



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

April 22, 2013

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Next Generation Science Standards

About a year and a half ago, the Michigan Department of Education became a Lead State Partner in the development of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Michigan educators and a wide variety of educational organizations have been actively involved in the development of the NGSS. There have been two public review periods of the standards, and revisions have been made to the draft standards based on the input from these reviews.

The State Board of Education was provided updates on the development of these standards on February 12, 2013, and April 9, 2013. At the April 9, 2013, meeting the State Board of Education approved a period of public comment for the NGSS. The public comment period was open from April 10 through May 8, 2013. The results of the public comment up to this time have been positive.

The public provided comment via two online surveys:

- one provided general comments on the standards,
- the other assessed statewide awareness, professional learning needs, and current course information.

The NGSS and supporting resources are available at the following website:  
<http://www.nextgenscience.org>.

Science educators from across the state have pledged to promote effective, systemic, and sustained implementation of the NGSS (Michigan Science Teachers Association [MSTA] Position Statement presented to State Board of Education on April 9, 2013, and available at: <http://msta-mich.org/about-us/our-stance/95-about-us/our-stance/255-a-framework-for-k-12-science-education>).

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the final Next Generation Science Standards.

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