

CHAPTER 68

AN ACT concerning the core curriculum content standards and supplementing chapter 7F of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

C.18A:7F-4.1 Findings, declarations relative to core curriculum content standards and cross-content workplace readiness standards.

1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

a. the five cross-content workplace readiness standards, which are a part of the core curriculum content standards, apply to all areas of instruction and are concepts which are designed to be integrated by teachers into all programs in content-specific and grade-appropriate ways;

b. one of the cross-content workplace readiness standards is the requirement that all students use technology;

c. with the growing importance of technology to our society, it is vital that students receive an education that emphasizes technological literacy;

d. rather than being one component of the cross-content workplace readiness standards, technology, given its importance in our knowledge-based economy, should rightfully be one of the core fields of study in school, along with mathematics, science, social studies, world languages, visual and performing arts, comprehensive health and physical education and language arts/literacy that currently comprise the core curriculum content areas.

C.18A:7F-4.2 Adoption of core curriculum content standards for technology.

2. a. Within one year of the effective date of this act, the State Board of Education shall adopt core curriculum content standards in the area of technology.

b. The State board shall convene a committee comprised of educators, business persons, information technology professionals, parents and Department of Education personnel to develop a set of core curriculum content standards in the area of technology. In developing the standards the committee shall review the Standards for Technological Literacy set forth by the International Technology Education Association, other states' standards and any other information deemed relevant by the committee. The committee shall engage experts to review the standards it develops.

c. Prior to adopting the core curriculum content standards in the area of technology, the State board shall conduct at least one public hearing in the northern part of the State, at least one public hearing in the central part of the State, and at least one public hearing in the southern part of the State for the purpose of permitting the public to comment on the rigor, clarity and reasonableness of the standards developed by the committee.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved May 5, 2003.