

# ISTE STANDARDS CROSSWALKS

How the ISTE Standards can support states' existing academic content standards



## Overview

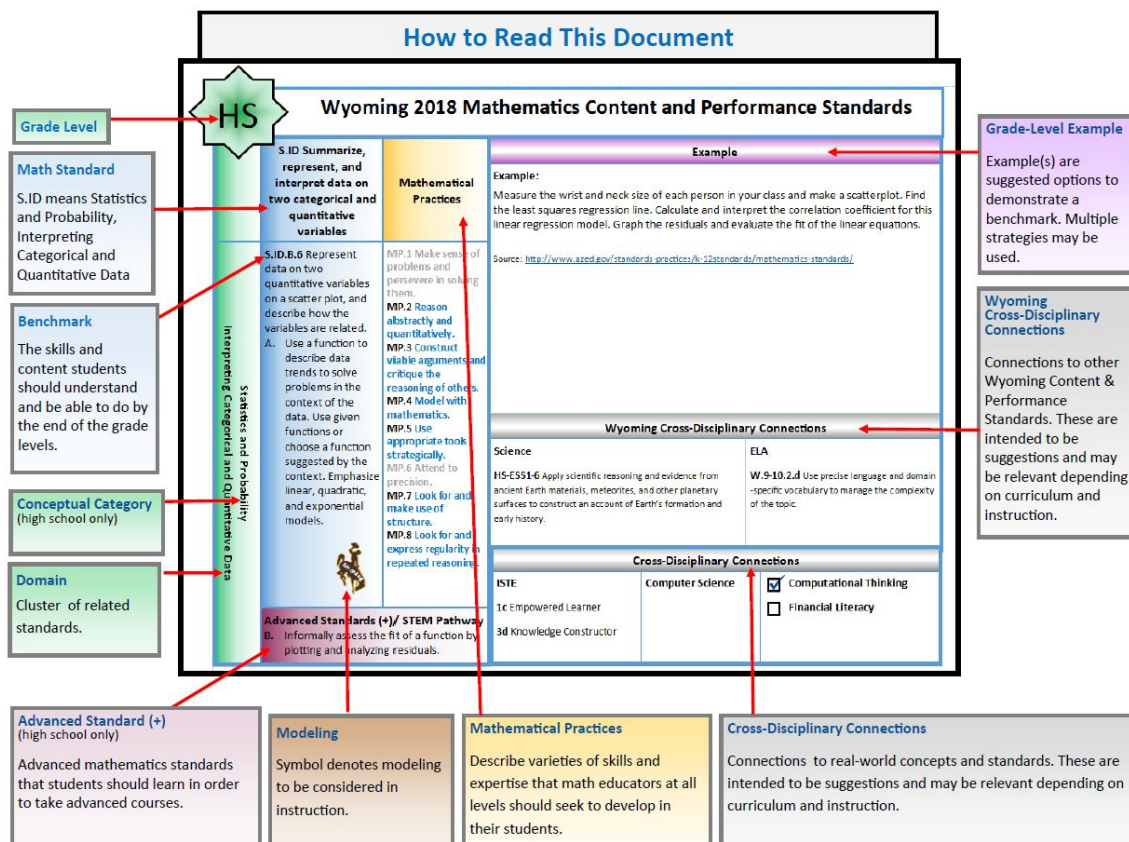
In recent years, many states have updated their academic content standards to ensure that students graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in postsecondary education and the workforce. The ISTE Standards, an evidence-based framework for rethinking education and creating innovative learning environments, can support this work by emphasizing pedagogical approaches enhanced through technology that lead to mastery of the knowledge and skills outlined in state standards.

Specifically, the **ISTE Standards for Students** highlights **design processes** and **computational thinking**. Both elements support the call for deep, conceptual understanding in new mathematics standards as well as the rigor and cross-subject focus of new ELA standards. Other elements of the ISTE Standards, such as **Creative Communicator** and **Global Collaborator**, encourage collaboration, communication and social engagement to support new visions for critical thinking that are embedded throughout state standards. Lastly, the ISTE Standards' emphasis on **student empowerment** can enable learners to move from being passive vessels of instruction to active learning agents.

Below, we provide examples of how three states have cross-referenced their existing academic content standards with the ISTE Standards to ensure that technology is a critical tool used by students to meet grade-level benchmarks.

### Example 1: Wyoming

The Wyoming Department of Education conducted a crosswalk of its **2018 Mathematics Content and Performance Standards** with the ISTE Standards for Students. Each grade-level standard is clearly marked with the corresponding ISTE Standard reference number and letter. For example, the benchmark listed below<sup>1</sup> — representing two quantitative variables on scatter plot to describe trends in data — are aligned to the empowered learner and knowledge constructor aspects of the ISTE Standards for Students.



<sup>1</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/WYMathStandards>

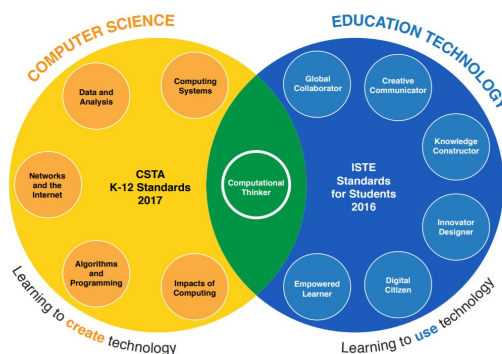
## Example 2: Washington

Washington adapted the ISTE Standards for Students into its own **Educational Technology Learning Standards**. Each element of these new technology standards is cross-referenced with the state's own academic content standards. For example, the K-2 Empowered Learner standard shown below<sup>2</sup> — describing students' agency in selecting learning goals and using technology to demonstrate progress towards those goals — is connected to specific benchmarks in the ELA standards, which provide that students should use digital tools to publish written works.

<b>1. Empowered Learner - Students leverage technology to take an active role in choosing, achieving and demonstrating competency in their learning goals, informed by the learning sciences.</b>
<b>1.a. With guidance from an educator, students consider and set personal learning goals and utilize appropriate technologies that will demonstrate knowledge and reflection of the process.</b>
<i>Samples of student performance (by the end of grade 2):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students complete exit tickets (digitally utilizing electronic forms or feedback tools) for quick formative reflection (e.g., gathering exit task information).</li><li>• Students collect work samples within a digitized portfolio such as writing, fluency or mathematical computation, and conference with teacher to set a goal for improvement.</li></ul>
<i>Connected Standards:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• With guidance and support from adults, use a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers. ELA W6 (K-2)</li></ul>

## Example 3: Connecticut

Connecticut's state board of education adopted the ISTE Standards for Students in 2018. During the adoption process, Doug Casey, director for the Connecticut Commission for Educational Technology, **illustrated the explicit connection**<sup>3</sup> between the ISTE Standards and the state's academic content standards in core subjects— including CSTA's computer science standards (adopted by the state in 2017). As shown, both the CSTA and ISTE standards emphasize the role of students as computational thinkers.



## About ISTE

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) is a nonprofit organization that works with the global education community to accelerate the use of technology to solve tough problems and inspire innovation. Our worldwide network believes in the potential technology holds to transform teaching and learning. ISTE inspires the creation of solutions and connections that improve opportunities for all learners by delivering: practical guidance, evidence-based professional learning and virtual networks, thought-provoking events and the **ISTE Standards**, a framework for rethinking education and creating innovative learning environments. The ISTE Annual Conference & Expo is one of the world's most influential edtech events, attracting over 24,000 attendees in 2018. For more information about ISTE, please reach out to Boyka Parfitt at [bparfitt@iste.org](mailto:bparfitt@iste.org).

### Useful Resources in Conducting a Standards Crosswalk

1. **[Report to Support Adoption of the ISTE Standards for Students](#)**<sup>4</sup> defines the key elements found within the standards, provides research evidence in support of those elements and outlines how the standards can support states' ongoing initiatives.
2. **[Age Band Articulations](#)**<sup>5</sup> show how the ISTE Standards for Students can be adapted in a developmentally-appropriate manner.

<sup>2</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/WATechStandards>

<sup>3</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/CCET2018>

<sup>4</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/ISTEStandardsReport>

<sup>5</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/ISTEAgeBands>