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**Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Standards**

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**The Background:**

*Rules, Regulations, and Minimum Standards of the State Board of Education 0520-01-03-.05(1)* calls for the State Board of Education to adopt curriculum standards for each subject area, grades K-12. The approved standards are to be the basis for planning instructional programs in each local school system. Adopted textbooks are also to be aligned with the state curriculum standards. Section 3.205 Approved High School Courses of the State Board of Education Policy identifies those courses which have been approved by the Board for instruction across the state.

The Department of Education's Division of Career and Technical Education (CTE) is proposing changes to approved course standards in agriculture. The career cluster Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources replaces the former program area Agricultural Education. The courses within this career cluster have been completely revised to better align to postsecondary pathways, incorporate added instructional rigor by embedding Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in Technical Subjects, and better reflect the competitive employment demands of our state. The Division of CTE is preparing for the adoption of textbooks in the Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources career cluster. The proposed courses will be used as a basis for alignment in the upcoming cycle for textbook adoption.

The Division of CTE is also proposing the courses of *Agriscience*, *Applied Environmental Science*, and *Veterinary Science* satisfy one laboratory science credit required for graduation and *Agricultural Business and Finance* satisfy the Personal Finance requirement for graduation when the teacher is highly qualified and has completed applicable training.

Courses included in this item:

Advanced Food Science	New course
Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering	New course
Agricultural Business and Finance	Revised course
Agricultural Power and Equipment	Revised course
Agriscience	Revised course
Applied Environmental Science	New course
Food Science and Safety	New course
Greenhouse Management	Revised course
Introduction to Agricultural Sciences	New course
Landscaping and Turf Science	Revised course
Large Animal Science	New course
Natural Resources Management	New course
Organizational Leadership and Communications	New course
Plant and Soil Science	Revised course

Principles of Agribusiness	New course
Principles of Agricultural Mechanics	New course
Principles of Food Production	New course
Principles of Plant Science and Hydroculture	New course
Small Animal Science	Revised course
Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)	New course
Veterinary Science	Revised course

**The Recommendation:**

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.