

SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION

Code **IHAC** Issued **11/21**

The district's instructional program for social studies education is designed to provide the opportunity for students to acquire the knowledge of content and concepts, to develop critical thinking and processing skills, and to adopt values necessary for responsible social, political, and economic participation in a diverse, interdependent, and changing world. Through implementation of the state academic standards, students will achieve college- and career-readiness by learning to analyze historical evidence, evaluate it, and then demonstrate their understanding of that evidence.

Schools will expose students to a variety of experiences (including those using interdisciplinary approaches) in the social sciences of economics, personal finance, sociology, psychology, geography, political science, anthropology, and history, enabling them to function effectively and contribute constructively within society. Schools will also include instruction on the founding principles that shaped the United States, including, at a minimum, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, the Federalist Papers, the structure of government, the role of the separation of powers, and the freedoms guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.

Constitution and Citizenship Day

In accordance with federal law, the district will offer educational opportunities each year on September 17th to commemorate the September 17, 1787, signing of the United States Constitution (if this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day will be held during the preceding or following week). The superintendent will establish guidelines ensuring that the district observes Constitution Day in a manner befitting the importance of the event in the history of the United States.

Veterans Day

All schools in the district will provide one (1) hour of class time or assembly time to study the United States Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. This hour of study will be on November 11th, Veterans Day, or on the school day immediately preceding November 11th if schools are closed on Veterans Day.

Schools may allow students to attend activities to honor veterans on this day as part of the instructional day. Parents/Legal guardians may request in writing that their child be excused from participation in such activities.

Adopted ^ 11/21

Legal References:

- A. United States Code of Laws, as amended:
 1. Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, 36 U.S.C.A. Section 106.

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B. S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

1. Section 59-29-155 - South Carolina Founding Principles Act.
2. Section 59-29-55 - Instruction on African-American history.
3. Section 59-29-120 - Instruction on United States Constitution and related concepts; required instruction on Veterans Day.
4. Section 59-29-165 - Instruction in personal finance.
5. Section 59-29-410, *et seq.* - Financial literacy instruction.
6. Section 59-29-440, *et seq.* - South Carolina Financial Literacy Initiative.

C. S.C. State Board of Education Regulations:

1. R43-231 - Defined program, grades K-5.
 2. R43-232 - Defined program, grades 6-8.
- R43-234 - Defined program, grades 9-12 and graduation requirements.