

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**March 21, 2018**

**OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND READING**

B. Approve textbooks, as recommended by the 2017 State Textbook Rating Committee for the adoption of textbooks in the area of Science (K-5)

Awarded Vendors: Accelerate Learning, Inc.  
Houston, Texas

Scope of Project: Mississippi Code 37-43-21 mandates the formation of rating committees in each of the fields in which textbooks are considered for adoption and to make subsequent recommendations to the State Board of Education of books to be adopted. Pursuant to Section 37-43-21, “the SBE shall have the power to reject any and all recommendations of the rating committees and to call for further recommendations: in no case shall the Board adopt any book not recommended by the rating committees.”

The Mississippi Department of Education, through the Office of Elementary Education and Reading, conducted an adoption of textbooks in the areas of Science (K-5, 6-8, and 9-12), the Arts (Dance and Theater Grades K-12, Music - General, Choral, Instrumental Grades K-12, and Visual Arts Grades K-12).

Textbooks were reviewed in the following instructional categories:

- Science Grades K-5

The state rating committee may recommend as many as eight titles in each instructional category. An item is not rated if it does not meet the following criteria:

- The materials in the textbook must provide comprehensive coverage of the course content as outlined in the Mississippi College- and Career - Readiness Standards for Science (K-5) and meet at least 80 percent of the mandated standards/competencies.

Alignment to State Board Strategic Plan:

The State Textbook Adoption helps meet Goals 1 and 2 of the *Mississippi Board of Education Strategic Plan* by supporting districts in selecting high quality, teacher rated textbooks for classroom instruction and student intervention.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

**SEC. 37-43-21. Textbook rating committees; disposition of sample textbooks; use of textbook allotment for repair of textbooks; prices for new textbook purchases.**

(1) For the purpose of assisting the board during an adoption, there shall be rating committees in each of the fields in which textbooks are considered for adoption. Each committee shall be composed of seven (7) members. The State Superintendent of Public Education shall appoint four (4) members of each of the committees, each of whom shall be a competent, experienced teacher who is currently teaching in the field in which the textbooks are considered for adoption. The Governor of the State of Mississippi thereupon shall appoint three (3) members of each of said committees, who shall be persons he deems competent to participate in the appraisal of books offered for adoption, in each field, for use in the public schools of this state.

(2) It shall be the duty of said rating committees to appraise the books offered for adoption in each field in which textbooks are offered for adoption and recommend eight (8) books and/or series for each adoption to be made by the board and giving the reasons for or basis of such recommendations. No book shall be recommended which does not receive a majority vote of the members of each committee. Any member dissenting from any majority vote of the committee shall make his appraisal of any book recommended or rejected by the majority of the committee and specify the reasons therefor and make such recommendations as he thinks proper. All appraisals, recommendations, and dissents if any, shall be in writing and filed with the board for its consideration upon the adoption. The travel expenses of such committees shall be reimbursed in the amount as provided in Section 25-3-41 and shall be paid out of the State Textbook Fund. Such rating committees shall be subject to the provisions of Section 37-43-17. The board shall have the power to reject any and all recommendations of the rating committees and to call for further recommendations; in no case shall the board adopt any book not recommended by the rating committees.

(3) Any and all sample textbooks that may be furnished by the publisher thereof as provided by Section 37-43-59 to any member of the board, the Superintendent of Public Education, and any member of a rating committee shall within one (1) year after receipt of same by said member be turned in to the State School Book Depository without cost to the State of Mississippi, and the same shall thereafter be used without any cost to the State of Mississippi in supplying free textbooks to the educable children of the State of Mississippi as now provided by law or shall be sold to the highest bidder by the board with the proceeds immediately deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Textbook Fund.

(4) No state official, state employee, school board member, school superintendent, principal, teacher or any other individual shall sell or donate sample textbooks furnished them by the State School Book Depository as part of the textbook adoption or selection process. Said individuals and public officials shall not receive payment by the state depository, any publisher or any other company for sample textbooks.

(5) School districts may annually utilize any portion of the textbook allotment for the repair of textbooks; provided, however, that school districts are authorized and encouraged to utilize the Mississippi Department of Corrections bookbinder for the repair of textbooks.

(6) Prices for new textbook purchases shall not be higher than the lowest price at which books are sold anywhere in the United States, after all discounts are allowed.

HISTORY: SOURCES: Codes, 1942, § 6641; Laws, 1940, ch. 202; Laws, 1942, ch. 152; Laws, 1946, ch. 444, § 2; Laws, 1960, ch. 310; Laws, 1981, ch. 507, § 12; reenacted, Laws, 1983, 1st Ex Sess, ch. 2, § 11; Laws, 1984, ch. 404, § 11; Laws, 1985, ch. 395, § 11; Laws, 1986, ch. 349, § 11; reenacted and amended, Laws, 1987, ch. 481, § 5; Laws, 1989, ch. 585, § 2; Laws, 1991, ch. 568, § 1; Laws, 1994, ch. 405, § 3; Laws, 1996, ch. 534, § 4, eff from and after July 1, 1996.

**MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972**  
***As Amended***

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**SEC. 37-43-1. Purpose of chapter; distribution of textbooks to schools and pupils; definition of "board" and "textbook".**

(1) This chapter is intended to furnish a plan for the adoption, purchase, distribution, care and use of free textbooks to be loaned to the pupils in all elementary and high schools, other than charter schools, of Mississippi.

(2) The books herein provided by the State Board of Education, which shall be the State Textbook Procurement Commission, shall be distributed and loaned free of cost to the children of the free public school districts of the state and of all other schools located in the state, which maintain educational standards equivalent to the standards established by the State Department of Education for the state schools as outlined in the Approval Requirements of the State Board of Education for Nonpublic Schools.

(3) Teachers shall permit all pupils in all grades of any public school in any school district to carry to their homes for home study, the free textbooks loaned to them, and any other regular textbooks whether they be free textbooks or not.

(4) For the purposes of this chapter, the term "board" shall mean the State Board of Education.

(5) "Textbook" shall be defined as any medium or manual of instruction which contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject.

(6) In addition to the authority granted in this chapter, local school boards shall make available to the parents or legal guardians of any children of school age who reside in the school district administered by the school board, upon request, any textbooks on the state surplus inventory list. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for the return of the textbook(s) to the local school district upon completion of the textbook(s) use. Failure to return the textbook(s) to the school district will result in the parents or legal guardians being responsible for compensating the school district for the fair market value of the textbook(s).

HISTORY: SOURCES: Codes, 1942, §§ 6656, 6658; Laws, 1940, ch. 202; Laws, 1942, ch. 152; Laws, 1944, ch. 149, § 1; Laws, 1981, ch. 507, § 2; reenacted, Laws, 1983, 1st Ex Sess, ch. 2, § 1; Laws, 1984, ch. 404, § 1; Laws, 1985, ch. 395, § 1; Laws, 1986, ch. 349, § 1; reenacted and amended, Laws, 1987, ch. 481, § 2; Laws, 1994, ch. 405, § 1; Laws, 2006, ch. 555, § 1; Laws, 2008, ch. 414, § 1; Laws, 2011, ch. 348, § 3; Laws, 2013, ch. 497, § 81, eff from and after July 1, 2013.

## **Textbooks<sup>1</sup> Recommended by the State Textbook Committee**

### **Science Grades K-12**

#### **Science Grades K-5**

Accelerate Learning, Inc. - STEMSCOPES MISSISSIPPI (ONLINE STUDENT & TEACHER) – GRADES K, 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

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<sup>1</sup> Titles with the term “series” indicates titles that may have multiple online sequences and/or permutations, combinations of levels, units, online or digital formats, and/or online licenses available (with the same content).