



Expect  
**More.**

# Grade 8 Global Studies

Presented to the School Board  
Nov. 18, 2025



## Current Reality: Grade 8 Courses

- 3 of the 4 core subjects are offered as year long courses:
  - English Language Arts, Math and Science = year long
  - Global Studies = 1 semester
- Students are able to take 4 semesters of elective courses



## Comparison of Benchmarks in Grades 6-8 Social Studies

Grade Level	Number of Benchmarks	Length of course
Grade 6	43	Full Year
Grade 7	43	Full Year
Grade 8	48	1 Semester



# Global Studies Benchmarks/Standards

Although we cover all 4 areas, teachers do not have time to cover them to the depth of the benchmark requirement.

Concern = *Breadth vs depth*

Currently cover most of:

- Geography & History

Currently cover some of:

- Citizenship and Government
- Economic Benchmarks



## Peer District Comparison

Global Studies Full Year	Global Studies Semester-Long
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Forest Lake</li><li>● Eagan-Apple Valley- Rosemount</li><li>● South Washington</li><li>● Roseville</li><li>● Prior Lake</li><li>● White Bear Lake</li><li>● Mounds View</li><li>● Centennial</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Stillwater</li></ul>



# Recommendation

- Move to a full year of Global Studies for the 2026-27 school year at both middle schools
- This ensures **core classes** cover **all** state benchmarks and standards for the course

This  
change is  
cost-  
neutral



# Impact On Grade 8 Electives

Oak-Land Middle Schools	Stillwater Middle Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Art</li><li>● AVID</li><li>● Band</li><li>● Choir</li><li>● Design and Make</li><li>● French</li><li>● Orchestra 8</li><li>● Spanish</li><li>● Team Sports</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Art</li><li>● AVID</li><li>● Band</li><li>● Choir</li><li>● Design and Make</li><li>● French</li><li>● Lifetime Fitness</li><li>● Orchestra 8</li><li>● Spanish</li><li>● Unified Physical Education</li></ul>

Future offerings will be dependent on student interest



QUESTIONS