
Middle Grades Policy 2.102

The Background:

Tennessee State Board of Education Middle Grades Policy 2.102 outlines the requirements and expectations for students in grades five through eight (5-8).

Chapter 979 of the Public Acts of 2022 (PC 979) expanded access to computer science education to ensure elementary, middle, and high school students are prepared for evolving workforce needs. In addition to requiring computer science coursework, Department-provided professional development, and a new computer science endorsement pathway for educators, PC 979 requires starting in the 2024-25 school year that middle school students take one course in CS education that includes instruction for at least one (1) one grading period during one (1) full school year of their middle school career.

Chapter 693 of the Public Acts of 2024 (PC 693) amended the law to clarify that the middle school computer science course requirement applies to students who enroll in the lowest grade level offered at a middle school starting in the 2024-25 school year, or in any subsequent school year.

This item revises the Middle Grades Policy 2.102 to add the middle school computer science course requirement so that the policy aligns with the law.

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.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring State Board policy is aligned with recently passed legislation.

The Recommendation:

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