



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES  
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** May 10, 2018

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent *V. Keesler*  
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

**SUBJECT:** Update on the Social Studies Standards Public Comments

The 2007 Michigan Social Studies Standards are updated and ready for public comment.

In April 2014, Social Studies experts from across Michigan began a process to update the Michigan Social Studies Standards. This team reviewed and edited all content expectations to make them fewer, consistent, and grade level appropriate. Once the draft document was completed, a period of public comment ensued. Given issues with that draft, a Focus Group including a broad range of perspectives, reviewed the standards and made important edits. The State Board of Education received that document on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 prior to a period of public comment.

A Survey for Public Comments opened on May 9 and will remain open until June 30, 2018. The survey can be found at:

<https://fs28.formsite.com/pf98Hd/form7/index.html>.

To assist in a review of the changes to the existing standards, staff developed a cut and cap version of the revised draft standards showing where language has been deleted (cut) or added (CAP) ([Attachment A](#)). Also attached is a version of the new draft standards as they will appear when the proposed changes are accepted ([Attachment B](#)). Please check back periodically for additional clarifying documents.

In addition to the survey, the Department of Education will conduct regional public meetings that will provide another opportunity for input. Details on those meetings will be provided in a future communication.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – CO-PRESIDENT • RICHARD ZEILE – CO-PRESIDENT  
MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • TOM MCMILLIN – TREASURER  
NIKKI SNYDER – NASBE DELEGATE • PAMELA PUGH  
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY • EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • 833-633-5788

Page 2  
May 10, 2018

Feedback from both the survey and public meetings will be used to determine the final draft standards that the State Board of Education will consider for adoption.

For questions or concerns, please contact Jim Cameron, Social Studies Consultant, at [CameronJ3@michigan.gov](mailto:CameronJ3@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance