

## Social Studies Workgroup Meeting Overview

### **June 3-4, 2014**

The workgroup started with pre-work to review the previous state standards and the most recent College, Career and Civic (C3) Framework in Social Studies. The current South Dakota social studies standards were last revised in 2006. The workgroup evaluated the existing standards and the C3 framework to identify expectations for depth of engagement in the content. The group was in agreement at this time that the C3 Framework provided good guidance on the skills that could be included in the next revision of the social studies standards. The outcome of this meeting was the establishment of content subgroups and agreement to use the C3 framework to help bolster student expectations within the proposed standards. Example formats were created to help context what the inclusion of the C3 skills could look like within the existing system of social studies in the state. The group was directed to spend time on the South Dakota documents and to ensure that any other documents used as references and resources are solely utilized to revise our current standards to ensure that the final product is created by South Dakota teachers for the use of South Dakota teachers.

### **July 8-9, 2014**

In July, the workgroup began the writing stage. The process included beginning with the current SD Standard and bringing those into a new, agreed upon, format. The process also involved comparing the current SD Standard to the last version of the National Standards to examine similarities and differences. The workgroup members then began to look at the skills of the standards, the appropriateness of them compared to each other, compared to the grade level, and compared to the course SD typically has for each respective set of standards. Revision occurred and in most cases that involved writing a new standard for SD students. The next task was to compare the SD standards to the C3 Framework. The workgroup members had to decide if the skills in the C3 Framework were something that needed to be embedded in the standard because it was a skill needed to gain over the course of that content area and grade level—or—if it was an outcome, a way for students to demonstrate understanding of the standard. The group was in agreement to integrate the C3 Framework into the new standards, as it includes the skills that ensure that students will be college and career ready. The workgroup worked through the process and found places where the skills best fit within each SD Social Studies Standard.

### **July 28-29 and August 4-5, 2014**

The standards workgroup met during these two meetings to finalize the standards in grade-band and content area groups. The late July meeting was added to provide more time for the group to complete the work. During the August meeting, final formatting and vertical alignment was completed.

During these final meetings, it became apparent that a subsection of the group was divided on the issue of U.S. History and in particular the time period to be addressed in High School standards. The argument was regarding a proposal for the inclusion of 1776-1876 in the High School History Standards, by some members of the U.S. History workgroup. In the current standards, the High School U.S. History standards are based on the time period from 1877 to the present. The workgroup decided that the Department of

Education could send a survey to U.S. History teachers in South Dakota to see if 60% of teachers agreed with the inclusion of those standards. The survey responses came back and 58% agreed. Therefore, this did not meet the percentage as required by the workgroup.

**September 19 – October 10, 2014**

The proposed standards were released in draft format along with a survey to obtain feedback on the standards. The compiled survey results (over 200) were sent out to the workgroup, feedback was evaluated and updates to the standards were made before the standards were posted to the Department of Education standards webpage.

**October 7, 2014**

Due to the almost even divide on the time period for High School U.S. History standards from both the field and within the standards workgroup, the Department of Education had decided to extend and expand the standards revision process for Social Studies. Therefore, the standards were postponed for presentation to the Board of Education for public hearing and adoption, until the November public hearing. The Department of Education brought together an eleven person workgroup to address this issue. This workgroup came to a unanimous agreement on how the U.S. History standards should be written along with recommendations for how these standards may be included in courses to meet existing graduation requirements.