

**DATE:** Monday, September 10, 2018

**TO:** Theresa O'Brien  
Chief Academic Officer

**FROM:** Christine Fankell  
K-12 Curriculum Coordinator for English Language Arts and Social Studies

**SUBJECT:** Request for Replacement of Textbook Approved by the Board on August 20, 2018

I would like to request that the Board of Education approve the replacement of the 7th grade World History Textbook, National Geographic *World History: Great Civilizations* that was approved on August 20, 2018 with National Geographic *World History: Great Civilizations: Ancient through Early Modern Times*.

When we began the textbook adoption process, I requested samples from many vendors. Our National Geographic Learning sales representative sent the survey edition for 7th grade World History. Publishers, like National Geographic, provide more than one version of a textbook for adoption consideration. One version is the "survey" edition which provides coverage of a broader historical timeline. The other version is more specific to a shorter period of time. In this way, publishers can provide for the varying standards from state to state. This "survey" edition version was also sent for piloting purposes.

Looking at the alignment of standards is an important part of a textbook review. One of the unique things about social studies standards is that they are not common from state to state. Before piloting, a consultant from National Geographic Learning came to provide an overview of the product and familiarize us with the digital platform. The consultant made us aware that there were two editions. At that point, we requested copies of the more specific textbook edition for our review. We discovered that the more specific version titled, *World History: Great Civilizations: Ancient Times through Early Modern Age*, was all we needed to cover the content of focus in the Michigan State Standards. The advantage of the more specific edition is that it is smaller, lighter weight, and more specific to the content focus of Michigan State Standards. It also costs less than the survey version.

After we decided to adopt *World History: Great Civilizations: Ancient through Early Modern Age*, I met with the vendor and described our needs. She then created a quote. When I received the quote, I was more focused on the number of textbooks and missed the fact that the wrong title had been included. During the August 28 Professional Development Day, the consultant from National Geographic Learning was prepared to provide professional development on the more extended "survey" version, *World History: Great Civilizations*. Teachers alerted me that the consultant was using the "survey" edition and that they had wanted *World History: Great Civilizations: Ancient through Early Modern Age*. This alerted me to look back at the quote and I realized that the wrong book was in the quote.

I apologize for my error and would like the Board to consider replacing the previously approved text with the correct text, *World History: Great Civilizations: Ancient through Early Modern Age*. I have attached the proposed quote.