

American Civics Hearing

Monday, April 12, 2021 7:00 PM

Gothenburg Public Schools Discovery Center
(Greenhouse Classroom)
1322 Avenue I
Gothenburg, Nebraska 69138

Agenda

1. Open Hearing
2. Roll Call
3. Social Science Presentation
4. Math Presentation
5. Public Comment
6. Committee on American Civics
As members of the Board of Education Committee on American Civics of the Gothenburg School District, we have completed the duties cited in Nebraska State Statute 79-724 as set forth in sections 79-719 to 79-723 with pride and respect for the nation's institutions. Board members on the committee on American Civics are Kelly Terrell, Devin Brundage and Jon Hudson.
7. Close Hearing

SOCIAL STUDIES - Materials Adoption



Curriculum Adoption

- Social Studies standards were adopted in 2019-2020.

Materials Adoption

- Review of materials took place 2020-2021
- Proposal for materials 2021-2022
- Goal of materials adoption: find materials that help us teach the knowledge & skills needed for students to be successful.

Materials Proposal

- Daily Geography (1st Grade through 6th Grade) - Evan Moor
- K - 1st Grade: Current Citizenship (Little Thinkers) & Reading Materials
- 2nd - 5th Grade: McGraw Hill
- 4th Grade - Nebraska Adventure Gibbs Smith Education
- 6th - 12th Grade: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt



SOCIAL STUDIES - Materials Adoption

Grades 7-12

Luke Dea, Brent Streeter, Tom Scott, Kaitlyn Clark

7-12 Standards Alignment

- Provides essential questions, objective directions with main ideas, and visual prompts
- Units and Chapters align with PLC goals which are standard based
- Big ideas and essential questions coincide with state state standards
- Answer big idea questions and essential questions
- Thirty-two hours were devoted to evaluated the books on their standards based assessments



Assessment Plan

- It gives good options for formal assessments
- New Nebraska Legislation requires citizenship tests and the book's content aligns with our only state evaluation of our curriculum
- Students will take pretests when they are in 8th grade and those books align with the curriculum
- Students will take post-tests when they are in American Government (12th grade).

Education of Ethnic Groups

- Every unit evaluates groups that were marginalized by American society and their contributions
- Every unit has culture, science, and politics and how marginalized groups helped groups grow
- The books in every War unit evaluated the contribution of all ethnic groups to the war effort



Education of Prominent Documents

- Full versions of prominent documents are in the book
- Set of text does a great job tying English documents to our current American document



Benefits and Advantages of Democratic Government

- Goals and principles of American documents are clearly spelled out
- Preamble is compared to the full Constitution
- Provide information about comparing economic systems



Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship in Our Government

- Citizen test is a Nebraska requirement and all of the text material had elements of the Naturalization test
- Company made tests asked questions that were major elements to the Naturalization Test



Dangers and Fallacies of Government

- Compares forms of government and analyzes the benefits to Democracy and restrictions in other countries
- Full scale evaluation of dictators and their responsibilities to citizens as compared to the democratic principles of American culture



Duties of Citizenship

- Text outlines voting at local, state and National level
- Value the importance of military service, Veterans Day performance, Selective Service, Voting responsibly
- Historical events/examples of civil discourse (the extremes and dangers of ignoring it)
- Supplemental information encourages action steps





SOCIAL STUDIES - Materials Adoption

Kindergarten & 1st Grade

K-1 Standards Alignment

- **Goal:** Outline how your materials and curriculum align to state standards.
- Our current materials in Reading and Social Studies cover all standards.
 - [1st Grade Standards Alignment](#)
 - [K Standards Alignment](#)



Assessment Plan

- K-1 team outline your assessment plan. *How will you know what students know?*
- Our current materials provide end-of-module assessments that allow us to evaluate student mastery of skill.

Multicultural Education

- K-2 Specifically address how your materials and curriculum address the following:
- Education of ethnic groups
 - (a) the development and growth of America into a great nation,
 - (b) art, music, education, medicine, literature, science, politics, and government
 - (c) the military in all of this nation's wars





SOCIAL STUDIES - Materials Adoption

2nd - 6th Grade

2nd - 6th Grade Standards Alignment

2nd through 6th grade Social Studies teachers evaluated the new Social Studies state standards and aligned the standards with the given curriculum that they selected.

- [2nd Grade Alignment](#)
- [3rd Grade Alignment](#)
- (4th Grade explained on Slide 22)
- [5th and 6th Grade Alignment](#)



Assessment Plan

- Curriculum based formative and summative assessments
- Teacher created standards based assessments

Multicultural Education

- Every unit provides multiple perspectives
- Every unit evaluates groups that contributed or contribute to American society
- Every unit has multicultural perspectives on art, music, education, medicine, literature, science, politics and government
- The content emphasizes major military conflicts that have shaped our nation.





SOCIAL STUDIES - Materials Adoption

4th Grade

4th Grade Standards Alignment

- [4th Grade Alignment](#)



Assessment Plan

- 4th Grade outline your assessment plan. *The Nebraska Adventure provides chapter tests as well as lesson summary questions.*
- Additionally address how these specific materials allow you to meet this goal.

Multicultural Education

- 4th Grade Specifically address how your materials and curriculum address the following:
- Education of ethnic groups
 - (a) the development and growth of America into a great nation,
 - (b) art, music, education, medicine, literature, science, politics, and government
 - (c) the military in all of this nation's wars



Materials Proposal

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INTEGRATED MATH

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Proposal: Change in Course Title for 2021-2022 School Year

The math department is proposing purchasing new texts for the 21-22 school year to cover the courses of Pre-Algebra, Applied Math I and Applied Math II. These new texts are from McGraw-Hill entitled Integrated I, Integrated II, and a text yet to be determined. Therefore, we also propose changing the titles of the classes to match the integrated curriculum.

The new series is taught in integrated order, meaning that topics from Algebra and Geometry are intermixed throughout the courses. The reason for the adoption of this material is that it better supports the curriculum covering all 4 strands in the Ne. Standards of Mathematics.

Board Policy requirements for graduation is 30 hours including either Algebra I or Pre-Algebra. Students at GPS will meet the required 1 year of algebra topics through EITHER 1 year of algebra I OR Integrated I. We compared the topics from the current Pre-algebra text to the new Integrated text and feel students will meet the graduation requirements set by the board.

*Since math standards changed, juniors take the ACT as the state test, essential list is established

We have taught the curriculum needed to meet the standards. The current texts do not match the curriculum. We supplement our current texts quite a bit to cover all strands. There has not been a text series/program that meets our needs until this one. The additional tech. piece is a huge bonus.

*We want to rename the class to better match the curriculum we are doing and the text is just easy to call the same.

*The board policy says 'pre-algebra' so we need to officially change the name to match.

Pre-Algebra Text (current)	Integrated I Text	Integrated II Text
Ch. 1: Algebraic Expressions and Integers	Mod. 1: Expressions	Mod. 1: Relationships in Triangles
Ch. 2: Solving One-Step Equations and Inequalities	Mod. 2: Equations in One Variable, Proportions	Mod. 2: Quadrilaterals
Ch. 3: Decimals and Equations	Mod. 3: Relations and Functions	Mod. 3: Similarity
Ch. 4: Factors, Fractions, and Exponents	Mod. 4: Linear and Nonlinear Functions	Mod. 4: Right Triangles and Trigonometry
Ch. 5: Operations with Fractions	Mod. 5: Creating Linear Equations	Mod. 5: Circles
Ch. 6: Ratios, Proportions, and Percents	Mod. 6: Linear Inequalities	Mod. 6: Measurement
Ch. 7: Solving Equations and Inequalities	Mod. 7: Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities	Mod. 7: Probability
Ch. 8: Linear Functions and Graphing	Mod. 8: Exponential Functions	Mod. 8: Relations and Functions
Ch. 9: Spatial Thinking	Mod. 9: Statistics	Mod. 9: Linear Equations, Inequalities, and Systems
Ch. 10: Area and Volume	Mod. 10: Tools of Geometry	Mod. 10: Exponents and Roots
Ch. 11: Right Triangles in Algebra	Mod. 11: Angles and Geometric	Mod. 11: Polynomials

	Figures	
Ch. 12: Data Analysis and Probability	Mod. 12: Logical Arguments and Line Relationships	Mod. 12: Quadratic Functions
Ch. 13: Nonlinear Functions and Polynomials	Mod. 13: Transformations and Symmetry	Mod. 13: Trigonometric Identities and Equations
	Mod. 14: Triangles and congruence	

Pre-Algebra Text (current)	Integrated I Text (proposed)
Ch. 1: Algebraic Expressions and Integers	Mod. 1: Expressions
Ch. 2: Solving One-Step Equations and Inequalities	Mod. 2: Equations in One Variable, Proportions
Ch. 3: Decimals and Equations	Mod. 3: Relations and Functions
Ch. 4: Factors, Fractions, and Exponents	Mod. 4: Linear and Nonlinear Functions
Ch. 5: Operations with Fractions	Mod. 5: Creating Linear Equations
Ch. 6: Ratios, Proportions, and Percents	Mod. 6: Linear Inequalities
Ch. 7: Solving Equations and Inequalities	Mod. 7: Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities
Ch. 8: Linear Functions and Graphing	Mod. 8: Exponential Functions
Ch. 9: Spatial Thinking	Mod. 9: Statistics
Ch. 10: Area and Volume	Mod. 10: Tools of Geometry
Ch. 11: Right Triangles in Algebra	Mod. 11: Angles and Geometric Figures
Ch. 12: Data Analysis and Probability	Mod. 12: Logical Arguments and Line Relationships
Ch. 13: Nonlinear Functions and Polynomials	Mod. 13: Transformations and Symmetry
	Mod. 14: Triangles and congruence

StudentsGraduation

To participate in commencement exercises or receive a Gothenburg Public Schools diploma a student must fully complete all requirements for graduation prior to the official commencement exercises, and complete other administrative requirements or conditions. Students who graduate from Gothenburg Public Schools must accumulate 240 hours. The total graduation requirements must include the following core curriculum:

Language Arts - - 40 hours

(Including English 9, 10, 11, and 12)

Science - - 30 hours

(Including Physical, Biology and Chemistry or Environmental Science)

Mathematics - - 30 hours

(Including Algebra I or Integrated Math I)

Social Science - - 30 hours

(Including American History and Government)

Physical Education - - 10 hours

(Including Physical Education/First Aid)

Information Technology - - 5 hours

Personal Finance - - 5 hours

Speech - - 5 hours

Electives - - 85 hours

Students physically unable to engage in physical education classes may be excused upon presentation of a certificate signed by a physician.

A diploma may be granted for participation in courses which, if they would have been successfully completed, would have totaled the required graduation hours, but the diploma will indicate participation rather than successful completion of course requirements.

Date of Adoption: December 10, 2007

Date of Revision: