

Social Studies Newsletter

Thank you for subscribing to the TEA social studies newsletter.

This issue of the TEA social studies newsletter provides information on the following topics:

- **Holocaust Remembrance Week: January 27-31, 2025**
- **Texas State Board of Education Meeting, January 28-31, 2025**
- **Black History Month: February 2025**
- **February Social Studies Stakeholder Engagement Sessions**
 - **Topic: TEA Social Studies Update**
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- **March Social Studies Stakeholder Engagement Sessions**
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- **Interactive Online Learning Grant, Cycle 2**
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Holocaust Remembrance Week: January 27–31, 2025

During Holocaust Remembrance Week, [Texas Education Code, §29.9072](#) requires public schools to provide age-appropriate instruction on the Holocaust using resources developed or approved by the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission (THGAAC).

The [THGAAC web page for Holocaust Remembrance Week](#) provides the following resources, which can be used during Holocaust Remembrance Week, January 27-31, as well as other times of the year:

- [Holocaust Instruction Requirements for Texas Schools](#)
- [How to Teach About the Holocaust](#)
- [Request a THGAAC Speaker for Your Classroom, Campus, or Community Event](#)

For more information about the mission and services provided by the THGAAC and to contact the Commission, please visit [the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission website](#).

Texas State Board of Education Meeting, January 28-31, 2025

The next meeting of the State Board of Education (SBOE) will occur January 28-31, 2025. An agenda is published prior to each meeting. The TEA provides meeting webcasts for people interested in watching from a computer or device. Archived webcasts are also available. To access these SBOE meeting resources, please visit the [SBOE web page](#).

Black History Month: February 2025

Each year, during February, we celebrate the history and cultural contributions of Black Americans in the United States. Students learn about the achievements, perspectives, struggles, and experiences of Black Americans throughout more than 400 years of American history. The TEA web page for [Black History Month](#) provides a variety of resources that can be used to honor Black History Month.

February Social Studies Stakeholder Engagement Sessions

Topic: TEA Social Studies Update

Target Audience: Social Studies Stakeholders- Teachers, District Administrators, Campus Administrators, Education Service Center Specialists, Parents, Professional Organizations

Session Description: The TEA social studies team will provide updates on various social studies topics, such as the State Board of Education (SBOE) updates regarding social studies, the tentative timeline for the social studies TEKS review and revision, Instructional Materials Review and Approval (IMRA), and Black History month.

Date and Times:

Monday, February 10, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. [February 10 Registration Link](#)

Tuesday, February 11, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. [February 11 Registration Link](#)

March Social Studies Stakeholder Engagement Sessions

Topic: K-5 Cross-Curricular Connections for Social Studies and English Language Arts and Reading

Target Audience: Social Studies Stakeholders- Teachers, District Administrators, Campus Administrators, Education Service Center Specialists, Parents, Professional Organizations

Session Description: The TEA social studies and English language arts team will share research regarding the importance of knowledge building and the impact it has on literacy. The team will then provide an overview of a cross-curricular connections tool developed by TEA staff for grades K-5. The team will explain the different parts of this tool and share how this tool supports cross-curricular instructional planning. Stakeholders will have an opportunity to participate in questions and discussion with members of the TEA social studies and English language arts team.

Date and Times:

Wednesday, March 5, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. [March 5 Registration Link](#)

Thursday, March 6, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. [March 6 Registration Link](#)

2025-2027 Interactive Online Learning Grant, Cycle 2

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is providing a competitive grant opportunity to award funding to support the implementation of an effective cross-curricular interactive online learning model(s) in middle school and/or high school for instruction in English language arts and U.S. history and/or Texas history. All school districts and open enrollment charter schools are eligible to apply for funding to support the implementation of an interactive online learning model(s) in the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years. The 2025-2027 Interactive Online Learning Grant, Cycle 2 application is available on the [TEA Grants Opportunities](#) web page.

Key Dates

Date	Timeline of Events
January 6, 2025	IDC application available in eGrants
January 15, 2025	Last day to submit FAQs to TEA contact person
February 5, 2025	IDC application due by 11:59 p.m. (Central Time) via eGrants
March 14, 2025	Anticipated award announcement
March 14, 2025	Beginning date of grant (if selected for funding)
August 1, 2026	Status report due
February 1, 2027	Final report due
April 30, 2027	Ending date of grant (if selected for funding)

Program Contact

If you have any questions, please email Eric Fredrickson at eric.fredrickson@tea.texas.gov. All questions received will be answered through a separate frequently asked questions document and posted to the [TEA Grants Opportunities](#) web page on January 24, 2025.

Upcoming Innovative Course Application Cycle

The next available opportunity for stakeholders to submit new and renewal innovative course applications is coming soon. Innovative course applications that are considered and approved by the State Board of Education (SBOE) for this upcoming cycle will be made available for districts and open-enrollment charters for the 2026-2027 school year. Some important dates include the following:

Date	Milestone
January 17, 2025	Information regarding innovative courses and renewals is made available on the TEA innovative courses webpage .
February 24, 2025	Application window is open for the 2026-2027 cycle. Applicants may begin to submit materials.
September 12, 2025	Application deadline—New innovative course and renewal applications are due.

Stakeholders can learn more about innovative courses and the upcoming application cycle on the [TEA innovative courses webpage](#).

Thank you for your commitment to serving Texas students.

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For questions or additional information, please visit the [social studies web page](#) or submit a [Curriculum Request Form](#) through the TEA Help Desk.

