



### **Resolution in Support of Social Studies**

- WHEREAS:** The social studies are rich, interrelated disciplines, each critical to the background of thoughtful citizens. Knowledge of the social, political, and economic conditions of one's country and the world, and the knowledge of one's rights and duties as an individual in society, helps cultivate competent, informed, responsible citizens.
- WHEREAS:** The study of each of the social studies disciplines – history, civics, geography, and economics—is essential to understanding the complexity of the world. It provides the context and understanding of how humans interact with each other and with the environment over time. It offers the crucial knowledge needed to create a framework for understanding the systems of society.
- WHEREAS:** The study of history prepares students for an ever-changing future, helping them analyze and connect today's events in Colorado, the United States, and the world to the past. Historical understanding allows students to gain perspective and develop better judgment by discovering and uncovering the complexity of human beings. History provides examples of ethical behavior and the context for change, and illustrates the importance of responsible members of society in both the United States and our world.
- WHEREAS:** The study of geography develops understanding of spatial perspective and technologies for spatial analysis; raising students' awareness of the interdependence of the world regions and resources. Geographical understanding allows students to determine what and how places are connected at the local, national, and global levels. Geography highlights the complexity and interrelatedness of people, places, and environments.
- WHEREAS:** The study of civics is a foundational component to the continued success of our democratic society and securing the vision of a free society articulated by the Founding Fathers, in the United States Constitution, Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, and other seminal documents. Civics understanding develops students' awareness of their individual values, beliefs, as well as options for effectively acting on those beliefs and values. Civics teaches



students the complexity of the origins, structure, and functions of governments; the importance of law; and the skills necessary to participate in all levels of government.

**WHEREAS:** The study of economics emphasizes personal financial responsibility through goal setting, long and short term planning, and rational decision-making. Economic understanding helps students consider the connections between standards of living and entrepreneurship, globalization, and different economic systems. Economics centers on developing informed consumers, savers, and investors; members of society who understand how our market economy functions in individual lives.

**WHEREAS:** The preparation of students for the 21st century cannot be accomplished without a strong and sustaining emphasis on the social studies. The social studies provide cornerstone skills that are the key to successful and responsible participation in a diverse, competitive, and global society.

**WHEREAS:** In the social studies, students use critical thinking, self-assessment, reasoning, problem-solving, collaboration, research, and investigation skills to make connections in new and innovative ways

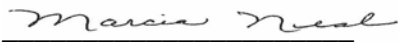
**WHEREAS:** The opportunity to learn the important social studies concepts and skills is essential for Colorado students in all grade levels across students' educational experience.



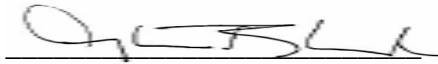
BE IT

RESOLVED: That this Colorado State Board of Education is committed to teaching of social studies in all Colorado schools in every grade to ensure Colorado students are prepared and productive citizens of the state, the nation, and the world.

DATED THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2015



Marcia Neal, Chairman  
3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District



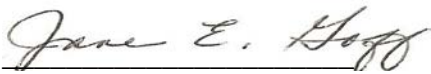
Angelika Schroeder, Vice-Chairman  
2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District

/s/

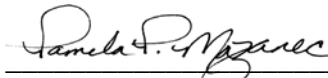
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Steve Durham  
5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

/s/

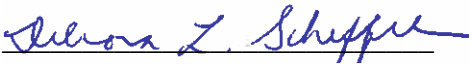
\_\_\_\_\_  
Val Flores  
1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District



Jane Goff  
7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District



Pam Mazanec  
4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District



Debora Scheffel  
6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

