



UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

David L. Crandall, Chair David L. Thomas, First Vice Chair
Jennifer A. Johnson, Second Vice Chair

Dixie L. Allen Brittney Cummins C. Mark Openshaw
Laura Belnap Linda B. Hansen Spencer F. Stokes
Leslie B. Castle Mark Huntsman Terry L. Warner
Barbara W. Corry Jefferson Moss Joel Wright

Brad C. Smith, Chief Executive Officer
Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Brad C. Smith
Chief Executive Officer

DATE: June 18-19, 2015

ACTION: Standards Format

Background:

The Utah Standards as currently written vary from content area to content area. In May 2015 the Utah State Board of Education requested that the formatting be reviewed and a consistent look be put in place across content areas.

Key Points:

The USOE Teaching and Learning Section staff has met and agreed upon a format that will work for all content areas based on standards and clusters.

Anticipated Action:

The Standards and Assessment Committee will consider approving the new formatting for the standards at the Utah State Office of Education. If approved, the full Board will consider approving.

Contact: Sydnee Dickson, 801-538-7515
Diana Suddreth, 801-538-7739

Core Standards Format



Prepared by the
Utah State Office of Education

June 18-19, 2015

Sydnee Dickson, Deputy Superintendent
sydnee.dickson@schools.utah.gov

Diana Suddreth, Director Teaching and Learning
diana.suddreth@schools.utah.gov

Core Standards Format

Standards define the essential knowledge, concepts, and skills to be mastered at each grade level or within critical content areas. They define what students should know and do to be ready for post-high school jobs and schooling.

English Language Arts
Fine Arts

Health
Mathematics
Physical Education

Science
Social Studies

Standard elements:

- Provide language of demonstrated mastery and performance expectations.
- Capture the practices of the discipline within individual standards.
- Are statements of what students will know and be able to do.

Standards are not:

- A checklist.
- Instructional strategies.
- Essential questions.
- Of equal grain size or importance, even within a content area.

Standards will contain:

- *Introduction* - A short narrative describing the major work of the grade or course.
- *Strand* - Groupings that create a logical framework enabling the creation of connections and learning progressions.
- *Standard* - What every student must know and be able to do (assessment level, performance description).

All other documents that are produced for LEA use in support of standards, such as suggested timelines, core guides, or assessment examples, are optional and will be vetted through a standardized procedures such as that which is used to evaluate instructional materials.