



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

August 29, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan 

SUBJECT: Report on the Status of the Social Studies Grade Level Content Expectations

In July, the Social Studies Task Force presented the Social Studies Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE) to the State Board of Education for approval. It was decided that the GLCE needed additional consideration as well as a national review. The Board instructed the Task Force to return in September to provide an update on the status of the GLCE and a progress report.

The attached provides a brief summary of recommendations the Task Force has considered and is in the process of implementing as next steps in achieving approval for the Social Studies Grade Level Content Expectations.

Attachment

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

**Social Studies Task Force
Recommendations/Next Steps
Special Meeting, August 8, 2005**

Members Present: Dr. Joe Stoltman, Chair; Dr. Mike Libby, Amy Bloom, Roy Sorvis, Judy Backus, Kelli Sweet, Karen Todorov, Betty Underwood, Dr. Yvonne Caamal Canul.

The following represents the topics of deliberation and recommendations for action

- 1** The current Social Studies Task Force should continue in its present role until such time as the national review, as requested by the State Board of Education, is completed and the commentary incorporated into the revised GLCE statements.
- 2.** An ad hoc advisory group will be convened by Office of School Improvement (OSI) Assistant Director, Betty Underwood, to explore national review options, identify criteria/requirements, and suggest guidelines.
- 3.** Upon national review, the revised GLCE will be presented to the State Board of Education by Task Force Chair, Dr. Joe Stoltman. Approval of the GLCE will be requested at that meeting at which time the Task Force will have completed its intended task.
- 4.** A new advisory work group will be convened by OSI staff to assist in the development and review of all social studies companion documents, materials, and resources. Members of the advisory work group will be representative of the task force, professional organizations, and local and intermediate school districts.
- 5.** The timeline for revision and approval of the Social Studies GLCE is dependent upon the national review. Expected completion is November 2005.
- 6.** Upon the recommendation of Achieve, Inc., the Office of School Improvement has contacted Dr. Susan Pimentel requesting her involvement in the selection of a national review process.

Note: An electronic letter was sent to all Social Studies Task Force members summarizing the decisions made by the group on August 8, 2005. Item number six did not appear in the memo as it is a recent development.