

**OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**May 17-18, 2012**

**OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION**

35. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To allow a Carnegie unit earned for STEM in the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade be accepted in lieu of the graduation requirement for one Carnegie unit in Computer Discovery

On April 18, 2012, the Commission on School Accreditation approved the request from the Office of Career and Technical Education to allow a Carnegie unit earned for STEM in the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade be accepted in lieu of the graduation requirement for one Carnegie unit in Computer Discovery.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

**Proposal from the Office of Career and Technical Education  
 Graduation Requirements: STEM in lieu of Computer Discovery  
 Approved by the Commission on School Accreditation April 18, 2012**

**The Office of Career and Technical Education requests that the one Carnegie unit earned for STEM also be accepted as one alternative for earning the computer discovery credit necessary for graduation when taken either in the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade.**

Issue	Justification
Course Description for Carnegie Unit	<p>Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Applications is an innovative instructional program that prepares students to engage in future academic and vocational courses of study in high school, community college, and institutions of higher learning. Students in STEM Applications complete study in technology literacy, the design process, emerging technologies, computer-aided design, sustainable design and technology, power and energy, robotics simulation, financial and economic literacy, and workplace skills for the 21st century. The STEM Applications curriculum framework is built upon 21st Century Skills Standards, ACT College Readiness Standards, and the National Educational Technology Standards for Students.</p>
STEM Curriculum	<p>PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT:            STEM Application Executive Summary</p> <p>The STEM curriculum can be viewed in its entirety at the following web site if additional information is needed</p> <p><a href="http://www.rcu.msstate.edu/Curriculum/CurriculumDownload.aspx">http://www.rcu.msstate.edu/Curriculum/CurriculumDownload.aspx</a></p>