

## Action Item G.2.a – New and Unfinished Action Items

### **G.2.a Consideration and possible action regarding change of date to observe Celebrate Freedom Week**

**Background:** Texas has declared the week of September 17 as Celebrate Freedom Week, to educate students about the sacrifices made for freedom in the founding of this country and the values on which this country was founded. Education Code 29.907.

Policy EHBK (LEGAL) designates that the week of September 17 or another full week as determined by the Board shall include appropriate instruction concerning the intent, meaning, and importance of the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, in their historical context. The study of the Declaration of Independence must include the study of the relationship of the ideas expressed in that document to subsequent American history, including the relationship of its ideas to the rich diversity of our people as a nation of immigrants, the American Revolution, the formulation of the United States Constitution, and the abolitionist movement, which led to the Emancipation Proclamation and the women's suffrage movement. 19 TAC 74.33(a)

In conducting the vertical alignment of our PK-12 Social Studies curriculum, the Mineola team of teachers believe that the scope and sequence should begin each year with the content covered during the Celebrate Freedom week. This will allow for the background of United States formation and content begin the study for the year as it lays the foundation of American Government for grade level and course content and allows for the history to be presented in a more chronological manner.

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent recommends that the first week of each school year be declared as Celebrate Freedom Week for Mineola ISD and the content required under state law and EHBK (LEGAL) be taught during that week of school.

**Sample Motion:** "I move that we make the first week of each school year be declared as Celebrate Freedom Week for Mineola ISD and the content required under state law and EHBK (LEGAL) be taught during that week of school.