



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:

- **Social Studies Stakeholder Engagement Sessions: December and February**
December Topic: Social Studies TEKS to Be Implemented in the 2024-2025 School Year
February Topic: Social Studies STAAR Tests
- **Social Studies Web Page Revisions**
- **TEA Social Studies Newsletter Survey**
- **Social Studies Timely Topic**
- **The Texas Virtual School Network (TXVSN) Can Help Meet Students' Social Studies Course Needs**
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- **Apply for Assessment Educator Committees**

Social Studies Stakeholder Engagement Sessions: December and February

The social studies team at TEA is committed to enhancing opportunities for stakeholder engagement across the state of Texas. Social Studies Stakeholder Engagement Sessions allow the TEA social studies team to expand information sharing and interaction with stakeholders. Each session will have a different informational focus and will include a fifteen-to-twenty-minute presentation from TEA staff, followed by an opportunity for general questions and discussion related to social studies. Stakeholder engagement sessions will be provided on two different days at two different times (during and outside of the school day) to provide stakeholders multiple opportunities to attend. The information shared will be the same in each meeting. All social studies stakeholders (parents, teachers, administrators, etc.) are invited to attend by registering below.

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December Topic: Social Studies TEKS to Be Implemented in the 2024-2025 School Year

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

Dates & Times

Wednesday, December 13th, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. [Registration Link](#)

Thursday, December 14th, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. [Registration Link](#)

February Topic: Social Studies STAAR Tests

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

Dates & Times

Monday, February 26th, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. [Registration Link](#)

Tuesday, February 27th, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. [Registration Link](#)

You can access the TEA presentations from the previous stakeholder engagement sessions on the TEA [social studies web page](#).

Social Studies Web Page Revisions

The social studies web page has been revised to better support stakeholders. New features include:

- Announcements section
- Current social studies TEKS organized by grade bands
- Personal Financial Literacy and Economics information and resources
- Stakeholder engagement opportunities
- Recent social studies communications

Click [here](#) to visit the refreshed social studies web page.

TEA Social Studies Newsletter Survey

The social studies team at TEA would like to invite stakeholders to provide input regarding what information would be valuable to see in future editions of this newsletter.

Interested stakeholders are encouraged to provide their input and have their voices heard by completing [this survey](#).

Social Studies Timely Topic

To support Texas social studies educators and stakeholders, the social studies newsletter will highlight a commonly asked question and response focused on a timely social studies topic. This edition's timely topic question is below.

Question: *"Where can I find the revised social studies TEKS that will be implemented in classrooms in the 2024-2025 school year?"*

Answer: The adopted revisions to the social studies TEKS are available on the [Adopted State Board of Education Rules – Not Yet Effective web page](#).

The Texas Virtual School Network (TXVSN) Can Help Meet Students' Social Studies Course Needs

Need help meeting a student's social studies course needs?

The [Texas Virtual School Network \(TXVSN\)](#) can help meet students' needs through TEA-approved online courses. The TXVSN statewide [course catalog](#) provides schools and students access to high school, Advanced Placement, career and technical education, and dual credit courses for initial credit or credit recovery. The course catalog provides fifteen unique [social studies courses](#) to help students meet their learning goals and graduation requirements.

The TXVSN courses are aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and taught by Texas-certified teachers trained in best practices in online instruction. Schools can use the TXVSN courses to create flexibility in a student's schedule, allow a student to accelerate their learning, or address local teacher shortages. Students enrolled in a TXVSN course can generate funding regardless of whether the student is physically present at school while participating in the course. For more information about the courses offered through the TXVSN, please visit the [TXVSN website](#) or contact the TXVSN [Help Desk](#).

New Technology Applications Newsletter

Based on input from educators and stakeholders, TEA has begun publication of a new technology applications newsletter. Readers may find a variety of technology applications-specific information that will be addressed throughout the year, such as

- the revised Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for technology applications;
- timely topics with frequently asked questions (FAQs);
- relevant information and useful information from external technology applications organizations; and
- other news related to technology applications.

To sign up for the new technology applications newsletter, please complete the following steps:

1. Go to <https://tea.texas.gov/>
2. Click on "[Sign Up for Updates](#)" near the top of the page.
3. Enter your email address and click "Submit."

4. Select “Technology Applications” under the Academics tab.
5. Click “Submit” at the bottom of the page.

Apply for Assessment Educator Committees

Each year the Texas Education Agency (TEA) invites Texas educators to provide feedback on the development of state assessments (STAAR, STAAR Alternate 2, and TELPAS) through educator committees across all assessed grades and content areas. Developing high-quality, aligned questions relies on the expertise and experience of Texas educators. Participants collaborate with other educators from across the state to review, edit, and approve each potential question for state assessments. TEA is specifically looking for educators from your region!

The commitment is generally two to three days in Austin with all travel, accommodations, and substitute coverage paid for by TEA. All participants will earn Continuing Professional Education credits. If you are interested or know other educators who would like to participate in a committee, fill out the application form here: <https://www.texasassessment.gov/educator-committees.html>.

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](#).