

**Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on Instruction
Thursday, January 29, 2026**

The State Board of Education Committee on Instruction met at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 29, 2026, in room, #2.029 of the Barbara Jordan Building, 1601 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas.

Present: Audrey Young, chair; Evelyn Brooks, vice chair; Rebecca Bell-Metereau; Pam Little; and Gustavo Reveles

Items were discussed in the following order: 2, 3, 1, 4, 5, 6, 7

DISCUSSION ITEM

- 1. Discussion of Review of 19 TAC Chapter 89, Adaptations for Special Populations**
(Board agenda page II-1)

Kristin McGuire, Deputy Commissioner, Special Populations and Student Supports reported that there is a four-year rule review cycle for all state agency rules, including State Board of Education (SBOE) rules. This item presents the review of 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 89, Adaptations for Special Populations. The rules being reviewed relate to gifted/talented education, Texas certificate of high school equivalency, and special education services and settings.

ACTION ITEM

- 2. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter C, Other Provisions, §74.27, Innovative Courses and Programs**
(First Reading and Filing Authorization)
(Board agenda page II-4)

Members of the public provided testimony.

Shannon Trejo, Deputy Commissioner, School Programs, and Monica Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Standards and Programs, reported that the proposed amendment would update the process for review and approval of proposed innovative courses and sunset of existing courses and would update requirements for implementation of approved innovative courses.

MOTION: *It was moved by Member Little that the Committee on Instruction recommend that the State Board of Education:*

Approve for first reading and filing authorization the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter C, Other Provisions, §74.27, Innovative Courses and Programs.

The motion was adopted as amended. The amended language is attached to these minutes.

SEE ATTACHMENT COI 1

DISCUSSION ITEM

3. **Discussion of Innovative Course Sunset List Innovative Course Sunset List**
(Board agenda page II-9)

Ms. Martinez discussed the potential sunset of innovative courses that meet certain criteria established in 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §74.27, Innovative Courses and Programs, explaining the items on the list, and the possible outcomes for each course.

ACTION ITEM

4. **Proposed Repeal of 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter A, Required Curriculum, §74.4, English Language Proficiency Standards (First Reading and Filing Authorization)**
(Board agenda page II-11)

Jessica Snyder, Senior Division Director, Curriculum Standards and Student Support, noted that the proposed repeal would remove the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) for Kindergarten-Grade 12 in §74.4 that will be superseded by 19 TAC §120.20, English Language Proficiency Standards, Kindergarten-Grade 3, Adopted 2024, and §120.21, English Language Proficiency Standards, Grades 4-12, Adopted 2024, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

MOTION: *It was moved by Member Little that the Committee on Instruction recommend that the State Board of Education:*

Suspend the board operating procedures in accordance with §5.2(a) to allow consideration at first reading and filing authorization; and

Approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed repeal of 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter A, Required Curriculum, §74.4, English Language Proficiency Standards.

The motion was adopted.

5. **Approval of Updates and Substitutions to Adopted or Approved Instructional Materials**
(Board agenda page II-15)

Amie Phillips, Deputy Director, Instructional Materials Review and Approval, and Colin Dempsey, Senior Division Director, District Operations, Technology, and Sustainability Supports, presented the opportunity for the Board to approve update and/or substitution requests received for State Board of Education (SBOE)-adopted or approved products. The updated content has been posted for public review. Update requests were received from Agile Mind, Inc. for their mathematics materials approved in IMRA Cycle 2024; OpenStax, Rice University, for their mathematics materials approved in IMRA Cycle 2024; Really Great Reading Company for their phonics materials approved in IMRA Cycle 2025; and the Texas Education Agency, Bluebonnet Learning, for their reading language arts and mathematics materials approved in IMRA Cycles 2024 and 2025.

MOTION TO BE CONSIDERED: *It was moved by Member ___ that the Committee on Instruction recommend that the State Board of Education:*

Approve requests to update content previously approved through the IMRA process from:

- *Agile Mind, Inc. to update content in their Texas Algebra I and Texas Algebra II materials;*
- *Just Right Reader, Inc., in their Decodables Plus de Tercer Grado materials for grade 3 Spanish phonics materials;*
- *OpenStax, Rice University in their Algebra I materials;*
- *Really Great Reading Company in their K–2 phonics materials, Countdown Texas Edition, Blast Foundations Texas Edition, and HD Word Texas Edition; and*
- *The Texas Education Agency in their materials for Bluebonnet Learning Secondary Mathematics for grades 6–8, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and grade 6 Spanish mathematics, Bluebonnet Learning Mathematics for grades K–5 English and Spanish mathematics, and Bluebonnet Learning Reading Language Arts for grades K–5 English and Spanish language arts and reading;*

with the requirement that all approved changes be reflected in the digital formats of the materials within 30 days of approval by the SBOE, and that identical updates to print formats be incorporated into the publisher’s or manufacturer’s next press run.

The motion was adopted.

6. Proposed Amendment to Instructional Materials Contract Between the Texas State Board of Education and William Marsh Rice University (Db a OpenStax)
(Board agenda page II-17)

Ms. Phillips and Mr. Dempsey presented the opportunity for the Board to approve an amendment to the instructional materials contract with William Marsh Rice University (doing business as OpenStax). The amendment would permit the publisher to sell a print version of its previously reviewed and approved digital Algebra I program from IMRA Cycle 2024. Current contract terms and rules prohibit publishers from offering new formats at prices exceeding those in the original agreement.

MOTION: *It was moved by Member Little that the Committee on Instruction recommend that the State Board of Education:*

Approve an amendment to Attachment A in the instructional materials contract with William Marsh Rice University, doing business as OpenStax, to add a printed format of the Algebra I program approved in IMRA Cycle 2024.

The motion was adopted.

7. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter B, Graduation Requirements, §74.14, Performance Acknowledgments (First Reading and Filing Authorization)
(Board agenda page II-19)

Members of the public provided testimony.

Monica Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Standards and Programs, presented a proposed amendment to 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter B, Graduation Requirements, §74.14, Performance Acknowledgments. The proposed

amendment would align language related to ACT with language related to SAT and add the Classic Learning Test® to appropriate performance acknowledgments.

MOTION: *It was moved by Member Little that the Committee on Instruction recommend that the State Board of Education:*

Approve for first reading and filing authorization the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter B, Graduation Requirements, §74.14, Performance Acknowledgments.

The motion was adopted as amended 9-2. The amended language is attached to these minutes.

SEE ATTACHMENT COI 2

Chairman Young adjourned the meeting at 12:05 pm.

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