

California Department of Education

Executive Office

SBE-003 (REV. 11/2017)

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# California State Board of Education May 2021 Agenda Item #02

## Subject

Distance Learning Curriculum and Instructional Guidance Project: Presentation of Draft Guidance for Adoption.

## Type of Action

Action, Information.

## Summary of the Issue(s)

Section 121 of Senate Bill (SB) 98, Chapter 24, Statutes of 2020 directs the Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools/Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) to develop draft distance learning curriculum and instructional guidance for mathematics, English language arts (ELA), and English language development (ELD) to be considered for adoption by the State Board of Education (SBE) by May 31, 2021. Seven hundred fifty thousand dollars ($750,000) was appropriated from the General Fund to the California Department of Education (CDE) for this purpose.

SCOE will present an overview of the process and content of the draft Distance Learning Curriculum and Instructional Guidance Project (DLGP) to the SBE.

## Recommendation

The CDE recommends that the SBE take the following action: adopt the draft DLGP document, including a proposed title change for the document to *California Digital Learning Integration and Standards Guidance*. The CDE also recommends that the SBE delegate authority to the SBE Executive Director to make any edits needed to ensure alignment with the final draft of the 2021 Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, and to CDE staff to make any necessary revisions as the document is professionally edited and the content prepared and maintained for posting online.

## Brief History of Key Issues

The purpose of the DLGP, as stated in SB 98, is to develop draft distance learning curriculum and instructional guidance for mathematics, ELA, and ELD. This guidance includes a framework for addressing critical standards, guidance and resources for formative and diagnostic assessment, guidance on recommended aggregate time for instruction and independent work by grade span, and guidance on embedding social-emotional supports for pupils into distance learning curricula. The final document will be available to the public after SBE action in May 2021.

Beginning in July 2020, SCOE, CDE, and SBE staff established regular communication about the DLGP through bi-weekly meetings with additional meetings scheduled as needed.

Throughout September 2020, the SCOE conducted extensive outreach to stakeholders to inform the DLGP. These stakeholders included county offices of education, local educational agencies (LEAs), and experts in the areas specified in subdivision (c) of SB 98, such as the California Subject Matter Projects, the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), and Computer-Using Educators (CUE).

Following the initial stakeholder outreach efforts, the SCOE assembled a team of writers from several organizations and individuals with expertise in the content to be covered by the DLGP. ISTE, with expertise in educational technology, was secured as a lead partner and author. They prepared a literature review to inform the content of the DLGP. In addition, a small team of highly respected content-area experts was identified to author the ELA, ELD, and mathematics sections of the DLGP.

In October 2020, the SCOE formed an advisory committee which included leadership from ISTE, CUE, CDE, and SBE staff, as well as representatives from other entities including:

* El Dorado County Office of Education
* Imperial County Office of Education
* Kern County Office of Education
* San Bernardino County Office of Education
* San Diego County Office of Education
* Madera Unified School District
* Modesto City Schools
* California Teachers Association
* California Federation of Teachers
* California Charter Schools Association
* California State Parent Teacher Association
* Policy Analysis for California Education
* The Education Trust–West
* Californians Together

The advisory committee provided input on multiple iterations of the project outline from the inception of the project through January 2021, when the SCOE team presented an overview of the DLGP to the SBE to provide information on the scope and purpose of the project. The CDE then provided a more detailed outline of the DLGP in an SBE information memoranda in February 2021.

A draft of the DLGP content was ready for review by the end of January 2021. The Advisory Committee met to review the first draft while the CDE simultaneously conducted an internal review of the draft. The SCOE also received input from the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association’s Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee (CISC). Selected members of CISC’s subcommittees for mathematics and English language arts provided input on the draft document. The SCOE team, CDE, and SBE staff met to review all feedback, which was then used to inform revisions to produce a final draft (Attachment 1).

In March 2021, the SCOE team worked to obtain additional input from families and students via surveys and focus groups. The SCOE tapped CUE, and convened members of Californians for Justice, a “statewide youth-powered organization” focused on improving the lives of marginalized communities, and Families in Schools, an organization focused on greater parent and community involvement in schools, to gather input and gain additional insight on the impact that learning through technology is having on students and families.

The final draft includes a title change to *California Digital Learning Integration and Standards Guidance*. The name change is intended to reflect standards guidance and critical areas of instructional focus included in the document. This guidance is intended to support learning in a distance learning environment, hybrid learning environment, or when educators are using technology for instruction in a face-to-face learning environment.

## Next Steps

Once adopted, a web version of the *California Digital Learning Integration and Standards Guidance* will be posted on the CDE Distance Learning web page so that LEAs may access this resource. ISTE is also designing an enhanced multimedia format for the online publication to be available in the fall of 2021, when LEAs may be seeking to revisit the guidance. CUE, as a key liaison to California educators, has been working to support this effort by helping to identify teachers for vignettes as well as the digital tools that are included in Appendix B of Attachment A. Going forward, CUE will be assisting with ISTE’s media production and with promoting the *California Digital Learning Integration and Standards Guidance* with California educators.

## Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action

**January 13, 2021:** The SBE received a Distance Learning Curriculum and Instructional Guidance Project Update (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/ag/ag/yr21/documents/jan21item02.docx>).

**February 18, 2021:** The SBE received a Distance Learning Curriculum and Instructional Guidance Project memoranda with an outline of DLGP content (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/pn/im/documents/feb21memocfird01.docx>).

**Attachment(s)**

**Attachment 1:** California Digital Learning Integration Guide (541 pages)