

Instruction

HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE INSTRUCTION

The Board of Education believes that the study of history and other social sciences is essential to prepare students to engage in responsible citizenship, comprehend complex global interrelationships, and understand the vital connections among the past, present, and future. The District's History/Social Science education program shall be designed to develop students' knowledge of historical events within a chronological and geographic context and shall include, at appropriate grade levels, instruction in American and world history, geography, economics, political science, anthropology, psychology, and sociology.

(cf. 6143 – Courses of Study)

The Board shall adopt academic standards for History/Social Science that meet or exceed state content standards and describe the knowledge and skills that students shall be expected to achieve at each grade level.

The Superintendent/designee shall develop a comprehensive, sequential curriculum that is aligned with District standards and is consistent with the state's curriculum framework. At each grade level, the curriculum shall integrate age-appropriate instruction designed to develop student achievement in the following areas:

1. Knowledge and cultural understanding, including historical, ethical, cultural, geographic, economic, and sociopolitical literacy.
2. Democratic understanding and civic values, including an understanding of national identity; constitutional heritage; and an individual's civic values, rights, and responsibilities.
3. Skills attainment and social participation, including basic study skills, critical thinking skills, and participation skills that are essential for effective citizenship.

(cf. 6141 – Curriculum Development and Design)

The District's History/Social Science curriculum shall include a multicultural education component that is designed to teach students to respect and appreciate cultural diversity and different points of view while also developing their understanding of commonalities and collective experiences.

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HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE INSTRUCTION (continued)

The curriculum shall reflect the experiences of men and women and of various cultural, ethnic, racial, religious, and social groups and their contributions to the history, life, and culture of the local community, California, the United States, and other nations.

(cf. 6115 – Ceremonies and Observances)
(cf. 6141.2 – Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)

The Board shall adopt standards-aligned instructional materials for History/Social Science in accordance with applicable law, Board Policy, and Administrative Regulations. In addition, teachers are encouraged to supplement the curriculum through the use of biographies, original documents, diaries, letters, legends, speeches, other narrative artifacts, and literature from and about the period being studied.

(cf. 1312.2 – Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)
(cf. 6161.1 – Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)
(cf. 6162.6 – Use of Copyrighted Materials)
(cf. 6163.1 – Library/Media Centers)

The Superintendent/designee shall provide a standards-based professional development program designed to increase teachers' knowledge of adopted instructional materials and instructional strategies for teaching History/Social Science.

(cf. 4131 – Staff Development)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
33540 History/Social Science curriculum framework
51204 Course of study designed for student's needs
51204.5 History of California; contributions of men, women, and ethnic groups
51210 Course of study, Grades 1-6
60040-60051 Criteria for instructional materials
60119 Public hearing on the sufficiency of instructional materials
60200-60206 Instructional materials, Grades K-8
60640-60649 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress
99200-99206 Subject matter projects

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HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE INSTRUCTION (continued)

Management Resources:

CDE PUBLICATIONS

History/Social Science Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, rev. 2005

History/Social Science Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, October 1998

WEB SITES

CSBA: www.csba.org

California Council for the Humanities: www.calhum.org

California Council for the Social Studies; www.ccss.org

California Department of Education: www.cde.ca.gov

California History/Social Science Course Models: www.history.ctaponline.org

California Subject Matter Project: csmf.ucop.edu

National Association for Multicultural Education: www.nameorg.org

National Council for History Education: www.nche.net