



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: **May 7, 2019**

TITLE: **Advanced Placement (AP) American Government Textbook Adoption**

BACKGROUND:

Following the College Board’s course revision of AP Government, the district AP Government teachers agreed that a new textbook would benefit the curriculum and our student’s preparation for the AP Exam. After completing the evaluation process we are requesting an adoption of new textbooks for the district AP Government courses. Our evaluation committee included the AP Government teachers from Amphitheater High School, Canyon del Oro High School and Ironwood Ridge High School.

The first step of the process was a preliminary review by the AP Government teachers of existing textbooks that met the revised curriculum established by the College Board. This initial review confirmed that the existing textbooks utilized by all three high schools in the district no longer meet the criteria for an AP Government course and reduced the candidates to three books produced by two publishers. We then agreed to focus on the three best options for our more formal evaluation process:

1. **American Democracy Now** published by McGraw Hill
2. **American Government** published by W.W. Norton
3. **American Politics Today** published W.W. Norton

Evaluation rubrics were scored individually for the three textbooks. The results were compiled, summarized, and agreed upon by all members of the evaluation team.

AP Government Textbook Adoption Committee Results									
	Average Rating by Evaluators								
Final 3 Textbooks	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Total
American Democracy Now (McGraw Hill)	13	7	6	4	16	4	10	7	67
American Government (W.W. Norton)	12	8	5	5	15	2	7	5	59
American Politics Today (W.W. Norton)	15	9	8	6	18	6	15	8	85

In conclusion, we are requesting a 60 day public review of “**American Politics Today**” published by W.W. Norton. The revised AP Government curriculum teaches students content and skills that align to 76 career fields and 28 college majors. The course is an important part of our district’s goal of preparing students for college and career readiness. This book better meets the new standards established and will make both learning and teaching AP Government more efficient. We are confident that the new textbook will help us with those goals.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of administration that “American Politics Today” be placed on a 60 day public review.

INITIATED BY:

Michael Bejarano

Michael Bejarano, Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education Date: May 1, 2019

Todd A. Jaeger

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent