

Summary of Changes

2020 K-12 Educational Technology Standards and Grade-Level Outcomes

The important work of the educational technology standards and grade-level outcomes revision included research of the current International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) student standards and outcomes, as well as other states' educational technology standards, exploration of the 2015 adopted standards, debate, collaboration, vertical alignment, and consensus about standards to ensure the newly proposed standards best serve all students in South Dakota.

As participants started this process in May 2020, they took time to reflect upon the goal of educational technology in South Dakota, as well as the six strands of the K-12 educational technology standards. In this conversation, workgroup participants felt strongly that it was important for the standards, grade-level outcomes and goals of educational technology to focus more on the seven strands listed in the ISTE standards rather than the six that were previously incorporated into the SD state standards. These strands, while similar, focus not only on digital citizenship, but also on collaboration, communication, innovation, and computation. The strands the workgroup proposed are as follows: Empowered Learner, Digital Citizen, Knowledge Constructor, Innovative Designer, Computational Thinker, Creative Communicator and Global Collaborator. While many of the strands are similar to the 2015 strands, there is the addition of a focus on global collaboration to increase the collaboration skills of 21st Century Learners. The workgroup decided to use the strands and standards from ISTE (with some modifications to make them applicable), but wrote the grade level outcomes to reflect the needs of all South Dakota students.

To allow teachers more choice in how the standards are implemented in their own classrooms, with their students, specific programs such as Code.org, CodeHS and other Educational Technology applications were used to identify outcomes, but specific programs are not identified in the standards.

The theme and goal of this initial conversation continued as teachers worked in grade-level band (K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and High School) groups to revise specific grade-level outcomes aligned to each of the seven standards.

Justification for Making Revisions

1. Identifies/adds key knowledge and skills students should demonstrate by the end of the year.
2. Connects learning/outcomes within grade and/or across grade levels.
3. Clarifies language or removes ambiguous or vague language
4. Updated the depth of knowledge for each outcome rather than only the standard
5. Connects South Dakota standards to National Standards but outcomes are aligned for South Dakota students.