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**2026 Social Studies Curriculum
Adoption**



Selection Process

<p>Lower School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Lower school social studies team collaborated with the principal and academic coordinator● Reviewed the updated Minnesota Social Studies Standards● Analyzed alignment between current curriculum and state standards● Identified areas with strong standards coverage and areas for improvement● Identified resources and instructional materials to strengthen growth areas
<p>Middle School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Middle school social studies team collaborated with the middle school principal and academic coordinator● Followed St. Croix Prep’s curriculum adoption cycle
<p>Upper School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Upper school social studies team collaborated with the upper school principal and academic coordinator● Followed St. Croix Prep’s curriculum adoption cycle

Needs Analysis & Alignment

<p>Lower School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Core Knowledge (CK) curriculum is taught in all subject areas in addition the MN State Standards ● Strength areas: History, Geography, Citizenship & Government ● Growth areas: Economics and Ethnic Studies ● Staff identified resources and instructional materials to support standards needing additional emphasis
<p>Middle School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24-25 SY - Aligned current curricula with new state standards to identify gaps and areas of weakness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Based on condition of current textbooks and gaps identified between standards and current curricula, decided to move forward with evaluating other curricular options ● 25-26 SY - Researched options and selected current textbooks plus 2 new textbooks per grade level to evaluate
<p>Upper School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aligned current curricula with new state standards to identify gaps and areas of weakness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Based on condition of current textbooks and gaps identified between standards and current curricula, decided to move forward with evaluating other curricular options ● Researched options and selected current textbooks plus 2 new textbooks per coursewl to evaluate

Evaluation of Options

Lower School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Evaluated resources using curriculum rubric<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Core Knowledge curriculum○ Quality picture books● Additional resources: Imagine It! Reading, Scholastic News, online free resources, and field trips
Middle School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Developed rubric to evaluate curricula<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Alignment with standards; provides opportunities for rigorous content knowledge, critical thinking, and real-world application; disciplinary literacy; diverse perspectives & cultural responsiveness; assessment & teacher support● Used rubric to evaluate each option● Chose curricula that scored highest on the rubric
Upper School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Developed rubric to evaluate curricula<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Alignment with standards; provides opportunities for rigorous content knowledge, critical thinking, and real-world application; disciplinary literacy; diverse perspectives & cultural responsiveness; assessment & teacher support● AP texts were evaluated for specific AP needs● Used rubric to evaluate each option● Chose curricula that scored highest on the rubric

Budget & Sustainability - Lower School

Core Knowledge offers free downloadable materials or printed book options

Compared costs of printing/binding books to purchasing books

K - Using a teacher copy, books not necessary

1st & 2nd - Printed unit books this year, will be copied and replaced as needed

3rd - Using old textbook version, replace units that have been updated

4th - Using old textbook version, not enough changes to units to replace

Additional Resources

Picture books to fill identified growth areas, continue to look for quality books

Total cost for CK replacement units (3rd) and picture books (K & 4th) = \$3,200

Budget & Sustainability - Middle School

Course	Title & Publisher	Price	Sustainability
Early American History	United States History: Voices and Perspectives, Early Years McGraw-Hill	\$3681.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Classroom set of hardcover textbooks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More cost-effective ○ Less wear and tear on books ● 10 year cycle
Minnesota History	Northern Lights - 3rd Edition Minnesota Historical Society	\$37155 (Includes shipping)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Classroom set of hardcover textbooks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More cost-effective ○ Less wear and tear on books ● 10 year cycle
World History	World History: Voices and Perspectives, Early Ages McGraw-Hill	\$3681.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Classroom set of hardcover textbooks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More cost-effective ○ Less wear and tear on books ● 10 year cycle
American History	United States History: Voices and Perspectives, Modern Times McGraw-Hill	\$5768.91 (Includes shipping for all MS McGraw-Hill)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Classroom set of hardcover textbooks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More cost-effective ○ Less wear and tear on books ● 10 year cycle

Budget & Sustainability - Upper School

Course	Title & Publisher	Price	Sustainability
Human Geography	Contemporary Human Geography Pearson	\$8100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hardcover books ● 10 year cycle
World History	National Geographic World History Voyages of Exploration National Geographic	\$6380	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hardcover books ● 10 year cycle
AP Economics	Krugman's Economics for the AP Course BFW Publishers	\$6047.37	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hardcover books ● 10 year cycle
AP Government	American Government: Stories of a Nation BFW Publishers	\$7611.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hardcover books ● 10 year cycle

Implementation

Lower School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Use identified resources● Evaluate additional resources and continue improving on areas needing growth● Use curriculum work days for planning and implementation
Middle School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Utilize free professional development resources from publishers<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Navigating online teacher resources○ Teaching With Primary Resources● Use curriculum work days for planning and implementation● Collaborate with team to develop assessments
Upper School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Utilize free professional development resources from publishers● Use curriculum work days for planning and implementation● Collaborate with team to develop assessments

