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Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

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BULLETIN NO. 035-26 TEACHING, LEARNING, AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Business Managers
School District Curriculum Directors
School District Principals

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Initial Adoption of Washington State K–12 Learning Standards for Science, Public
Comment on the K–12 Learning Standards for Physical Education, and Educator
Surveys for K–12 Learning Standards for Educational Technology and Computer
Science

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PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

Learning standards define what all students need to know and be able to do at each grade level. As required by state law ([RCW 28A.655.070](#)), the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) develops and periodically revises the state's learning standards based on the goal for districts in the Basic Education Act ([RCW 28A.150.210](#)). This bulletin provides updated information to previous notifications regarding the learning standards revision process, most recently Bulletin No. [026-26](#). The goal of the revision project is to establish a regular and predictable review process, simplify standards for better understanding and alignment, and update content as needed. Since the initial creation of state learning standards in the 1990s, these updates reflect advances in research and technology, emerging content, and modern context.

The [timeline for the review and revision cycle for all the Washington State K–12 Learning Standards is available on OSPI's website](#).

INITIAL ADOPTION OF LEARNING STANDARDS FOR SCIENCE

The Washington State K–12 Learning Standards for Science (WA Science 2026) define what students should know and be able to do in science. The standards have been revised for clarity, prioritization, and inclusivity. While remaining firmly grounded in the Framework for K–12 Science Education and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), the revisions strengthen support for learning experiences that engage students in making sense of phenomena, applying science and engineering practices, and connecting learning to the world around them.

The Learning Standards for Science are in the initial adoption phase of the learning standards revision process, and the [updated standards have been published to OSPI's website](#). School districts and teachers can begin implementation efforts for the initial standards at their own pace and are encouraged to provide feedback and revision suggestions based on district and classroom use. During the initial adoption phase, feedback can be provided to OSPI via the Initial Adoption Science Feedback [Survey](#). The feedback collected during this phase will be used to inform additional revisions prior to final adoption. Feedback will also be used to inform state technical support and implementation guidance. The initial adoption survey will be available from October 15–December 13, 2026.

OSPI's primary focus will be assisting school district transition and implementation efforts through technical support, professional learning, and high-quality resources.

Final adoption of WA Science 2026 is expected before June 2027. Once adopted in final form, school districts will have the full 2027–28 school year to begin using and implementing the learning standards before the standards are required to be taught in the 2028–29 school year.

Learning Standards Documents and Resources

As part of the initial adoption of WA Science 2026, the following files will be available on the [Learning Standards Review webpage](#):

- A document with the K–12 Learning Standards for Science in grade level order, available as a Word document and as a PDF.
- A brief handout describing the overarching changes in the standards, *What's New in the K–12 Learning Standards for Science*.
- A document detailing the key science learning experiences that students should have throughout their education, *Key Experiences with the K–12 Learning Standards for Science*.
- An Excel Workbook of the K–12 Learning Standards for Science with multiple tabs. The workbook includes a tab with all K–12 standards in grade band order, sortable by standard and grade level; a tab with a crosswalk to the previous Science standards; and a

glossary. The workbook also includes space for future connections with other content standards that will be published as they become available.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON K–12 LEARNING STANDARDS FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The latest draft of the Washington State K–12 Learning Standards for Physical Education (WA PE 2026) will be available for public comment from October 15–December 13, 2026. Public comment will be available through an online [survey](#). Please share the survey link with educators and communities. The survey link is available on the [Washington State Learning Standards Review webpage](#).

Documents for public comment regarding the learning standards for physical education are available on the [Washington State Learning Standards Review webpage](#):

- An Excel workbook with the draft K–12 Learning Standards for Physical Education with a crosswalk to the previous standards.
- A document with the draft K–12 Learning Standards for Physical Education in grade band order, available as a Word document and as a PDF.
- A brief handout with the overarching changes in the standards, *Summary of Changes to Standards for Physical Education*.

EDUCATOR SURVEY FOR THE K–12 LEARNING STANDARDS FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

In 2026, OSPI is beginning the review and revision process for both the Washington State K–12 Learning Standards for Educational Technology and Computer Science. Educator input is needed on the current standards to help support the review and revision process. Information will be collected online through a survey and used to determine needs and next steps. The separate links for [Educational Technology](#) and [Computer Science](#) are here. Please share the survey links with educators that use the educational technology and/or the computer science standards. The surveys will be available on the [Washington State Learning Standards Review webpage](#) from October 15–December 13, 2026.

For additional information about updates to the Learning Standards Project, including timelines and opportunities for educator feedback, please visit the [Learning Standards Review webpage](#).

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Angela Allen, Executive Director of Educator Effectiveness, at 564-233-9627, or Kara Todd, Special Projects and Assessment Coordinator, at 360-725-4979, or email standards.review@k12.wa.us. The OSPI [Telecommunication Relay Services](#) number is 711 or 1-800-833-6384.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website.

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