



Highline Public Schools Board Action Report

Supports the Strategic Plan

DATE: April 26, 2019

FROM: Dr. Susan Enfield, Superintendent

LEAD STAFF: Susanne Jerde, Chief Academic Officer

For Introduction: May 1, 2019 For Action: May 15, 2019

I. TITLE 6th-11th grade Social Studies OER Instructional Materials Adoption

II. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY Per Board policy 2020, the School Board is responsible for the adoption of all core materials used in the District as recommended by the Instructional Materials Committee.

III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Teaching, Learning, and Leadership staff conducted a course of study review to determine whether or not the 6th-11th grade Social Studies instructional materials currently in use align with standards, and their overall effectiveness. Staff found clear evidence that adopted materials and other materials in use do not support a coherent effective Social Studies education. This led to the formation of a materials adoption team -- see the attached memo for detailed information on the process they completed. In addition to Discovery Education for 6th-8th grade and ABC-CLIO for 9th-11th grade, the adoption committee has recommended the following Open Education Resources as part of this adoption: Teaching Tolerance, Native Knowledge 360, Since Time Immemorial and Newsela. Together with the other adopted resources, these OERs provide a more complete range of materials to effectively teach Social Studies.

IV. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the Highline School Board approve the adoption of Teaching Tolerance, Native Knowledge 360, and Since Time Immemorial as the core material for 6th-11th grade Social Studies.

V. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

Fiscal impact to this action will be (amount and source including fund Example - \$522,000 from general fund Title 1 revenue).

Instructional material initial costs:

initial one time: \$0

annual (consumables/licences): \$0

The revenue source for this motion is NA.

Expenditure: One-time Annual

VI. APPLICABLE POLICY(S)

This action is in compliance with the following: Policy 2020

VII. ALTERNATIVES

If the materials are not adopted, teachers may or may not use similar materials to provide a complete Social Studies education. This is problematic because it draws teachers away from their core function of engaging students with instruction, and increases the likelihood of inconsistent access to high quality instruction.

VIII. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement Required: Yes No

Family and community members provided feedback during two open house events in which they engaged with staff to learn about the available options. Approximately 80 community and staff participated in these open houses. A limited number of community members expressed interest in participating on the adoption process, however none were able to join the committees due to the time commitment.

IX. POLICY MONITORING PLAN

This new or revised policy will be monitored by the School Board:

Quarterly Semi-Annually Annually Not Applicable

The metrics that will be used to monitor this policy include: _____

X. ATTACHMENTS

Board memo outlining the adoption process (Note: The memo includes links for in depth review of the process)
PowerPoint for the presentation of the instructional materials recommendations at the May 1, 2019 Board Meeting



M E M O R A N D U M

To: School Board of Directors
From: Lexi Samorano, Secondary Social Studies Specialist
CC: Dr. Susan Enfield, Superintendent
Date: May 1, 2019
Re: 6-11 Social Studies Instructional Materials Adoption Recommendation

Following Board Policy 2020, a team was created to review the instructional materials for the all Social Studies courses for 6th through 11th grades, where it was determined that there was a lack of guaranteed and a viable curriculum and instructional materials to support teachers and students. This document details the process followed by the Highline Secondary Social Studies Adoption Committee. The committee worked to develop common understanding of preferred practices in Social Studies that support the Common Core Literacy for History standards and the C3 National Frameworks Standards, and used rubrics to guide their decision.

Based on the process and data including input from the teachers and community, the Secondary Social Studies Adoption Committee recommends [ABC-CLIO Solutions](#) by ABC-CLIO, LLC (high schools) and [Discovery Social Studies TechBook](#) by Discovery Education (middle schools) as the new core instructional materials for 6-11 Social Studies courses. The distinguishing factors that contributed to this recommendation are that the materials support inquiry-based learning, connections to the C3 National Framework standards and Common Core for History standards, strongly connect to Highline Public Schools' Social Studies frameworks currently used by teachers, offer Spanish translations, and build rigor through a series of grade-level complex texts.

The committee also recommends the following Open Educational Resources (OER):

- [Since Time Immemorial](#) (OSPI in partnership with the Federally Recognized Tribes in Washington State)
- [Native Knowledge 360](#) (Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in partnership with Tribal leadership)
- [Teaching Tolerance](#) (Southern Poverty Law Center)
- [Newsela](#) (free version)

The first three are core materials to support Highline's strategic plan, the School Board Policy 0010-Equity, and Resolution No. 07-17. They are culturally responsive materials that represent diverse perspectives of history. The last recommended OER supports the district's Multi-Tier Systems of Support (MTSS) focus. These materials differentiate texts for students that are more than two levels below grade level reading (e.g. beginning/intermediate ELL students and students with IEP reading accommodations) or two or more levels above grade-level.

Since all the materials will be accessed online, classes will need additional Chromebooks in order to ensure all students have access to the materials during instructional time. Currently, all classes have a set of 15 or more; therefore, the committee recommends the purchase of 332 additional devices so each high school classroom has a set of 32 (with the assumption that all middle schools will be 1:1 in the next year).

Process	Date	Description and Decisions	Documents
Course of Studies Review for IMC	11.27.18 & 12.03.18	IMC requested a course of study review for 6 th grade. Then they determined to ask for another for 7 th – 11 th grades.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th grade Course of Study • 7th – 11th grade Course of Study
Adoption Announcement & Committee Application Process	12.06.18-12.21.18	Informed Highline staff & community about adoption. IMC selected members based on application. Further communication to schools without applications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website announcement link
Publisher Letter Released	12.06.18-01.7.19	Emailed publishers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publisher Letter
Adoption Committee Meetings #1- #8	01.10.19-03.19.19	Review of Policy 2020, Course of Studies, Publisher Letter, preferred practices & HPS Vision document. Develop screener tool. Evaluating materials based on screener tool. Review screener tool data to decide finalists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HPS Social Studies Vision Document • Screener Tool • Screener Tool Data • Middle School Finalist Rationale • High School Finalist Rationale
Subcommittee Publisher Presentations	02.28.19 & 03.14.19	3 committee members met with 3 publishers (each for 1 hour) for a presentation and to answer questions to the publisher. Committee members brought that information back to whole committee at the next meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 2 and 3
Publisher Vetting Process Requested	03.12.19	Since all the materials are electronic they can be altered from the time of purchase. Publishers were asked to describe their vetting process for new materials in order to confirm it will continue to meet HPS standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publisher Vetting Process
Informal pilot of ABC-CLIO	03.14.19	Newsla and Discovery were known to the committee through prior classroom use, except for ABC-CLIO. 2 high school committee members complete an informal pilot and brought back feedback.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher and student feedback – Highline HS (Honors course) • Teacher and student feedback – Evergreen HS (ELL course)

Materials Adoption Community Input Sessions	03.26.19 & 4.03.19	2 evening Adoption Showcase for community & teachers. Additional 2 emails were sent to teachers to submit online feedback in addition to an admin packet for administrators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admin packet 3.8.19 • HPS Website • Teacher Email
Adoption Committee Meetings #9 & #10	04.16.19 & 04.18.19	Review Equity Tool Data and community feedback. Determine final recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equity Tool Data • Community Feedback • Final recommendation with rationale



M E M O R A N D U M

To: School Board of Directors
From: Bernard Koontz, Instructional Materials Committee Chair
CC: Dr. Susan Enfield, Superintendent
Date: May 1, 2019
Re: Addendum to the Board Action on Report on Social Studies Adoption

In the Board Action Report (BAR) regarding Open Education Resources (OERs) for Social Studies, **Newsela** is named as one of four selected resources. It remains on the list of recommendations, however, there was not a cost associated with it, as there is free version available.

Upon further review, the Digital Tool Review Team identified that the free version of the tool does not allow the district to manage student data, which makes the free version ineligible for system-wide use. Therefore, it will be necessary to purchase the paid version of this tool, with an annual cost of up to \$30,000 from general education funds. This amount will be budgeted for within the annual budget for materials, as are other general ed materials.