

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 23, 2022

TO: MEMBERS, State Board of Education

FROM: TONY THURMOND, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Update on the Revision of the *Mathematics Framework*

Summary of Key Issues

The Curriculum Framework Update Process

California *Education Code (EC)* Section 60200 requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to review and adopt curriculum frameworks and evaluation criteria for the adoption of instructional materials. *EC* Section 60204 establishes the role of the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) in recommending frameworks to the SBE. The specific steps in the framework development process are stipulated in the *California Code of Regulations*, Title 5, sections 9510–9516.

The process begins with a series of four focus groups of educators to solicit input on the existing framework and suggest revisions. The focus group report becomes the basis of a set of guidelines for the framework revision that are recommended by the IQC and adopted by the SBE. The guidelines outline the general objectives for the framework, the explicit progressions and skills it should address, the grade-level content to be included, an emphasis on access and equity throughout, and statutory requirements.

The California Department of Education (CDE) then contracts with a primary writer or writers for assistance in developing drafts of the frameworks. The IQC also recommends a project timeline and an application for the Curriculum Framework and Evaluation Criteria Committee (CFCC), a body that is convened to assist in the drafting of the revised curriculum framework and evaluation criteria. The regulations stipulate that the CFCC must include a majority of classroom teachers and at least one content expert with an advanced degree in the subject area under consideration. The work of the CFCC is directed by the guidelines informed by focus groups and adopted by the SBE.

For the *Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools (Mathematics Framework)*, the CFCC held eight meetings, a combination of virtual and in person, before recommending the draft to the IQC in December 2020. The IQC approved the draft for a 60-day public review and comment period, as specified in the regulations.

That comment period was held from February 2, 2021, to April 8, 2021. The IQC met on May 19–20, 2021, to review the public comment and considered edits aligned to the SBE-approved guidance posted at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ma/cf/mathfwfccguidelines.asp>. After proposing its edits, the IQC recommended the framework to the SBE. Public comment was heard at all of the public meetings referenced above.

Summary of Public Comment

The draft *Mathematics Framework* that reflects the first public comment period that took place in 2021 is currently posted at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ma/cf/>. Notice of the second field review was sent to all county and district superintendents and charter school administrators, Learning Resource Display Centers, and subscribers to the Mathematics Framework Revision listserv in February 2022.

The CDE received a total of 905 public comments during the second public review period. These comments range from support for modernizing math instructional guidance to criticism of some of the broader concepts, such as ideas about mathematical content and course structures introduced in the draft. Some of the comments were quite detailed and raised issues that will require further review. Critical comments tended to focus on guidance for grades 7–12 and included questions and suggestions for changes to how the framework addresses high school course pathways; support for high-achieving learners; options for high school math courses, including data science; and the approach to student engagement through culturally relevant pedagogy that emphasizes social justice.

The CDE also received comments that supported the framework's approach and comments that suggested clarifying edits or minor grammatical/typographical corrections. Supportive comments included acknowledging the improvements in the 2022 draft, support for the framework's focus on deeper learning and understanding of mathematics, and support for the framework's emphasis on equity and the belief that everyone has the ability to achieve in mathematics.

Next Steps

Upon careful review of all comments from the second field review period, the CDE will provide a listing of all comments and recommended edits to the SBE for consideration before final action is requested to approve the *Mathematics Framework*.

In light of the significant amount of feedback received in the second round of public comment, the CDE will present an item to the SBE in July 2022 to revise the Schedule of Significant Events to move the current final action date from July 2022 to a future date, likely in the winter of 2022–23.

Attachment(s)

None.