

Social Studies TETN Notes **April 24, 2013**

(These are not official minutes of this meeting, only notes about the meeting.)

Julie Brelsford, Statewide Social Studies Coordinator, welcomed participants to the TETN, which started at 1:00 p.m.

Agenda:

- Proclamation 2015
- State Board of Education Update
- Project Share/OnTRACK Lessons
- Assessment
- Advanced Academics/IB News

State Board of Education (SBOE) Meeting

- Proclamation 2015, Instructional Materials
 - The call went out for the materials at the April 2013 SBOE meeting.
 - List of content areas included are listed here:
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=25769804190>.
 - Social Studies Instructional Materials will be approved at the November 2014 SBOE meeting.
 - Social Studies Instructional Materials will be implemented into the classrooms beginning in the 2015-16 school year.
- Various actions from the January 2013 meeting:
 - Students were recognized from Texas who placed at the state National History Day contest. They are going to the next level of competition this summer. Regions 2, 4, 10, 13 had representatives.
 - On April 18, public testimony and discussion occurred concerning the number of SS TEKS in regard to the number of instructional days. A video cast is available on the SBOE web page: <http://www.texasadmin.com/tea.shtml>.
 - Bully Prevention received final adoption and added to K-8 Health curriculum. This addition was required by statute. It will be available on the TEA website soon.

Assessment News

- Kim Brannan from Special Education: please recommend certified special education teachers with expertise in World History to her for World History modified standard setting committee. She had only 33 names who have served on committees in the past; she would like better representation from the state and have new participants to serve. Send your recommendations to Kim. The committee meeting dates are August 8-9, 2013. All content areas need members for the M-test meetings. Julie did not know about the selection process and when the members would be chosen. Contact Kim for those types of questions. Her email address is kim.brannan@tea.state.tx.us.
- Commissioner Williams has scheduled release of all the STAAR assessments for August; modified assessments will not be included this year but in 2014 as is currently scheduled. This announcement seems to be welcome as the field is anxious to see the tests.

Project Share: OnTRACK Courses for Social Studies

- The Grade 8 course is available with about 20 lessons; more will be added.
- New lessons for World Geography have been added.
- World History lessons are being reviewed and may be available this summer.

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AP/IB Funding

A letter to the administrator (TTA) concerning funding training is forthcoming.

Questions from the Field:

- Sabrina Blankenship is moving back to Lubbock from San Antonio (Region 20). She expressed her appreciation for the support she has received from the ESC specialists and Julie.
- Will there be any new state training sessions for teachers? Julie believed there will, but the review process is ongoing with limited staff. Julie will get more information and send it to all the ESC specialists.
- May 23 CRAFT (College Readiness Assignments for Texas) event: Messages are going out to the 20 ESCs. https://utexas.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_eD39lhYOk8OWo9T
- When will we revise the Social Studies standards again? Julie will verify, but materials are scheduled for implementation in 2015, and TEKS revision is scheduled for 2016. Julie will check and let us know. The concern about receiving materials that are not aligned to the TEKS was discussed.

Julie encouraged everyone to contact her with questions and concerns. The meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Helpful Links:

- STAAR Resources: A-Z Directory in Student Assessment:
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/directory/>
- STAAR Social Studies:
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/taar/socstudies/>
- Teacher Resource Page: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/teachers/>
- SBOE page: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=1156>