




STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 28, 2019
TO: State Board of Education
FROM: Sheila Alles, Chairperson 
SUBJECT: Approval of the Social Studies Standards

In April of 2019, Department staff presented a draft set of Social Studies Standards to the State Board of Education prior to hosting a period of public comment from April 9, 2019 through May 9, 2019. To collect public feedback, nine Listen and Learn sessions were held across the state and an online survey was made available. There were 2,292 responses to the online survey and 216 attendees at the Listen and Learn sessions. In both cases, the feedback was less than half of what it had been in 2018.

Following the period of public comment, the leads of the social studies writers looked at specific recommendations for change. Suggestions were either incorporated or dismissed. Rationale for dismissal included: were not Michigan residents, had not read the document, lack of clarity, lack of specificity, were not factual, or weren't grade level appropriate. All suggestions were considered.

The May 2019 draft Social Studies Standards document is in a link below. To understand the scope and content of the changes, please refer to the side-by-side document. It compares the March 2019 draft Social Studies Standards with the May 2019 draft Social Studies Standards. Both documents are included in the following links:

Social Studies Standards:

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Final_Social_Studies_Standards_Document_655968_7.pdf

Side-by-Side:

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/SS_SbS_Mar_vs_May2019_655971_7.pdf

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the May 2019 Social Studies Standards, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated May 28, 2019.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – PRESIDENT • PAMELA PUGH – VICE PRESIDENT
MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • TOM MCMILLIN – TREASURER
TIFFANY D. TILLEY – NASBE DELEGATE • JUDITH PRITCHETT
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY • NIKKI SNYDER

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • 833-633-5788