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### **Board holds first public hearing on proposed content standards**

ABERDEEN, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Education Standards held the first of four public hearings on academic content standards in several subject areas earlier today. The following proposed standards will receive hearings at locations across the state this school year:

- Capstone courses
- Career and technical education (five career clusters)
- English language arts
- Health education
- Math
- Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings and Standards

“Content standards serve as expectations for what students should know and be able to do,” said Becky Nelson, director of learning and instruction for the South Dakota Department of Education. “They provide a road map for teachers, students and parents, and allow for consistency across the state. They do not dictate how teachers should teach, nor do they mandate a specific curriculum.”

According to state law, the Board of Education Standards must review academic content standards on a cyclical basis. In addition, the board is required to host four public hearings as part of the standards review process. The remaining three hearings on these standards will be held throughout the 2017-18 school year at board meetings in Sioux Falls, Pierre and Rapid City.

The proposed standards were developed by work groups, whose members consisted of K-12 educators, postsecondary representatives, business and industry representatives, and other key stakeholders, including parents.

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

The complete South Dakota Standards Revision and Adoption Timeline is available on the [South Dakota Department of Education website](http://doe.sd.gov).