



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DATE: February 24, 2023

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: **Development and Revision of the 2018 *Science Standards of Learning***

At its February 2, 2023, meeting, the State Board of Education (Board) authorized the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) to proceed with the development and revision process of the 2018 *Science Standards of Learning* consistent with the schedule adopted by the Board. It is anticipated that the standards revision will be completed by December 2025. The Projected Timeline for the Development and Revision of the *Science Standards of Learning* is included as **Attachment A**.

The first year of the Projected Timeline for the Development and Revision of the *Science Standards of Learning* will focus on the development of Standards of Learning (SOL) and Curriculum Frameworks for the 11 courses indicated above. These courses include:

- Biology II: Anatomy and Physiology
- Biology II: Ecology
- Biology II: Genetics
- Biology II: Advanced Survey of Biology Topics
- Chemistry II
- Earth Science II: Astronomy
- Earth Science II: Geology
- Earth Science II: Oceanography
- Earth Science II: Advanced Survey of Earth Science Topics
- Environmental Science
- Physics II

The first step in the standards revision process is to establish a Science Standards Development Committee made up of educators who will contribute to the development of standards content. The VDOE is **seeking K-12 public school educators who are qualified and available to serve**

on the Standards Development Committee which will meet during the summer of 2023. Applicants may include teachers, principals, administrators, content specialists, or others who have expertise with the content areas and the standards. Educators who wish to serve on the Standards Development Committee to develop the *Science Standards of Learning* for the 11 courses must submit an application through the [application platform](#) by **Friday, April 21, 2023**. Committee members will be selected based on expertise, experience, and balanced regional representation.

In addition to the Standards Development Committee, stakeholder input and public feedback are critical components of the *Science Standards of Learning* Development and Revision process. Opportunities for stakeholder input and public comment on the 2018 *Science Standards of Learning* and *Curriculum Framework* will be available throughout the development and review process. Further information will be provided in a future Superintendent's Memo to announce stakeholder input and public comment opportunities, as well as to initiate the next step in the standards revision process by opening the application process for the Standards Revision Committee. The revision process for the 2018 *Science Standards of Learning* will begin in November 2023.

For questions regarding the Science Standards Development and Revision Committees and timeline, please contact Anne Petersen, Science Coordinator, at (804) 225-2676 or Anne.Petersen@doe.virginia.gov.

JB/BA/ap

Attachment:

- A. [Timeline for the Review and Revision of the Science Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework Documents](#) (Word)