

Social Studies Program Review

Rationale -

- This is a review of the program with a goal of continuous improvement (measured by student outcomes).
- The K-12 Social Studies program has been in Implementation for at least 5 years in each grade cluster.
- We need to respond to evolving academic landscape (Standards, MCAS, differentiation, materials, etc.)

Committee representation -

- At least 1 teacher per school (2 MS and 2 HS)
- Range of grade levels
- At least 1 elementary and 1 secondary administrators
- Parent Reps from Elementary, MS, HS
- At least one academic expert in social sciences and/or education
- Attempt to represent cultural/racial diversity of community
- At least 2 HS students (with different Social Studies experiences)
- Leverett/Shutesbury staff (one each)
- Representative from Social Justice or BAMSS Committee
- Special Education and/or ELE representative

People interested in becoming committee members will be asked to fill out a short application.

The committee will meet five full days between January and June and three days over the summer. Additional days next year will be determined based on the work.

Throughout the three steps, there will be communication and feedback opportunities with internal and wider communities.

Step 1: STUDY (Committee) By September 2009

- **Identify where we want to be.**
 - National/State Standards
 - Current research regarding curriculum and instruction
 - Looking at other schools
 - Reviewing/Revising the vision/mission
- **Identify where we are.**
 - Curriculum maps/curricula
 - Assessment data (Local, MCAS, etc.)
 - Teacher/Parent/Student Focus groups (consultant)
 - Teacher/Parent/Student Surveys/on-line (consultant)
 - Program of studies (HS/MS)
 - Course expectations
 - Grad. Requirements
 - Personnel (Qualifications)
 - Professional Development
 - Budget
 - Variation by school

- Support/Enrichment model
- **Create recommendations to bridge the gap between where we are and where we want to be.**
 - Broad areas of Inquiry
 - Road map for further work
 - Concrete changes

Step 2: ACTION PLAN (Committee) By June 2010

- Take the broad recommendations from Step 1 and identify specific steps to carry them out.
 - Example: There is a recommendation for greater horizontal and vertical alignment. Specific tasks could be:
 - Develop Mission statement
 - Develop learning objectives
 - Develop K-6 Curriculum
 - Provide Professional Development
 - Considerations: who, when, money, etc.
- School Committee Approval
- Committee's work ends

Step 3: EXECUTE ACTION PLAN (District Staff) Dates TBD by action plan – Major changes to classes would not be implemented until Fall 2011. Minor changes could be implemented Fall 2010.

- District Staff would be responsible for carrying out the action plan.