 773-7228, mary.stadicksmith@state.sd.us or Ruth Raveling, South Dakota Department of Education, (605) 773-2593, ruth.raveling@state.sd.us

Board holds first public hearing on proposed CTE standards

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Education held the first of four public hearings on proposed career and technical education standards in six career clusters earlier today. Proposed standards include Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; Arts, Audio-Video Technology and Communications; Finance; Health Science; Human Services; and Manufacturing.

Standards workgroup members included secondary career and technical education teachers, postsecondary faculty, industry representatives and other stakeholders.

“Workforce needs continually evolve, so it’s vital that our state’s career and technical education standards keep pace,” says Tiffany Sanderson, director of career and technical education for the South Dakota Department of Education. “By reviewing and revising these standards, we help ensure that South Dakota students have access to the most up-to-date hands-on career training possible.”

The proposed standards and links for submitting public comment can be found at http://doe.sd.gov/ContentStandards/review.aspx.

According to state law, the Board of Education must review academic content standards on a cyclical basis. The remaining three hearings on these standards will be held in 2017 at board meetings in Pierre, Rapid City and Aberdeen.

South Dakota recognizes 16 career clusters in career and technical education. During the 2015-16 school year, foundational standards and standards in five career clusters were reviewed and adopted. Six career clusters are being reviewed this school year, and in the 2017-18 school year, content standards in the final five career clusters are scheduled for review. The complete South Dakota Standards Revision and Adoption Timeline is available on the South Dakota Department of Education website.

-30-