

**K - 12 Social Studies Vertical Team Meeting Notes
January 14, 2015**

Members

Penny Baker	Director C&I	Michelle Collopy	IGHMS
Debra Dallmann	Salem Hills	Julie Empey	Pine Bend
Nancy Gagne	Pine Bend	Sara Getting	Hilltop
Patti Goettsch	Pine Bend	LaKeisha Greenwood	Salem Hills
Theodore Ihns	Pine Bend	Kellie Keifenheim	Hilltop
Heidi Klukas	Simley	Mike LeMier	IGHMS
Lam Nguyen	Simley	Ben Peine	Pine Bend
Annie Roberts	Pine Bend	Marcia Ruther	Hilltop
Zeb Walberg	IGHMS	Trudy Weise	Pine Bend
Jodi Wendel	IGHMS	Tina Willette	Salem Hills

***Bold** – Members in Attendance

I. Developing Criteria for Evaluating Resources

- A. Team members read an article, “Curriculum Matters! Evaluating the Evaluation Process”, by NCTM President Diane J. Briars. Found online at:
<http://www.nctm.org/about/content.aspx?id=43510>
- B. Each member identified their top five criteria for reviewing materials in a collaborative group process.
- C. Based on the top criteria, team members reviewed other evaluation rubrics and checklists and then developed one that will be used by the Social Studies Vertical Team as we review resources at our next meeting.
- D. Results: See Attachment 1: Social Studies Curriculum Resource Evaluation Form.

II. Identifying Additional Sources for Curriculum Materials

- A. Team members will be contacting colleagues from other districts and within our district to generate ideas for additional sources for Social Studies curriculum materials aligned to the MN State Standards in Social Studies.
- B. Penny shared information from our Pearson sales representative that explains why there is a lack of available resources. Since many MN elementary schools are in the same daily schedule as we currently have in Inver Grove Heights, there is not a demand for full social studies textbooks. Instead, districts are opting for smaller trade books that are aligned tightly to the state standards.

III. MN Center for Social Studies Education

- A. Penny shared News and Upcoming Resources for Teachers and Students with the team. Teachers can subscribe to the e-newsletter at:
<http://csse.mnhs.org/about>

IV. Next Steps

- A. The next Social Studies Vertical Team Meeting is on March 19 (12:30 – 3:30) in the IGHMS Flexible Learning Space.

Attachment 1: Social Studies Curriculum Resource Evaluation Form

	Meets	Partially Meets	Does Not Meet	Comments
1. Highly Aligned to Standards				
Material content aligns to MN standards				
Material aligns to district organization, as well as scope and sequence				
Standards alignment document available				
2. Relevant to Students				
Reading level is grade appropriate				
Real-world applications are relevant to students				
Content includes 21st Century skill development such as collaboration, creative thinking, and problem solving				
New material/content builds on previously taught content				
3. Cultures, Equity, Varied Perspectives				
Content addresses the diverse, multi-cultural nature of our society				
Free of racial, ethnic, or gender stereotyping or bias				
Accurate, current, and research-based with multiple perspectives				
Multi-lingual resources				
Diverse race, ethnicity, culture included in text and non-text features				
Value diversity and cultural knowledge				
4. User-Friendly for Teachers				
A. Support Materials				
Teacher guide with student text imbedded				
Student books				
Assessment package				
Question prompts				
Online resources that stay up to date				
Student work masters				

	Meets	Partially Meets	Does Not Meet	Comments
4. User-Friendly for Teachers Continued				
B. Information				
Accurate				
Research-based				
Current				
Size/format of print appropriate				
C. Teacher/Student Edition				
Student learning goals/objectives				
Table of content/glossary/index/maps				
Additional resources (supplemental pages)				
Resources for students with disabilities				
Resources for EL students				
Prerequisite skills/knowledge listed				
5. Differentiated Options				
Online resources for teachers				
Online resources for students/families				
Real-life activities				
Problem-solving opportunities for students				
Variety of assessment options				
Hands-on activities for students				
Lesson plan supplements for teachers				
EL resources for students/families				
Differentiated lessons addressing various teaching strategies to meet the needs of all of our students				
Instructional materials include extension and/or enrichment activities				