



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools
Directors of Connecticut Agricultural Science and Technology Education Centers

FROM: Melissa K. Wlodarczyk Hickey, Reading/Literacy Director, Academic Office

DATE: June 25, 2018

SUBJECT: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster Content Frameworks, Connecticut Edition

At the May 2018 Connecticut State Board of Education (Board) meeting, the Board approved the *Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster Content Frameworks, Connecticut Edition* for use by Connecticut Agricultural Science and Technology Education (ASTE) centers and school districts.

In December 2015, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) engaged the Connecticut State Consulting Committee for ASTE in a review of the National AFNR Standards. This committee voted to support the creation of a Connecticut Framework version of the National AFNR Standards to replace the current Connecticut ASTE Standards. In 2016, the CSDE began a multi-stage review and revision process focused on ensuring that the *Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster Content Frameworks, Connecticut Edition*:

- reflect essential and up-to-date knowledge and skills that students need to be ready for college and career in a variety of agriculture, food and natural resources fields;
- provide a sound basis upon which to design Connecticut focused agriculture, food and natural resources related courses; and
- afford a wide-ranging source for creating meaningful formative and summative assessments to measure student's attainment of essential knowledge and skills.

Based on the feedback gathered in the review process, the CSDE organized committees of experts to create two Connecticut-specific pathways, aquaculture and marine trades, and added frameworks for beekeeping and maple syrup production.

The *Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster Content Frameworks, Connecticut Edition* are posted on the CSDE's Web site on the [Agricultural Science and Technology Education](#) page. If you have any questions, please contact Harold Mackin, Education Consultant, at 860-713-6779 or e-mail at Harold.Mackin@ct.gov.

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