

# K-12 Social Studies Update

Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting

Monday, March 17, 2025

# Agenda

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- ❖ K-8: Where We Were
- ❖ K-2 Update
- ❖ 3-5 Update
- ❖ 6-8 Update
- ❖ 9-12 Update
- ❖ 6-12 Update
- ❖ District
- ❖ Budget
- ❖ Contact Information
- ❖ Additional Questions

# K-8: Where We Were

[From School Committee Meeting 5.26.22  
\(link\)](#)

K-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Curriculum</u>: Largely incomplete, disorganized, inequitable...devoid of embedded/intentional supports/extensions</li><li>• <u>Curricular Materials</u>: Largely incomplete, disorganized, inequitable; inconsistent alignment to 2018 Framework</li><li>• <u>PD</u>: Unclear/undefined PD system, No designated time with K-5, Limited districtwide capacity to support</li><li>• <u>Pedagogy</u>: Inconsistent ToL; Inconsistent and under-supported instructional practices; not addressed by Curriculum, Curricular Materials, or PD</li></ul>
K-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current Curriculum/Curricular Materials incomplete/inconsistent</li><li>• Curriculum/Curricular Materials not standards aligned</li><li>• Need to Review/Revise Learning Expectations (LEs)</li></ul>
3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current Curriculum/Curricular Materials incomplete/inconsistent</li><li>• No PD associated with new textbook in grades 3 or 5 after purchase</li><li>• Review Grade 4 alignment to 2018 MA Framework</li><li>• Need to Review/Revise Learning Expectations (LEs)</li></ul>
6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current Curriculum/Curricular Materials incomplete/ inconsistent</li><li>• Curriculum work needed in specific areas of grade 6 and grade 7</li><li>• Course Design/Selection and Implementation in Grade 8 to create more equitable learning for students</li><li>• Where to "house" Civic Action Project in grade 8</li><li>• Need to Review/Revise Learning Expectations (LEs)</li></ul>

# K-2 Update

## Where We Are

- Adopted new, high quality, standards aligned curriculum: **InquirED's *Inquiry Journeys* (IJ)**
- Year 2 of Implementation in all 8 schools, with a staggered rollout to support teachers due to inconsistent Time on Learning
- Synchronous and Asynchronous PD options for all classroom teachers, SPED (including Paras), ELE, administrators
- Districtwide Grade Level Lead Teachers

## Where We Are (Hopefully) Going

- Year 3 of IJ Implementation
- Curriculum Development Projects (Focus on materials to support accessibility - SPED and ELE)
- Integration with new ELA curriculum, Science & Math
- Continue PD opportunities that support curriculum and embedded pedagogy
- Continue grade level support via a lead teacher

# 3-5 Update

	Where We Are	Where We Are (Hopefully) Going
Grade 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Adopted new, high quality, standards aligned curriculum: <b>Investigating History (IH)</b></li><li>Year 2 of Implementation in all 8 schools, with a staggered rollout to support teachers due to inconsistent Time on Learning</li><li>Synchronous and Asynchronous PD options for all classroom teachers, SPED (including Paras), ELE, administrators</li><li>Districtwide Grade Level Lead Teachers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Year 3 of IH Implementation</li><li>Curriculum Development Projects (Focus on materials to support accessibility - SPED and ELE)</li><li>Integration with new ELA curriculum, Science &amp; Math</li><li>Continue PD opportunities that support curriculum and embedded pedagogy</li><li>Continue grade level support via a lead teacher</li></ul>
Grades 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Completing a full year curriculum pilot of <b>Investigating History</b>, with adoption at the conclusion of SY24-25</li><li>Direct collaboration with IH curriculum designers via pilot</li><li>Districtwide Grade Level Lead Teachers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Year 1 of IH Implementation in all 8 schools</li><li>Begin robust PD opportunities that support curriculum and embedded pedagogy</li><li>Continue grade level support via a lead teacher</li><li>Curriculum Development &amp; Integration (SY27)</li></ul>

# 6-8 Update

	Where We Are	Where We Are (Hopefully) Going
Grades 6 & 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PSB Curriculum Development</li><li>• Piloting of Investigating History (IH)</li><li>• Partnership with BU African Studies Center (grade 6)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continued development of PSB curriculum (Focus on materials to support accessibility - SPED and ELE)</li><li>• Continued pilot of Investigating History (updated for SY26)</li><li>• Comparison of PSB and IH curricula</li></ul>
Grade 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identified common, high quality Civics curriculum: <b>The Democratic Knowledge Project (DKP)</b></li><li>• 5 of 8 schools are Implementing DKP in SY25, including robust Professional Development &amp; teacher support</li><li>• Civic Action Project (CAP) in year 3 in all 8 schools, with school-based "showcases"</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remaining 3 schools begin Implementation of DKP</li><li>• 3 "new" teachers begin DKP training; 5 returning teachers continue DKP training</li><li>• Begin curriculum development work (Focus on materials to support accessibility - SPED and ELE)</li></ul>
Grades 6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focus on course accessibility for all students, specifically those that receive SPED and/or ELE services - PD via PSB ELE dept. &amp; Primary Source</li><li>• Identifying/utilizing/analyzing common assessments</li><li>• Civics MCAS operational - Year 1</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue course accessibility, common assessment work</li><li>• Curriculum examination and development to weave Genocide Education into grade 6, 7, 8 courses</li></ul>

# 9-12 Update

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- Increased alignment for courses with the same title
- Professional Development
  - Genocide Education
  - Civil Discourse
  - Academic Integrity and AI
  - Course recommendation process
  - Updating our awards process
  - Research Writing
  - Oral Participation

# 9-12 Update: New(ish) Courses

- WHISP
- Global Studies
- AP/Honor African American Studies
- *Contemporary United States History*
- *Justice in Action*



# 9-12 Update: Future Work

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- Alignment: content and expectations
- Understanding impact of AI
- Media Literacy
- Skill based scope and sequence
  - 9-12
  - 6-12
  - K-12

## 6-12 Update

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- Monthly collaboration meetings between Jen and Greg
- 6-12 teachers collaborate in person 2x per year
- Vertical alignment between the K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12 social studies experience
  - Identify curricular overlaps in 6-8 and 9-12 and make strategic instructional choices to address
  - Skills Progression K-12
- Collaborative work with FHAO on fostering civil discourse (SY24) and Genocide Education (SY25)

# District

- **Community Response to Emerging World Events (CREWE)**
  - Created a robust protocol for K-12 district response to emerging world events (SY24-work continues)
    - District communication & School-level communication
    - Lessons for K-12 classrooms when the protocol is initiated (summer work funded by BEF)
    - Establishing an Administrative Task Force to lead protocol
  - Piloted protocol in support of commemoration of Oct. 7 and the results of the 2024 Election.
- **K-8 Social Studies Website** creation and publication
- **K-8/K-12 CC Collaboration:** Interdisciplinary Work, K-5 Curriculum Mapping, Professional Development structure, Progress Reports, Time on Learning, High Quality Teaching & Learning Rounds

# Budget

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- FY26 K-8 Social Studies Budget
  - Original Proposed: \$120,000
  - Reduced: \$21,000 (*Note: maintaining level services dependent on coordinator role*)
- Grants
  - FY23-FY25: \$250,000
    - Civics Teaching and Learning: \$165,000
    - Investigating History: \$25,000
    - Genocide Education: \$60,000
    - Key Components: Curriculum Review/Pilot/Adopt/Purchase/Implement K-8, Civic Action Project Gr.8, Teacher Leaders K-5, Professional Development K-12 (Facing History, Primary Source), Curriculum Development
  - FY26 (proposed): \$130,000
    - Civics Teaching and Learning: \$60,000
    - Genocide Education: \$70,000
    - Key Components: Professional Development (Facing History, Primary Source), Curriculum Development, Teacher Leaders (K-5), Cattle Car Exhibit, Survivor Speakers

# Contact Information

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# Additional Questions

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# Meeting Notes

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