
Social Studies Standards Revision

The Background:

Each year a set of content standards is reviewed as part the textbook adoption cycle. In the spring of 2012 the Tennessee Department of Education reviewed the social studies standards and determined they were in need of revision. The last update occurred in 2001. The social studies standards are being revised for all grade levels and courses based on department review and the feedback collected from educators and stakeholders during the fall of 2012. The purpose of this revision is to increase the rigor represented by the standards, to refine the expectations of content in each grade and course and to align the literacy expectations of the social studies standards with the Common Core State Standards.

In December 2012 the department asked for individuals interested in reviewing and revising the standards to submit their names. This group has served as a sounding board for decisions regarding the revision process. From this group, a team of educators was interviewed and selected in January to serve as the Social Studies Leadership Council, the team revised and wrote the standards.

The first proposal of revised social studies standards was released for feedback in January 2013. Based on feedback received, the proposal was updated and re-distributed in February 2013. After the release of the second proposal, the process of writing draft standards began. The draft standards were written by the selected team of social studies educators. The department submitted these standards for public review in March.

The Recommendation:

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

Social Studies Leadership Council

Gloria S. Moore, Humanities Supervisor, K-12
Hamilton County Schools

Michelle Elaine Pieczura, Fourth Grade Teacher
Franklin Special School District

Todd Wigginton, Coordinator of Social Studies
Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

Jaci E. Stewart, K-12 Curriculum Coordinator
Williamson County School District

Nancy Dye, Social Studies Consulting Teacher
Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools

Judy Wyatt Newgent, Social Studies Specialist, K-12
Knox County Schools

David C. Rector, Social Studies Curriculum Specialist, K-12
Williamson County Schools

Toni Marlin, 7th Grade Teacher
Franklin Special School District

Kelly Keen, Lead Teacher & Social Studies Professional Development Specialist
Knox County Schools

Jared Myracle, Supervisor of Instruction
Gibson County