Agenda

First Reading Item: V. L.

State Approved Textbooks and Instructional Materials List: Schedule E (Physical Education, Health Education, CTE: Information Technology, and CTE: Advanced Manufacturing)

## The Background:

The State Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission has prepared a preliminary list of textbooks and instructional resources for the Schedule E Textbook Adoption Cycle. T.C.A. § 49-1-302(a)(9) states that it is the duty of the State Board of Education (State Board), and the State Board has the power to, "prescribe the use of textbooks and other instructional materials, based on recommendations of the state textbook and instructional materials quality commission, for the various subjects taught or used in conjunction with the public schools." T.C.A. § 49-6-2202(a) requires the State Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission (Commission) to prepare "a list of standard editions of textbooks and instructional materials for approval by the State Board of Education for the use in the public schools of the state." The law also provides that the Commission, "through its chair, may appoint an advisory panel of expert teachers and other experts in each subject area or grade level to advise the commission on textbook and instructional material selections" pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-2201(n)(1)(a).

The chair of the Commission led the advisory panel application review between October 2024 and March 2025. During the March meeting, the Commission accepted applications to fill an advisory panel consisting of educators with experience and expertise in various Schedule E subjects. Panelist applications were scored by both the Commission and subject matter experts at the Department. The Commission requested and later approved Department-created scoring rubrics for each Schedule E subject and/or course, focusing on three (3) categories. First, publishers had to provide TN Standards Alignment guides, second, all materials had to cover 100% of the state standards to align with T.C.A. § 49-6-2206, and third, materials had to meet 80% of the quality indicators outlined by the Commission's approved, Department-created scoring rubric. Those quality indicators were comprised of three subcategories: instructional focus, multiple dimensions, and accessibility.

Hired panelists attended a two-day in-person, comprehensive training conducted by subject matter experts at the Department. This training included discussions and strategies for reviewing and scoring material and also highlighted various legal topics. The panelists conducted independent reviews between April 26 and June 27, 2025. These reports were disseminated to Commission members and discussed during the July 30, 2025, Commission meeting.

The Commission will meet on September 12, 2025, to hear publishers' appeals to panel reviews, and to consider any public comment that was received by the Commission, either written or verbal, as it relates to Schedule E textbook and instructional materials for bid. The Commission will vote on the final items on the list and determine which textbooks and instructional materials to recommend to the State Board for final approval during the November quarterly meeting. This item presents the initial list of science textbooks recommended by the Commission on first reading.

## **Connection to the Master Plan:**

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Literacy, Postsecondary and Career, Teachers and Leaders, and Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by providing updated and aligned materials for grades K-12.

## The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA beyond existing requirements.

## The Recommendation:

The Tennessee Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission recommends approval of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.