Black Historical and Cultural Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
6/29/2026

The meeting began at 7:05 PM.

The following committee members were present:

Alysia Bellamy	Jameka Lewis	Nick Psarakis
Sen. Tony Exum	Shirley Martinez	Jahi Simbai
Biaze Houston	Jaleesa McIntosh	Jamal Skinner
Ashleigh Lawrence-Sanders	Alexander Pittman	Stephanie Hartman (CDE)
Shelly Ramos (CDE)		

The following committee members were absent:

Fernando Branch	Rep. Regina English
Floyd Cobb	Khadija Haynes

Committee co-chair, Dr. Alexander Pittman, reviewed the charge of the committee and discussed next steps and deadlines related to the instructional resources bank. Dr. Hartman asked that any final resources be added or completed in the spreadsheet by noon on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, in order for the document to be finalized and posted by the July 1 deadline.

The committee discussed the language regarding quorum requirements in the committee's Operating Policies and Procedures. Nick Psarakis moved to approve the quorum language as proposed. The motion was seconded by Ashleigh Lawrence-Sanders. Dr. Biaze Houston moved to amend the language regarding voting by email in the absence of a quorum as follows: "(c) each member is given up to ~~no less than~~ forty-eight (48) hours to respond." The motion as amended carried unanimously.

Dr. Hartman gave a brief presentation on the Colorado Academic Standards for Social Studies, including the structure and components of the standards and the scope and sequence of K-12 social studies. A committee member asked a question about high school graduation requirements

Dr. Hartman walked the committee through the standards review spreadsheet that they will be using to review the K-12 social studies standards. She also described several considerations committee members should keep in mind while reviewing the standards and asked that they address these and other considerations in the notes columns of the spreadsheet. She then led the committee through two examples of evidence outcomes in order to norm on how to score the standards using the included rubric. Committee members discussed how they would score two evidence outcomes and their rationale for their scores. Committee members then volunteered for a grade band (Kindergarten to Grade 5, Grades 6-8, or High School) they would like to work on for the standards review.

The following members will serve on the grade band breakout groups:

Kindergarten-Grade 5: Jameka Lewis, Jahi Simbai

Grades 6-8: Biaze Houston, Ashleigh Lawrence-Sanders, Jalessa McIntosh, Shirley Martinez

High School: Alexander Pittman, Nick Psarakis, Jamal Skinner

It was decided that committee members who were not in attendance at the meeting would be assigned or asked to select a grade band group on which to serve.

Dr. Pittman discussed whether to use the Saturday meetings to work on the standards review, and the committee decided that rather than meet on Saturdays, each grade band group would identity times to meet before the July 20 meeting to complete their initial review. The groups will be prepared to share their initial standards review at the July 20th meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32.