State Textbook Rating Committee Orientation

2020-2021 Textbook Adoption

December 2020

Chauncey Spears
Director
Office of Textbooks
VISION
To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

MISSION
To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community
1. All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas
2. Every Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career
3. Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program
4. Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders
5. Every Community Effectively Uses a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes
6. Every School and District is Rated “C” or Higher
Oath of Office

• As a member of a State Textbook Rating Committee (STRC), you are volunteering your time and expertise to review textbooks for state adoption for the State of Mississippi.

• To do this, STRC members take an Oath of Office, as official agents of the Secretary of State.

• Because the meeting is virtual, you will be required to sign the oath form and return to me via e-mail at crspears@mdek12.org by Friday, December 11, 2020.

• Oath forms will be available in the Chat and online at the textbook office website under the section “2020 Textbook Reviewers Orientation”
Duties and Responsibilities

• There are 6 review categories for the ratings and this year’s adoption. There is a review committee consisting of up to 9 members for each category.

• All STRC members are expected to review and complete rubrics for all textbook programs submitted for each committee.

• The ratings and reviews of the committees are final. Publishers cannot appeal to the State Board concerning the rating review. Publishers are allowed to request the rating rubrics through a Public Records Request.

• Continuing Education Units will be available for your work as a STRC member.
2020-2021 STRC Calendar

• December 7, 2020- Official textbook review begins.

*No Contact between Publishers and STRC members during the review EXCEPT for the first week (December 7-11, 2020) when Publisher Presentations are viewed through the Thrivist Platform.

• February 12, 2021- Official review results are due to the Office of Textbooks (submitted electronically through Thrivist).

• March 18, 2021- Adoption results are approved and released by the State Board of Education. Official STRC duties end.
2020-2021 Textbook Adoption Instructional Categories

ELA/Reading

• Grades K-2
• Grades 3-5
• Grades 6-8
• Foundational Skills*
• Grades 9-12 (Includes AP and all electives except Dual Credit courses)

Pre-K Comprehensive

• All standards for 3 and 4 Year-old learners
Foundational Skills

- Foundational Skills are a set of standards in the ELA/Reading Standards.
- All instructional materials that will be submitted in ELA/Reading in grades K-2 and 3-5 will be reviewed for their foundational skill alignment.
- The Foundational Skills Committee reviewers will measure texts with Criterion 1.3 of the K-2 and 3-5 Rubrics which consists of eleven scored indicators.
Public Records and Transparency

- State textbook ratings and identities of STRC members are a matter of public record.
- The names of reviewers and the ratings rubrics are available to the public through a Public Records Request.
- The names of the STRC members will be furnished to the publishers that submitted materials for review.
Conflicts of Interest

• STRC members are required to disclose any potential conflicts of interest to the MDE before reviewing any materials.

• If there is a conflict of interest, the reviewer will not be permitted to review materials from the publisher(s) in which there is a conflict.

• All STRC members are required to complete the Conflict of Interest form posted in the chat or online on the Textbooks Office website under the heading “2020 Textbook Reviewers Orientation”. Please return those to me via e-mail by Friday, December 11, 2020.
### Publishers up for Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bedford, Freeman &amp; Worth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Learnings Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frog Street Press</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodheart Willcox Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Minds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Without Tears</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGraw-Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Up Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quaver ED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAVVAS (formerly Pearson Publishing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGraw-Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Strategies, LLC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thrivist Platform

• STRC members will be reviewing and rating materials virtually through an online platform Thrivist.

• All review materials that are digital, web-based, or physical textbooks are able to be fully reviewed through the platform.

• Rubrics will be completed and submitted through Thrivist.

• Publisher Presentations will be viewed through Thrivist.

• Representatives from Thrivist are on this call and will conduct an overview of the platform.
Textbook Shipments

• Shipments of physical copies of review materials are optional. Should any STRC member desire to have a physical copy of review materials, they will need to request a shipment (if available) from the MDE Office of Textbooks.

• The Textbook Shipment Information form must be completed and submitted to Office of Textbooks for shipment. The Shipment Information Form is posted in the Chat and on the Textbooks website under the “2020 Reviewers Orientation” Section.

• Representatives from School Book Supply Company of Mississippi, where the shipments will come from, are on this call to discuss the shipment process.
Chauncey Spears

Director- Office of Textbooks
crspears@mdek12.org

Office of Textbooks Website
https://www.mdek12.org/OAE/OEER/TextbookAdoptionProcurement