



Social Studies Newsletter

Thank you for subscribing to the TEA social studies newsletter.

Today's newsletter provides information on the following topics:

- **Social Studies Stakeholder Engagement**
- **Personal Financial Literacy and Economics Course: Open Education Resources**
- **Texas Observes Juneteenth Holiday**
- **Social Studies TEKS Revision and Implementation**
- **Social Studies TEKS Revision and Instructional Materials**
- **Instructional Materials: Substitutions and Content Updates**
- **TEA's Curriculum Help Desk**

Social Studies Stakeholder Engagement

The social studies team at TEA is piloting an initiative to expand information sharing and interaction with social studies stakeholders across the state. The pilot includes monthly virtual meetings for stakeholders. Each month will focus on a different topic. Sessions will start with a brief presentation from TEA staff on a specific topic, followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion related to that topic. Each monthly session will be provided on two different days to provide stakeholders with two opportunities to attend. All social studies stakeholders (parents, teachers, administrators, etc.) are invited to attend by registering below.

June Topic: Personal Financial Literacy and Economics High School Course

Target Audience: High School Social Studies Teachers, District Administrators, Campus Administrators, and Counselors

Dates & Times

Thursday, June 15th @ 2:00 PM

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/SSSEJune15Registration>

Friday, June 16th @ 10:00 AM

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/SSSEJune16Registration>

July Topic: Social Studies TEKS Revision and Instructional Materials

Target Audience: Social Studies Stakeholders- K-12 Social Studies Teachers, District Administrators, Campus Administrators, Education Service Center Specialists, Parents, Professional Organizations

Dates & Times

Monday, July 17th @ 2:00 PM

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/SSSEJuly17Registration>

Tuesday, July 18th @ 10:00 AM

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/SSSEJuly18Registration>

August Topic: Assessment—Short-Constructed Response (SCR) Scoring Process

Target Audience: Middle School Social Studies Teachers, High School Social Studies Teachers, District Administrators, Campus Administrators, Education Service Center Specialists

Dates & Times

Wednesday, August 9th @ 2:00 PM

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/SSSEAugust9Registration>

Thursday, August 10th @ 10:00 AM

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/SSSEAugust10Registration>

The social studies team is looking forward to providing this opportunity to stakeholders. If you have a question or need assistance, use the [Curriculum Request Form](#) to submit your contact information and the details of your inquiry.

Personal Financial Literacy and Economics Course: Open Education Resources

As authorized by [Texas Education Code \(TEC\), §28.025\(b-23\)](#), the Texas Education Agency (TEA) has developed a list of free, open-source, and publicly available curricula that may be used by school districts and charter schools to provide instruction in the Personal Financial Literacy and Economics high school course.

You can find the [Personal Financial Literacy and Economics Open Education Resources](#) on TEA's [Social Studies web page](#) along with other resources and information about the Personal Financial Literacy and Economics high school course.

Texas Observes Juneteenth Holiday

Throughout history, many dedicated Americans have fought for freedom. On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, and slaves in Union-occupied areas of Confederate states became free men, women, and children. Two and a half years later, in June of 1865, more than two thousand federal soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Texas. Granger's men marched throughout Galveston delivering the news of liberation. It was from that moment that Juneteenth was born.

Texas House Bill 1016, passed in the 66th Legislature, Regular Session, declared June 19, "Emancipation Day in Texas," a legal state holiday effective starting in 1980. Texas was the first state to designate Juneteenth as a holiday. In 2021, President Biden signed bipartisan legislation into law, making Juneteenth the 11th holiday recognized by the federal government. President Biden called Opal Lee, who at the age of 89 walked from her home in Fort Worth to Washington, D.C., "a grandmother of the movement to make Juneteenth a federal holiday."

You can find resources about Juneteenth through the following websites.

[Texas State Library and Archives Commission](#)

[Legislative Reference Library of Texas](#)

[National Museum of African American History & Culture](#)

Social Studies TEKS Revision and Implementation

In its November 2022 meeting, the State Board of Education (SBOE) adopted social studies TEKS revisions to align with legislative requirements from the 87th Texas Legislature by updating the standards for kindergarten-grade 8 and five high school courses: Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and its Benefits, United States History Studies Since 1877, World History Studies, World Geography Studies, and United States Government. The revised social studies TEKS will be implemented beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

Effective Date: August 1, 2024

[Adopted Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 113. Social Studies, Subchapters A-C](#)

For more information related to the Social Studies TEKS revision and implementation, please visit the [2021-2022 Social Studies TEKS Review website](#).

Social Studies TEKS Revision and Instructional Materials

The State Board of Education (SBOE) voted to amend their [instructional materials adoption cycle](#) to remove *Proclamation 2025*, which would have included a call for new social studies materials. The SBOE did not indicate when they intend to call for new social studies materials. To address the minor revisions to the social studies TEKS that were adopted in November 2022, the SBOE advised TEA staff to offer publishers of SBOE-adopted social studies materials the opportunity to update their materials. TEA will post any update requests we receive from publishers to the TEA web page [Substitutions and Content Updates](#) for public review and comment prior to taking the request to the SBOE for approval.

The contracts with the social studies publishers will expire at the end of the 2022–2023 school year. The publishers of SBOE-adopted social studies materials have been offered the opportunity to renew their contracts for the gap years. Districts will receive their biennial instructional materials and technology allotment in September 2023. While there is not money specifically set aside for gap-years materials, districts are able to spend that funding on materials needed to meet the district's needs and to cover 100% of the TEKS.

Instructional Materials: Substitutions and Content Updates

The [Substitutions and Content Updates webpage](#) has been updated with a request to update content in adopted materials.

The public is invited to review and [comment on](#) the proposed content changes. (NOTE: If you experience difficulties downloading this form, [please check that Adobe is selected as your default PDF program](#). If you still have trouble opening the form, open your Downloads folder, right-click on the form, and select Open with and Adobe Acrobat.)

Please submit an Instructional Materials Help Desk [ticket](#) if you need assistance.

TEA's Curriculum Help Desk

In order to better serve our constituents, TEA's Curriculum Standards and Student Support Division has recently launched its own request link on the TEA Help Desk. The new ticketing system will allow staff in the Curriculum Division to more quickly receive and respond to inquiries.

To submit an inquiry or a request for assistance to the Curriculum Division, go to the main [TEA Help Desk](#) and select the Curriculum tile. Use the [Curriculum Request Form](#) to submit your contact information and the details of your inquiry. Be sure to bookmark the Curriculum Division's Help Desk link to submit your questions.