State education officials spent hours Wednesday going over a science curriculum guide page-by-page with science experts who alleged the document has mistakes and potential plagiarism.

The state Department of Education called the meeting after five Louisiana science experts drafted a letter to the department saying the guide has errors in statements, proficiency standards that "have no basis in education research," incorrect language usage and "possible plagiarism."

Mike Glisson, a department official who sat in on the discussions, said department leaders spoke with the experts early Wednesday and decided to "try to clear up any misconceptions we have and correct any errors."

"If there is anything in there that has any kind of error on it, it will be corrected," said Marlene Ritter, another education department official.

Ritter said the two groups went "over it with a fine-toothed comb."

The guide, which outlines material to be covered in elementary and junior high science classes, had not been revised since 1984. The state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved it in July after education department officials submitted it for board approval.

The five Louisiana science experts included Margie Montgomery, supervisor of elementary science for East Baton Rouge Parish schools.

Montgomery was not part of the revision team and said she and other experts did not find the alleged mistakes until after BESE approved the guide in late July.

Then, after the fact, the group approached the Department of Education about making revisions before the guide is published.