



Board Meeting: March 3, 2025

Title: K-12 Social Studies Curriculum Adoption

Type: Discussion

Presenter(s): Bethany VanOsdel, Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning; and Jody De St. Hubert, Director of Teaching and Learning

Description: This report is intended to inform the Edina School Board on the recommendation for implementation of the updated 2021 MN Social Studies Standards. In addition to defining the curriculum review process, this report also includes information about the new Social Studies Standards.

The priorities in this report directly align to the goals outlined in the Edina Strategic Plan (Strategy A 1 and 2, and Strategy B).

Recommendation: Review the new course proposals and changes for discussion. This will go to action at the Board Meeting on April 7.

Desired Outcomes from the Board: Review the course information and provide feedback.

Attachments:

1. [K-5 Social Studies Course Guiding Change Document](#)
2. [6-12 Social Studies Guiding Change Document](#)
3. [Design Team Role Description](#)
4. [Culturally Proficient School Systems Curriculum and Instruction Continuum](#)
5. [2021 K-12 MN Social Studies Standards](#)
6. [2024 Secondary Social Studies Course Recommendations Board Action 1.8.24](#)
7. [2025-26 Edina High School Course Catalog: Social Studies](#)

Background Information

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Minnesota’s academic standards are reviewed and revised on a 10-year cycle. During the 2020-21 school year, the Minnesota Department of Education began the process of reviewing and revising the Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards in Social Studies. The [2021 Minnesota K-12 Social Studies Standards](#) have been approved and are to be implemented by 2026-2027.

The curriculum design process takes several years. The work around Social Studies redesign began in 2022. This report will give an overview of the process of designing a plan that will launch the implementation of the MN Social Studies Standards K-12 in EPS.

Minnesota Department of Education Overview

Social Studies is the interdisciplinary study of citizenship and government, economics, geography, history and other disciplines in the social sciences and humanities. Social Studies empowers learners to become inquisitive, informed, and engaged members of society who use critical thinking, inquiry, and literacy to prepare for college, careers and civic life.

Each content area includes an implementation date in the adopted rule language. The K-12 Academic Standards in Social Studies will be fully implemented in the 2026-27 school year.

Policy 603:

School Year:	Content Area:
2024-2025	Science
2025-2026	K-12 ELA
2026-2027	Social Studies
2027-2028	Math
District Determined	World Languages

2021 K-12 Academic Standards in Social Studies—Effective March 11, 2024

The [2021 K-12 Academic Standards in Social Studies](#) were adopted in 2024, and are scheduled for full implementation in the 2026-27 school year.

Standards, Curriculum, and Instructional Outlines

All students deserve equitable access to rigorous core content through the use of the Minnesota State Standards, comprehensive and viable curriculum, and evidence based literacy instruction. Social Studies are a priority for all educators at every level, shown by committing to:

- **Standards and Curriculum** - Rigorous core content begins with standards as common expectations to guide instruction, assessment, and outcomes. The MN K-12 Social Studies Standards outline clear goals for **Citizenship and Government, Economics, Geography, History, and Ethnic Studies**. Curriculum review is an ongoing process to ensure high quality, research and evidence based resources that
 - support effective instruction, alignment, and application of the standards;
 - provide strategies for differentiated instruction based on students’ needs;
 - are culturally and linguistically relevant and responsive; and
 - build background knowledge and understanding of key learning concepts.

Curriculum Review Process

In Edina, a core belief we share is “Professional Excellence.” This means that, “We believe our educators and staff are essential to student success. We value and support them in advancing strategic and innovative initiatives grounded in best practices.” One way we live out this value is by including teachers in the review, design and implementation of district programming. This is done through the use of “district design teams.” A design team is a group of representatives who opt in to serve, guide and inform district decisions.

The following staff members have been integral in the review and recommendation that resulted from the curriculum review process:

Elementary School	Middle School	High School
Julie Baker Patrick Burley Allyson Dardis Elizabeth Graser Mike McCarthy Jamie Young	Troy Beckman Jason Heeringa Anile Morales Jason Pusey Karen Uhler Trista Virtue Lara Wark	Erik Anderson Chris Griggs Kjersti Humphry

The exemplary commitment of our teacher leaders is instrumental in advancing our district's educational practices. Their willingness to extend their impact beyond their classrooms demonstrates an unwavering dedication to excellence. ***We extend our deepest appreciation to these educators whose collaborative efforts and expertise ensure we make informed, student-centered decisions that benefit all Edina learners.***

The Design Team has used a proven process following Implementation Science to build upon current best practices in Edina and to consider opportunities for improvement. The team is drafting a plan that will recommend program updates and instructional/course enhancements as they align to the new standards.

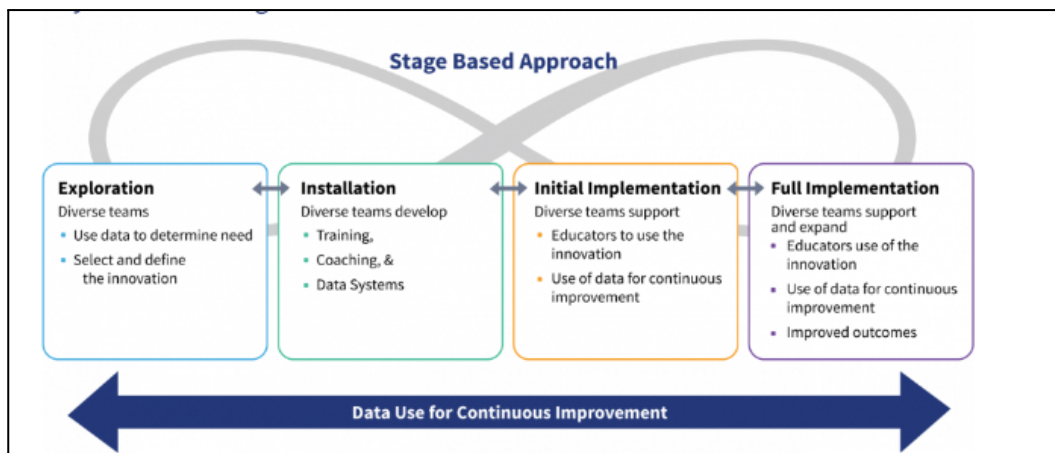
Timeline, Goals and Milestones

Project Map:		
What	When	Who
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create Role Descriptions communicated • team created • dates set for meetings 	By MEA	Jamie - K-5 Bethany 6-8 vs 6-12
Meeting #1 Introduction to process Start looking at current reality Secondary - 9-12 - course catalog revision recommendations	November 2023	Secondary and Elementary Review Teams + Jamie and Bethany (all site and grade level representation)
Meeting #2 Review current reality and look over new standards and benchmarks	February 2024	Secondary and Elementary Review Teams + Jamie and Bethany (all site and grade level representation)
Meeting #3 Standards alignment and materials review	April 2024	Secondary and Elementary Review Teams + Jamie and Bethany (all site and grade level representation)
Meeting #4 Standards alignment and materials review	Fall 2024	Secondary and Elementary Review Teams + Jamie and Bethany (all site and grade level representation)

Meeting #5 Standards alignment and materials review	Winter 2025	Secondary and Elementary Review Teams + Jamie and Bethany (all site and grade level representation)
Meeting #6 Finalize alignments and recommendations	Spring 2025	Secondary and Elementary Review Teams + Jamie and Bethany (all site and grade level representation)
Meeting #7 Installation planning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials • Professional Development • Supports 	Spring/Summer 2025	Secondary and Elementary Review Teams + Jamie and Bethany (all site and grade level representation)

Process:

State standards are all implemented through a Stage Based Approach as it is defined by Implementation Science. In the stage approach, there are 4 main stages that outline the journey to the goal of full implementation. There is not a defined amount of time spent in each stage. The goal is to complete the steps in each stage. The progress of the Social Studies Design Team is outlined below:



	Exploration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define current reality • Unpack standards • Research best practices • Select and define the practice/program 	Installation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program/practice has been identified and defined • Professional Development and coaching are used to prepare for the implementation • Resources are purchased • Data systems are prepared 	Initial Implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educators begin using the program/practice • Data is collected around both implementation and student outcomes • Adjustments and alignments 	Full Implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 50% of educators are using the program/practice as intended • Student outcome data is showing improved outcomes
6-12	X 2022-Spring of 2023 <i>Current Reality Guiding Change Review 2021 Standards</i>	X Fall of 2024-current	<i>Planned for 2025-2026</i> <i>Required by 2026-207</i>	2026-ongoing

Initial Implementation begins Fall of 2025

Recommendation:

Based on the comprehensive work of our K-12 Social Studies Design Team and in alignment with Minnesota's statutory requirements, we recommend the Board approve the implementation plan for the 2021 Minnesota K-12 Social Studies Standards. This staged implementation approach, guided by Implementation Science, includes thorough exploration of current practices, unpacking of new standards, and careful selection of culturally responsive instructional materials.

While specific curriculum resources are still under review, with an anticipated budget of \$400,000-\$600,000 for 5-7 year licenses, our dedicated team of elementary, middle, and high school educators is systematically working through a detailed timeline to ensure full implementation by the state-mandated 2026-27 school year.

The Design Team will continue to refine grade-level specifics and material selections through Spring 2025, with early implementation beginning Fall 2025, allowing for thoughtful professional development and appropriate resource allocation to support this implementation.

Budget:

The purchase of materials to support the implementation of the 2021 K-12 MN Social Studies Standards will be a critical component of the implementation. The review process is still underway. Here is a summary of the purchases at this time.

COLOR CODE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Black - no purchase needed● Green - purchase for 2025-2026 (\$279,000)● Orange - purchase for 2026-2027 (\$283,000)● Red - purchase for 2027-2028 (\$97,000)			
K-5	Studies Weekly (\$240,000 for 6 years)			
6th	MN History			
7th	American History (\$82,000 for 7 years) Savvas			
8th	World History and Geography (\$82,000 for 7 years) Savvas			
9th	Cultural Geography Pearson Contemporary Human Geography (\$25,000 for 6 years)	AP Human Geography (\$65,000 for 8 years) National Geographic		
10th	World History	AP World History	AP European History	
11th	US History	AP US History America's History for the AP Course (\$55,000 for 8 yrs)	AP African American History Freedom on my Mind: A History of African Americans (\$25,000 for 10 years)	
12th	Economics	AP Economics Krugman's Economics \$42,000 for 5 yr	US Government	US AP Government Bedford American Government Studies of a Nation \$43,000 for 6 yrs

Edina High School Electives

Criminal Law

Psychology

Sociology

Philosophy

AP Comparative Government