

## Checklist for Social Studies Curriculum Revision

### PHASE ONE: Preparing for a Curriculum Revision

- Develop communication plan for revision process, including the rationale and goals for completing the process.
- Develop a proposed timeline for curriculum revision.
- Gather literature on best practices and current research of effective social studies instruction.
- Conduct a needs assessment plan to compile information from social studies staff on:
  - their perception and attitude toward the current curriculum.
  - their perception on the role of assessment in social studies instruction.
  - their perception on the degree of student success with current curriculum.
  - their perception on the level of success with the instructional resources that support the current curriculum.
  - their perception on the role of current and future role of technology in social studies instruction.
  - their perception on the professional development provided to support current curriculum.
- Gather documentation on the current district social studies program, including the district social studies standards, benchmarks, and course-level expectations.
- Gather information to share regarding the Iowa Core in Social Studies.
- Gather information to share regarding the Iowa Professional Development Model.
- Gather district social studies data to be reviewed.
- Assemble a Social Studies Curriculum Revision Team that is representative of the demographics of the district.

### PHASE TWO: The Curriculum Revision Process

- Create norms for success as a curriculum revision committee.
- Review, as a committee:
  - literature regarding best practices and current research of effective social studies instruction.
  - data and information from completed needs assessment
  - district social studies data.
  - current legislative mandates regarding social studies, including the Iowa Core in the area of Social Studies and ELA Literacy K-5 and ELA Literacy for History and Social Studies 6-12.
  - district board policies regarding curriculum revision and social studies instruction
  - current social studies curriculum.
- Articulate a K-12 Social Studies Curriculum Philosophy

- Create or revise/rewrite the current philosophy statement for the district social studies curriculum.
- Create or revise/rewrite curriculum goal statements that align with the new philosophy statement.
- Create grade level/course expectations and instructional objectives that align with the curriculum goal statements and philosophy. Include things such as enduring understandings and big ideas along with compelling questions<sup>1</sup> for each grade level or secondary course.
- Align the curriculum standards, benchmarks, and course level expectations with the grade level/course expectations and instructional objectives. Review current scope and sequence of social studies curriculum.
- Identify and propose an updated scope and sequence aligned to the philosophy, goals, grade level instructional objectives, and standards/benchmarks/and course level expectations.
- Create a “curriculum map” of newly revised program to identify any potential gaps.
- Think about inclusion and integration of the following in the social studies curriculum:
  - Digital Literacy (Iowa Core 21st century skills)
  - Financial literacy (Iowa Core 21st century skills)
  - Civic Literacy (Iowa Core 21st century skills)
  - Inquiry-based social studies instruction
  - Multicultural perspectives for all social studies curricular instruction
- Write course-level descriptions that include the core content of the course, a suggested pacing guide, resources that support the course, and a description of how the course meets all requirements of the Iowa Core in Social Studies.
- Create an assessment plan, including formative and summative assessments, to measure student attainment of the newly revised curriculum.
  - Creation of common formative or performance assessments for each grade level or course.
- Create supplemental materials that support talented and gifted instruction as well as supplemental and intensive instructional interventions.
- Present draft of the updated framework for the K-12 Social Studies Curriculum to district administration and select control feedback group (teaching staff, parents, and community members) for review and feedback. Make needed revisions.
- Select Instructional Resources to support new curriculum –
  - Selection and adoption of textbook series or other core instructional resources.
  - Selection and adoption of supplemental instructional resources
  - Selection and/or development of digital resources
  - Selection and/or development of text sets to support instructional units within the K-12 curriculum.

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<sup>1</sup> *Compelling questions, as defined in the C3 Framework, address problems and issues found in the various social studies disciplines. They have a foundational basis in content and curriculum.*

- ❑ Present newly revised curriculum to the school district 'Board of Education' for review and approval.

**PHASE THREE:** Implementation

- ❑ Create a timeline for the implementation of the newly revised curriculum.
- ❑ Create a budget for purchase of curriculum resources.
- ❑ Purchase selected instructional resources.
- ❑ Create a plan for professional development for implementation of the newly revised curriculum. Utilize the Iowa Professional Development Model.
- ❑ Create grade or course level teacher sessions (possibly PLC's) to share new learnings, instructional lessons and units, assessments, student work, and materials that support the newly revised curriculum.

**PHASE FOUR:** Evaluation

- ❑ Develop monitoring materials for teacher implementation including:
  - ❑ Classroom walk through checklists
  - ❑ Exemplars for artifact collection for teacher evaluation
  - ❑ Exemplars for artifact collection for administrator evaluation.
  - ❑ Select or develop data collection methods and materials to measure implementation
- ❑ Review data from common performance assessments for each course.
- ❑ Create program evaluation that is an objective survey/assessment of the approved curriculum to determine implementation fidelity and degree of effectiveness with instructional resources to support the curriculum implementation.
- ❑ Create a plan for ongoing systematic assessment and review of the social studies curriculum.