



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Elizabeth Jones, Director
Office of Assessment

Dr. Briana Timmerman, Director
Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations

DATE: May 30, 2014

RE: *2014 South Carolina Academic Standards and Performance Indicators for Science*

With the exception of one High School Biology standard (H.B.5), the *2014 South Carolina Academic Standards and Performance Indicators for Science* as posted on the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) [website](#) were approved for implementation by the State Board of Education (SBE) on January 8, 2014 and by the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) on February 10, 2014. The 2005 standard for high school biology (B-5) will remain in effect until further notice. Support document materials for the 2005 standard will remain available on the SCDE website.

SCDE staff members, in collaboration with selected district instructional personnel, are in the process of developing support documents for the 2014 standards that will aid local districts and schools in making curricular and instructional decisions.

During the 2014-15 school year, the SCDE will offer professional development sessions to assist districts with the implementation of the 2014 standards. Professional development will continue through the 2015-16 school year. Full implementation and assessment of the *2014 South Carolina Academic Standards and Performance Indicators for Science* is scheduled for the 2016-17 school year. Teachers and schools are encouraged to begin incorporating new areas in their grade bands and science and engineering practices beginning with the 2014-15 school year, to allow time for teachers to gain expertise prior to those areas being assessed. An assessment timeline that districts may use to plan instruction in preparation for statewide assessments is shown in the chart on page 2.

Science Assessment Timeline Fall 2014 – Summer 2017

| Administration Date | Tests | Standards Assessed on Operational Test | Field-Test (Y/N) |
|----------------------------|----------------|---|------------------------------|
| Fall/Winter 2014/2015 | EOCEP Biology | 2005 | No |
| Spring 2015 | EOCEP Biology | 2005 | Yes-overlapping content only |
| | SCPASS Science | 2005 | No |
| Summer 2015 | EOCEP Biology | 2005 | No |
| Fall/Winter 2015/2016 | EOCEP Biology | 2005 | No |
| Spring 2016 | EOCEP Biology | 2005 | Yes |
| | SCPASS Science | 2005 | Yes |
| Summer 2016 | EOCEP Biology | 2005 | No |
| Fall/Winter 2016/2017 | EOCEP Biology | 2014 | No |
| Spring 2017 | EOCEP Biology | 2014 | Yes |
| | SCPASS Science | 2014 | Yes |
| Summer 2017 | EOCEP Biology | 2014 | No |

Should you have questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact Amelia Brailsford at (803) 734-0163; Dr. Kirsten Hural (803) 734-5981; Dr. Regina Wragg (803) 734-0564; or Dr. Deanna Boyd (803) 734-8537. As always, thank you for your continued support of science education in South Carolina.