



K-12 Social Studies Update

Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting

Monday, March 17, 2025

Agenda

- ❖ K-8: Where We Were
- ❖ K-2 Update
- ❖ 3-5 Update
- ❖ 6-8 Update
- ❖ 9-12 Update
- ❖ 6-12 Update
- ❖ District
- ❖ Budget
- ❖ Contact Information
- ❖ Additional Questions

K-8: Where We Were

[From School Committee Meeting 5.26.22](#)
(link)

K-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● <u>Curriculum</u>: Largely incomplete, disorganized, inequitable...devoid of embedded/intentional supports/extensions● <u>Curricular Materials</u>: Largely incomplete, disorganized, inequitable; inconsistent alignment to 2018 Framework● <u>PD</u>: Unclear/undefined PD system, No designated time with K-5, Limited districtwide capacity to support● <u>Pedagogy</u>: Inconsistent ToL; Inconsistent and under-supported instructional practices; not addressed by Curriculum, Curricular Materials, or PD
K-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Current Curriculum/Curricular Materials incomplete/inconsistent● Curriculum/Curricular Materials not standards aligned● Need to Review/Revise Learning Expectations (LEs)
3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Current Curriculum/Curricular Materials incomplete/inconsistent● No PD associated with new textbook in grades 3 or 5 after purchase● Review Grade 4 alignment to 2018 MA Framework● Need to Review/Revise Learning Expectations (LEs)
6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Current Curriculum/Curricular Materials incomplete/ inconsistent● Curriculum work needed in specific areas of grade 6 and grade 7● Course Design/Selection and Implementation in Grade 8 to create more equitable learning for students● Where to "house" Civic Action Project in grade 8● Need to Review/Revise Learning Expectations (LEs)

K-2 Update

Where We Are

- Adopted new, high quality, standards aligned curriculum: **InquirED's *Inquiry Journeys* (IJ)**
- Year 2 of Implementation in all 8 schools, with a staggered rollout to support teachers due to inconsistent Time on Learning
- Synchronous and Asynchronous PD options for all classroom teachers, SPED (including Paras), ELE, administrators
- Districtwide Grade Level Lead Teachers

Where We Are (Hopefully) Going

- Year 3 of IJ Implementation
- Curriculum Development Projects (Focus on materials to support accessibility - SPED and ELE)
- Integration with new ELA curriculum, Science & Math
- Continue PD opportunities that support curriculum and embedded pedagogy
- Continue grade level support via a lead teacher

3-5 Update

	Where We Are	Where We Are (Hopefully) Going
Grade 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Adopted new, high quality, standards aligned curriculum: Investigating History (IH)● Year 2 of Implementation in all 8 schools, with a staggered rollout to support teachers due to inconsistent Time on Learning● Synchronous and Asynchronous PD options for all classroom teachers, SPED (including Paras), ELE, administrators● Districtwide Grade Level Lead Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Year 3 of IH Implementation● Curriculum Development Projects (Focus on materials to support accessibility - SPED and ELE)● Integration with new ELA curriculum, Science & Math● Continue PD opportunities that support curriculum and embedded pedagogy● Continue grade level support via a lead teacher
Grades 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Completing a full year curriculum pilot of Investigating History, with adoption at the conclusion of SY24-25● Direct collaboration with IH curriculum designers via pilot● Districtwide Grade Level Lead Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Year 1 of IH Implementation in all 8 schools● Begin robust PD opportunities that support curriculum and embedded pedagogy● Continue grade level support via a lead teacher● Curriculum Development & Integration (SY27)

6-8 Update

	Where We Are	Where We Are (Hopefully) Going
Grades 6 & 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSB Curriculum Development Piloting of Investigating History (IH) Partnership with BU African Studies Center (grade 6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued development of PSB curriculum (Focus on materials to support accessibility - SPED and ELE) Continued pilot of Investigating History (updated for SY26) Comparison of PSB and IH curricula
Grade 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified common, high quality Civics curriculum: The Democratic Knowledge Project (DKP) 5 of 8 schools are Implementing DKP in SY25, including robust Professional Development & teacher support Civic Action Project (CAP) in year 3 in all 8 schools, with school-based "showcases" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remaining 3 schools begin Implementation of DKP 3 "new" teachers begin DKP training; 5 returning teachers continue DKP training Begin curriculum development work (Focus on materials to support accessibility - SPED and ELE)
Grades 6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on course accessibility for all students, specifically those that receive SPED and/or ELE services - PD via PSB ELE dept. & Primary Source Identifying/utilizing/analyzing common assessments Civics MCAS operational - Year 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue course accessibility, common assessment work Curriculum examination and development to weave Genocide Education into grade 6, 7, 8 courses

9-12 Update

- Increased alignment for courses with the same title
- Professional Development
 - Genocide Education
 - Civil Discourse
 - Academic Integrity and AI
 - Course recommendation process
 - Updating our awards process
 - Research Writing
 - Oral Participation

9-12 Update: New(ish) Courses

- WHISP
- Global Studies
- AP/Honor African American Studies
- *Contemporary United States History*
- *Justice in Action*

9-12 Update: Future Work

- Alignment: content and expectations
- Understanding impact of AI
- Media Literacy
- Skill based scope and sequence
 - 9-12
 - 6-12
 - K-12

6-12 Update

- Monthly collaboration meetings between Jen and Greg
- 6-12 teachers collaborate in person 2x per year
- Vertical alignment between the K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12 social studies experience
 - Identify curricular overlaps in 6-8 and 9-12 and make strategic instructional choices to address
 - Skills Progression K-12
- Collaborative work with FHA0 on fostering civil discourse (SY24) and Genocide Education (SY25)

District

- **Community Response to Emerging World Events (CREWE)**
 - Created a robust protocol for K-12 district response to emerging world events (SY24-work continues)
 - District communication & School-level communication
 - Lessons for K-12 classrooms when the protocol is initiated (summer work funded by BEF)
 - Establishing an Administrative Task Force to lead protocol
 - Piloted protocol in support of commemoration of Oct. 7 and the results of the 2024 Election.
- **K-8 Social Studies Website** creation and publication
- **K-8/K-12 CC Collaboration:** Interdisciplinary Work, K-5 Curriculum Mapping, Professional Development structure, Progress Reports, Time on Learning, High Quality Teaching & Learning Rounds

Budget

- FY26 K-8 Social Studies Budget
 - Original Proposed: \$120,000
 - Reduced: \$21,000 (*Note: maintaining level services dependent on coordinator role*)
- Grants
 - FY23-FY25: \$250,000
 - Civics Teaching and Learning: \$165,000
 - Investigating History: \$25,000
 - Genocide Education: \$60,000
 - Key Components: Curriculum Review/Pilot/Adopt/Purchase/Implement K-8, Civic Action Project Gr.8, Teacher Leaders K-5, Professional Development K-12 (Facing History, Primary Source), Curriculum Development
 - FY26 (proposed): \$130,000
 - Civics Teaching and Learning: \$60,000
 - Genocide Education: \$70,000
 - Key Components: Professional Development (Facing History, Primary Source), Curriculum Development, Teacher Leaders (K-5), Cattle Car Exhibit, Survivor Speakers

Contact Information

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Additional Questions



