



K-12 STANDARDS

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NEWSLETTER

February 2015

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Standards Public Review Now Open

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) is seeking comment on draft versions of updated. Arizona standards for foreign and native languages and physical education. The draft standards available for review will be used to revise Arizona's current standards. Parents and other education stakeholders across Arizona will be able to comment on the revised standards until March 2, 2015. To encourage as many people as possible to contribute, the Department has established five methods by which feedback may be submitted. Details about these methods are available on the Department's website for both the Foreign and Native Language Standards and the Physical Education Standards.

[Review the Draft of the Foreign and Native Language Standards](#)

In addition to soliciting feedback via an online survey, email, U.S. mail, and fax, the Department will also hold three public webinars for each set of standards. These virtual events will give interested parties an opportunity to share thoughts with Department staff and the rest of the audience. Comments from all sessions will be recorded.

Researchers and Writers

February 26th 8:30-3:30

Students must be able to navigate, comprehend, and organize information confidently if we want them to participate in academic conversations and to create and defend sound arguments in a variety of disciplines and careers.

Problem Solving Saturday!! Implementing Mathematical Tasks in Grades 3-8 that Promote Reasoning and Problem Solving.

February 28th - 8:30-3:30

Join us for a day focused on experiencing and creating quality mathematical tasks in grades 3 through 8. Participants will learn what makes a quality mathematical task, how to determine the cognitive demand of the task, and how to implement the task at the rigor of the standards.

Tim Kanold is coming back to AZ for Administrators! AZCCRS and Mathematics - Leading Beyond the Standards!

March 3rd! 8:30-3:30
What is the Strategic Narrative regarding mathematics professional development, mathematics instruction, and the balanced use of higher level cognitive demand mathematical tasks, in your school or

TheEQIP Rubrics and National Peer Review Panel - Arizona has 5 educators on the panel!

Arizona has been committed to utilizing the EQIP Rubrics to identify high-quality materials aligned to AZCCRS in ELA/Literacy and Mathematics. EQIP standards for Educators Evaluating the Quality of Instructional Products.

Currently Arizona has five educators on the national Peer Review Panel. Achieve is also accepting lessons and units for review at the national level. [Click here](#) for information regarding the submission process.

New Learning Modules that link EQIP and PLC's..

Achieve has just come out with a series of six modules designed to help educators and school leaders integrate the EQIP Rubrics, EQIP Student Work Protocol and the quality review process into the work of Professional Learning Communities (PLC).

The purpose of the e-Learning modules are to develop the learner's knowledge and understanding of the EQIP Quality Review Process, which is designed to increase the ability of educators - and educational leaders - to identify and create quality instructional materials aligned to the Common Core State Standards. Specifically, learners will explore what effective observations and criterion-based feedback look like and experience the process of reviewing instructional materials using the EQIP Quality Review criteria, rating scales, and rating descriptors.

[Click here](#) to access the series of six modules that can be utilized in school/district PLC work with the EQIP Rubrics.

district culture? More...

STEM 101

March 18, 2015 Cost is \$20 per person *This training will provide an overview for K-5th grade teachers of what is STEM teaching and learning and what STEM literacy means for students. More...*

Special Engagement: Using Socratic Seminar to Meet the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards with Diana

Green Level II *A deep analysis of substantive text and works of quality by a group of students /participants facilitated by a teacher or leader. The main goal is for students to build a conceptual understanding of the texts and ideas by asking and answering questions, citing evidence, and conversing with each other in order to make meaning. More...*



TED^x Phoenix
x = independently organized TED event

TEDxPhoenix is back!

TEDxPhoenix 2015: Press Play After a "brief" hiatus, we're excited to announce that we're ready to bring you another incredible event! Continuing off the success of 2011, our lineup for 2015 mixes TED speakers, TED Fellows, and our very own local talent.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 26th as we return to the Mesa Arts Center and celebrate this year's theme "Press Play", a look at what it takes to drown out the noise, ignore the odds, and choose your own adventure.

Tickets go on sale Monday, February 16th, and we have a few surprises for you TEDxers on our mailing list, so make sure to keep an eye on your inbox in the next few days.

For those of you interested in enjoying the view from the other side, we're currently looking for volunteers. [Download the volunteer Form here.](#)

WHAT'S NEW IN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

[Digital Tools: Produce, Publish, Interact and Collaborate in Digital Writing March 2 & April 14 2015.](#) Participants in this workshop will make use of multiple digital tools and integration strategies throughout the Standard 6 of Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards (AZCCRS) states that students need to use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others. In addition, Strand 1 in the Arizona Technology Standards requires students demonstrate their use of digital collaborative tools to produce original works.

What digital tools address these standards and how can these tools be integrated into teaching and learning? Participants in this workshop will make use of multiple digital tools and integration strategies throughout the day that support students when producing and publishing their writing. In addition, participants will share and discuss their own strategies that support teacher integration of technology as a tool for effective instruction.

Participants will:

1. Investigate a variety of digital tools to encourage student collaboration
2. Discover resources to foster creative student publishers
3. Practice a variety of technology integration strategies and tools

Target Audience: 3rd - 8th grade ELA, Social Studies, Science, Math teachers and Exploratory Teachers.

PARTICIPANTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN DEVICE: For the best experience please bring your laptop with the most current version of Chrome, Firefox or Safari. In addition, please make sure you are able to connect to public/secure Wifi hotspots, it also helpful to have enough administrative rights to be able to download, install or update Internet browsers, Java, or other updates.

This month why not spend some time applying for grant money to fund amazing and innovative projects in your classroom. This month [eSchool News](#) has compiled a list of new education grant opportunities.

In addition, through a partnership with [DonorsChoose.org](#) and Google, classrooms could earn \$1,000 or more by helping students complete an online, self-guided coding course. Visit this link for more information: <https://www.khanacademy.org/donors-choose>

Ed. Tech Event of the Month: [Digital Learning Day](#)

Join other educators around the country for the fourth annual Digital Learning Day set for March 13, 2015. Digital Learning Day is a great place to try something new with educational technology and share your experiences with thousands of other educators. Regardless of your comfort level with implementing educational technology, there is something for everyone.

PD SPOTLIGHT

Upcoming Ed. Tech. Productivity Tools in the Classroom and Digital Tools for Digital Learners Webinar Series.

Join us for engaging Webinars that explore a variety of digital tools that support learning and engagement in the classroom. Exploring “how digital tools help us do what we do better”, these two Webinar series bring to the classroom digital tools that are free, easy to use and that can produce immediate benefits in the classroom.

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Educational Technology Professional Development Opportunities

February

2/17 [Productivity Tools Webinar Series: Digital Classroom Collaboration with Lino](#)

2/23 [Productivity Tools Webinar Series: Evernote Part 2](#)

2/26 [Productivity Tools in the classroom Series -Curate the Web with Diigo](#)

March

- 3/2 [Digital Tools: Produce, Publish, Interact and Collaborate in Digital Writing \(Face-Face\)](#)
3/4 [STEM Webinar Series: Inforgraphics in STEM](#)
- 3/10 [Productivity Tools Webinar Series: Digital Classroom Collaboration with Padlet](#)
3/25 [Digital Tools for Digital Learners Webinar Series: SketchUp and Math \(Geometry\)](#)
- April**
- 4/7 [Digital Tools for Digital Learners Webinar Series: SketchUp and Math \(Geometry\)](#)
- 4/14 [Digital Tools: Produce, Publish, Interact and Collaborate in Digital Writing \(Face-Face\)](#)
4/21 [Digital Tools for Digital Learners Webinar Series: SAMR Model in the Classroom](#)
4/2 [Digital Tools: Produce, Publish, Interact and Collaborate in Digital Writing \(Face-Face\)](#)
- June**
- 6/1,2 [Digital Tools: Produce, Publish, Interact and Collaborate in Digital Writing \(Face-Face\)](#)
- July**
7/6,7 [Digital Tools: Produce, Publish, Interact and Collaborate in Digital Writing \(Face-Face\)](#)
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WHAT'S NEW IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

The EQulP Rubrics and National Peer Review Panel - Arizona has 5 educators on the panel! Arizona has been committed to utilizing the EQulP Rubrics to identify high-quality materials aligned to AZCCRS in ELA/Literacy and Mathematics. EQulP (Educators Evaluating the Quality of Instructional Products) is an initiative designed to identify high-quality materials aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Currently Arizona has five educators on the national Peer Review Panel. Achieve is also accepting lessons and units for review at the national level. Click here for information regarding the submission process.

New Learning Modules that link EQulP and PLC's.

Achieve has just come out with a series of six modules designed to help educators and school leaders integrate the EQulP Rubrics, EQulP Student Work Protocol and the quality review process into the work of Professional Learning Communities (PLC).

The purpose of the e-Learning modules are to develop the learner's knowledge and understanding of the EQulP Quality Review Process, which is designed to increase the ability of educators - and educational leaders - to identify and create quality instructional materials aligned to the Common Core State Standards. Specifically, learners will explore what effective observations and criterion-based feedback look like and experience the process of reviewing instructional materials using the EQulP Quality Review criteria, rating scales, and rating descriptors. Click here to access the first e-Learning module.

The Equip and Learning Forward Professional Learning Community Modules

This is a series of six modules designed to help educators and school leaders integrate the EQulP Rubrics, EQulP Student Work Protocol and quality review process into the work of professional learning communities (PLC).

These modules are designed to assist educators in engaging in the rich conversations that are essential to review and continuously improve their own materials and instructional practice. These modules will guide educators through the process of examining instructional materials and student work to ensure quality and alignment to the CCSS. Click here to access The Equip and Learning forward Professional Learning Community Modules.

Read on Arizona

Read On Arizona is a statewide, public/private partnership of agencies, philanthropic organizations, and community stakeholders committed to creating an effective continuum of services to improve language and literacy outcomes for Arizona's children from birth through age eight. They have two new resources: [Developing a Thriving Reader From the Early Years: A Continuum of Effective Literacy Practices and Building Blocks to Become a Reader.](#)

PD SPOTLIGHTS

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[Academic and Argument Writing: Entering the Conversation - Grades 6-12](#)

Academic and Argument Writing: Entering the Conversation - Grades 6-12 will address the challenges of effective writing instruction required by the Arizona Standards. This training will utilize some of the approaches found in ***They Say, I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing*** by Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein. Each participant will also receive a copy of the book.

[K-2 Writing Foundations - Arizona College and Career Ready Standards Implementation](#)

This professional development focuses on evidence based practices for foundational writing instruction (handwriting, spelling and sentence construction) in K-2 classrooms. This training is based on the work of numerous researchers, and the text, ***Best Practices in Writing Instruction*** edited by Steve Graham, Charles A. MacArthur, and Jill Fitzgerald, which all participants will receive. Research, assessment of student skills, and best practice and instructional strategies for immediate use in classrooms will be included. Writing opinion as outlined in K-2 standards will be addressed as well as technology in writing instruction.

[Creating a Culture of Achievement with Doug Fisher](#)

The culture of your school should be tangible as you enter the front door of the building. But what does that look and feel like? Is it apparent in your school or district? School improvement efforts must focus on more than just academic goals. The things that make or break your learning community are the intangibles--the relationships and connections that make up its culture.

English Language Arts Professional Development Opportunities

February

- 2/12 [Webinar: Instructional Shifts Literacy Practices and Student Outcomes](#)
- 2/17 [Webinar: ELA Review](#)
- 2/18 [Special Engagement: Socratic Seminar Level II](#)
- 2/24 [Special Event: Doug Fisher: Creating a Culture of Achievement](#)
- 2/24 [Close Reading in the Classroom](#)
- 2/25 [Webinar: K-2 Writing Foundations-Overview Part 1 of 4](#)
- 2/26 [Research, Information, and Writing Fluency 4-12](#)

March

- 3/3 [K-2 Writing Foundations](#)
- 3/3 [Academic and Argument Writing: Entering the Conversation 6-12](#)
- 3/11 [Webinar: Close Reading in the Classroom](#)
- 3/17 [Webinar: K-2 Writing Foundations-Handwriting Part 2 of 4](#)
- 3/24 [3-5 Writing Standards Implementation](#)
- 3/26 [Webinar: Academic and Argument Writing 6-12](#)
- 3/26 [Special Engagement: Socratic Seminar Level II](#)
- 3/31 [Webinar: K-2 Writing Foundations-Spelling Part 3 of 4](#)

April

- 4/9 [Webinar: Argument Literacy](#)
- 4/14 [Webinar: K-2 Writing Foundations Sentence Construction Part 4 of 4](#)
- 4/14 [Research, Information, and Writing Fluency 4-12](#)
- 4/16 [Webinar: Research and Information Fluency](#)
- 4/29 [Special Engagement: Socratic Seminar Level I](#)

May

- 5/7 [Webinar: Evaluating Instructional Materials and Aligning them to AZCCRS - PART 1 of 2](#)
- 5/14 [Webinar: Evaluating Instructional Materials and Aligning them to AZCCRS - PART 2 of 2](#)

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WHAT'S NEW IN MATHEMATICS

The AzMERIT calculator guidance was determined with the input of Arizona educators who have reviewed AzMERIT items. Click this link to view the Calculator Guidelines on using calculators. The guidelines were determined to provide appropriate support for students while still measuring a student's mastery of the standards. Online calculators for AzMERIT are available through the AzMERIT portal page. Click here to access the online calculators through the AzMERIT portal- Students and Family Resources. The graphing and scientific calculator can be accessed from this site under the Key Documents located in the right hand column. If you have any questions regarding these tools or any AzMERIT related questions, please do not hesitate to email Assessment at AzMERIT@azed.gov .

AzMERIT - Math reference sheets will not be included - AzMERIT will not have specific grade level reference sheets for mathematics. If a formula is needed, the formula will be embedded within the test item.

Mathematics Professional Development Opportunities

February

- 2/19-3/31 [Learning Through Reading and Writing in Content Areas, K-12 \(2 Days\)](#)
- 2/26 [Writing and Solving Story Problems](#)
- 2/28 [Problem Solving Saturday! Implementing Mathematical Tasks that Promote Reasoning and Problem Solving](#)

March

- 3/2 [Developing Fluency with Multiplication](#)
- 3/19 [Tim Kanold - AZCCRS and Mathematics- Leading with tasks and instruction](#)
- 3/19 [Engaging in Problem Solving in HS Geometry](#)
- 3/23 [AZCCRS Introduction to Shifts and Instruction K-12](#)
- 3/24 [Problem-Solving \(CGI\) for K-2 Teachers \(Day 1\)](#)
- 3/31 [Geometry in Middle School 6-8](#)
- 3/31 [Extending Fluency in K-2 through Understanding Equality & the Equal Sign](#)
- 3/31 [Learning Through Reading and Writing in Content Areas, K-12 \(2 Days\)](#)

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WHAT'S NEW IN SCIENCE

A big question the Science Team at the ADE receives is “What is happening with the standards and how should I plan for next year?”

We currently do not have a timeline for when Arizona’s State Board of Education will consider adopting new science standards. During the 2014-15 and 2015-16 school years, Arizona’s current Science Standard (adopted 2004) will still be in effect. The Science AIMS will be administered Spring 2015 and 2016 for grades 4, 8, and high school biology.

Although Arizona’s science standards aren’t changing for next year, this does not mean that you must continue teaching the way that you did when the standards were first adopted in 2004. We strongly encourage you to begin to shift your instruction to align to the vision of the *Framework for [K-12 Science Education](#)*. This change in instruction involves teaching at the intersection of the three dimensions: science and engineering practices, crosscutting

concepts, and the core disciplinary ideas. Additionally, formative or classroom assessments of students should focus more on the students' abilities to perform at the intersection of these three dimensions, rather than for each dimension in isolation.

As you consider how you will modify your curriculum or instruction, think in terms of how to make better connections for your students. For strategies and tips, [click here](#).

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PD SPOTLIGHTS

[Making Sense of Science Facilitation Academy - Organisms Course \(K-8\) March 30-April 3, 2015 \(5-days\) Presented by WestEd](#)

Making Sense of Science Facilitation Academies follow a training-of-trainer model designed to prepare staff developers, district science leaders, and other teacher educators to effectively lead Making Sense of SCIENCE courses. This course and materials were developed by WestEd with support from the National Science Foundation and the Institute of Education Sciences. The instructors for this course will be WestEd facilitators.

The MSS approach develops teachers' content knowledge, instructional skills, and expertise through inquiry-based science learning, collaborative discussion, and a focus on literacy in science. This facilitation academy will provide you with the MSS Facilitator bundle that includes:

1. *Facilitator Guide* with support materials and detailed procedures that allow staff developers to successfully lead a course
 2. *Teacher Book* with teaching, science, and literacy investigations, along with a follow-up component, Looking at Student Work™, designed to support ongoing professional learning communities, formative assessments for students
 3. *Two CDs* with black line masters of all handouts and charts to support group discussion and sense making, course participation certificates, student work samples, and other materials that can be reproduced for use with teachers.
- [more](#)

Science Professional Development Opportunities

March & April

3/30-4/3 [Making Sense of Science Facilitation Academy - Organisms Course \(5 days\) Presented by WestEd](#)

4/28 [Webinar: Developing Scientific Habits of Mind \(Part 3 of 3-part series on Nature of Science](#)

On-demand [View a recorded Science webinar Presented by ADE](#)

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WHAT'S NEW IN SOCIAL STUDIES

On January 15, 2015 Governor Ducey signed HB 2064 into legislation, amending sections 15-701.01 and 15-763, Arizona

Revised Statutes; relating to school curricula. [View the full text of the legislation.](#)

This legislation directs the State Board of Education to include the requirement for students to pass a civics test in the high school academic graduation standards, beginning in the 2016-17 school year.

Provisions of ARS 15-701.01

1. Requires the State Board of Education to include the high school graduation requirement for students to correctly answer at least 60 out of 100 questions on a test identical to the civics component of the naturalization test used by USCIS. [View the questions.](#)
 - a. The new requirement is effective for the 2016-17 school year.
 - b. Passage of the test is required in order to graduate from high school or obtain a general equivalency diploma.
 - c. The requirement applies to district and charter schools.
2. Allows a school district governing board to determine the manner and method to administer the test.
3. Permits a student who does not pass the test to retake it until he or she passes.

Provisions of ARS 15-763

1. States that students who receive special education are not required to pass the test unless specific conditions are met.

[Arizona National Geographic Bee](#)

March 27, 2015. 9:00 am. ASU-Tempe

Whether you are a competing student, a teacher, a parent or an interested member of the public, we invite you to attend Arizona's State Level event of the National Geographic Bee. Attend the state Bee to see who will go on to compete in the national championship at National Geographic in Washington, D.C. Support students and enjoy a day of exciting academic competition among the grade 4-8 school champions of the state.

Science Professional Development Opportunities

February

2/26

[2nd Annual Civic Learning Conference](#)

Organized by the ADE Civic Engagement Program and Maricopa Community Colleges

On-demand [View a recorded webinar](#)

Presented by ADE

March

External Professional Development and Partnerships

3/7

[Common Sense Economics for Life](#)

External event, sponsored by Arizona Council on Economic Education

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WHAT'S NEW IN S.T.E.M

Looking for helpful resources to support your interdisciplinary STEM planning? Each month we'll highlight a few links that provide you with ideas and information to help strengthen STEM teaching and learning.

[50 Best Blogs for STEM Educators](#) - Remain competitive and maintain awareness of the latest changes, news, discoveries, policies and more in STEM essentials. These blogs provide a quick and easy conduit for connecting with fellow STEMs, both inside and outside the education sector.

[Science and the STEM Classroom](#) - NSTA's monthly content e-newsletter; three issues each month are developed for teachers/administrators at the elementary, middle level, and high school/college levels. *The newsletters* highlight important issues in science education and provide readers with a combination of NSTA's rich, educator-vetted resources that will supplement and enhance teacher content knowledge and illustrate best practices.

[Join the ADE Group on the Arizona STEM Network](#)

Find information and resources from a variety of collaborative groups at the agency all working to promote STEM Literacy in students. After joining the network, you can find the ADE group under Groups - STEM Partners - ADE STEM.

PD SPOTLIGHTS

[STEM Boot Camp](#)

June 1-2, 2015 Cost is \$50 per person (includes book: *STEM Lesson Essentials - Integrating Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics* [Registration link](#))

STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) should not be viewed as curriculum, but rather a way of organizing, integrating, and delivering instruction through an intentional interdisciplinary mindset. There is an increasing need to better understand STEM and provide for more rigorous, relevant and engaging interdisciplinary STEM teaching and learning opportunities. This 2-day "boot camp" will energize and motivate teachers by building background, providing tools and resources with support to successfully implement integrated STEM connections.

Through this engaging, hands-on 2-day STEM Boot Camp participants will:

Develop a foundation for understanding the interdisciplinary nature of STEM teaching and learning. Build their own STEM teaching toolkit based on research and best practices
Create a framework to develop and sustain a STEM learning environment
[Register Here](#)

Science Professional Development Opportunities

March

3/4

[Webinar: Using Inforgraphics in STEM](#)

3/18 [STEM 101 \(Grades K-5\)](#)
3/24 Webinar: STEM Learning using the 5E Instructional Model
6/1-2 [STEM Boot Camp](#)

On-demand [View a recorded STEM webinar Presented by ADE](#)

February External Professional Development and Partnerships

2/21 STEM Un-conference
Organized by the STEM AZ Education Collaborative (ASTA, AATM, AzTEA) Keynote by Dr. Jo Ann Vasquez

Save the Date!

1/21-23/2016 21st Century STEM - Integrating to Innovate
National STEM Conference, organized by Science Foundation Arizona, ADE and the STEM AZ Education Collaborative (ASTA, AATM, AzTEA)

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K-12 Academic Standards // 1535 W. Jefferson Bin #5 Phoenix, AZ 85007 //