

**Textbook and Instructional Materials Waiver Request
Morgan County Schools
Curriculum Associates: Magnetic Literacy
ELA Grades K-5**

The Background:

T.C.A. § 49-1-302(a)(9) charges the State Board to “prescribe the use of textbooks and other instructional materials, based on recommendations of the state textbook and instructional materials quality commission” by approving statewide, subject-based textbook adoption lists for districts to choose from. However, T.C.A. § 49-6-2206 authorizes the State Board to approve or deny waiver requests from local education agencies (LEAs) that wish to use textbooks or instructional materials that are not on the state-approved adoption list referenced above if the LEA demonstrates unique or unusual needs. The State Board’s Textbook and Instructional Materials Waivers Rules 0520-01-18 govern the process and procedures for LEAs requesting textbook and instructional materials waivers from the State Board.

Morgan County Schools submitted a waiver application to use Curriculum Associates: Magnetic Literacy for grades K-5 ELA textbooks and instructional materials based on an emergency circumstance connected to standards review cycles shifting from six to eight-year review cycles, which impacted textbook & instructional materials contract durations.

Subject-matter experts at the Department of Education analyzed the proposed materials’ alignment with Tennessee Academic Standards. Based on their findings, other rule criteria, and multiple state law requirements, the State Board staff developed the final recommendation below.

Connection to the Master Plan:

This item supports the State Board’s strategic focus on Literacy and Postsecondary and Career outlined in the Master Plan by providing approved ELA materials to support strong readers who will be prepared for postsecondary and career.

The Recommendation:

Based on the process and criteria above, the State Board staff recommends approval of this waiver on first and final reading, and that it be effective until the next new ELA textbook adoption cycle (2029-2030 school year).