

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – TOPIC SUMMARY

Topic: Review and Revision of State Instructional Materials Adoption Process

Date: January 23-24, 2014

Staff/Office: Kim Patterson, Mark Freed, ISAA Unit

Action Requested: Informational Only Adoption Later Adoption Adoption/Consent Agenda

ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD: Review and revise instructional materials adoption process in statute and administrative rules to remove unnecessary regulations and enact supportive policies.

BACKGROUND:

Significant changes have occurred with Oregon academic standards and assessment over the past four years which require new materials and resources to support. However, Oregon instructional material laws (ORS 337 & OAR 581 Division 11) have not changed significantly for decades and needs to be reviewed and updated to meet the needs of Oregon educators.

Rationale for need to change our current Oregon state adoption process:

- The current state adoption process requires publishers to pay for their materials to be reviewed, which creates an expensive process that may:
 - Preclude smaller publishers from engaging in the review process or
 - Preclude some publishers from submitting all available materials
- Currently, the state can only review “basal” materials that are paid by the publisher to be reviewed on a seven year cycle, which would preclude the review of:
 - Supplemental materials (digital and/or print)
 - Intervention programs
 - Open Educational Resources (OER)
 - New materials developed between review cycles
- National reports, such as “*Choosing Blindly*” by the Brookings Institution¹, and “*Out of Print*” by State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA)², strongly recommend states update their curricular review policies to keep up with changes in instructional materials
- Effectiveness research of curricular materials is limited, but there is evidence that selection of materials can effect student achievement as much as a high quality teacher in math
 - A thorough review of materials that results in identifying high quality curricula could potentially lead to significant gains in student achievement

Key considerations guiding the start of this project:

- A new process needs to include the review of digital and/or open educational materials on an adaptive review cycle
- A new process needs to minimize and/or remove barriers to publishers to encourage maximum participation of material submissions.
- A new process needs to address how materials could be leveraged from schools, districts, and states developed both within and outside the state of Oregon.
- A new process needs to review materials that are both traditionally priced as well as newer purchasing arrangements such as subscriptions that would allow access to updated materials.
- A new process needs to help identify high quality basal, supplemental, and open source formats, which would include establishing relevant review criteria for Oregon districts.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

- Authorize ODE staff to convene regional and statewide workgroups to provide feedback and draft revisions of Oregon instructional materials statutes to be presented in the 2015 legislative session.

Citations

¹Chingos, M. M., & Whitehurst, G. J. (2012). *Choosing Blindly: Instructional Materials, Teacher Effectiveness, and the Common Core*. Washington, DC: The Brown Center on Educational Policy at Brookings.

²Fletcher, G., Schaffhauser, D., & Levin, D. (2012). *Out of Print: Reimagining the K-12 Textbook in a Digital Age*. Washington, DC: State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA).