

**K-5 STEM Permanent Course**

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**The Background:**

In order to encourage elementary schools to provide science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) opportunities for K-5 students and to support K-5 schools already designated as Tennessee STEM schools by the Tennessee STEM Initiative Network (TSIN), the Department is proposing a permanent STEM course for grades K-5. This course will also provide districts an option that is specifically designed to help prepare students be successful in existing Grades 6-12 STEM CTE courses. Multiple districts have reached out requesting this course, and the development of these course standards has been done in collaboration with the Office of Math, Science, and Student Opportunities, the Career and Technical Education team, and district stakeholders.

**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.

**The Recommendation:**

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