

**Board of Education**

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**ACTION**

**TITLE:** Consider Adoption of Instructional Materials for African American History course for 2020-2021

**DATE:** August 10, 2020

**RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR:** Martin Mahan  
Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction  
Dr. Ginni McDonald  
Director of Secondary Education

**VISION 2023 STRATEGY:** 3. Instruction

**BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:**

An African American History course will be offered to students in grades 10-12 for 2020-21 and 9th-12th for 2021-22 and beyond. In response to the student, staff, and community interest, a committee that consisted of teachers, parents, students, community members, content coordinators, higher education and administrators met to discuss the current standards and the available resources.

This committee has recommended purchasing Newsela. Newsela will build a custom curriculum that is accessible online.

**Committee members:**

Mr. Felix Curry, Northside Teacher/Coach  
Dr. Tony Jones, Administrator  
Dr. Ginni McDonald, Director of Secondary Education  
Mayor George McGill, Community Representative  
Dr. Jose V. Pimenta-Bey, Higher Education Representative  
Mr. William Releford, Student  
Mr. Derrick Wise, Parent

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The administration recommends that the Board approve the 2020-2021 instructional materials adoption for African American History.

If the Board agrees, the motion would read:

***Move to authorize the adoption of the recommended instructional material for African American History.***

**VISION 2023 STRATEGIES - Career Planning:** Develop and implement education and career pathways so that each student graduates with a viable plan and relevant skill set for his or her future. **Equity:** Develop and implement a system-wide plan to provide all students with the resources they need to optimize their learning. **Instruction:** Design, develop and implement programs to promote rigor, relevance, collaboration, critical- thinking skills and learning environments designed to meet each student's unique needs and aspirations. **Learning Environment/Facilities:** Align resources, facilities and technology strategically and equitably across the district to maximize security and enhance the learning environment. **Staffing:** Recruit and retain highly-qualified faculty, staff and administration. **Technology:** Provide appropriate technology that is consistently available, effectively supported and equitably distributed for group and individual instruction. **Wellness:** Develop and train empathetic and nurturing employees to be sensitive to and supportive of the needs of all children and families.