



Colorado Standards Review and Revision  
Summary of Proposed Revision: Social Studies

October 16, 2017

Colorado state law requires a review and revision of the Colorado Academic Standards every six years with the first review to be completed by July 2018. Stronger alignment of learning expectations within and across grades has been the primary focus of the review and revision process. When aligning expectations within standards, the result is deletions, revisions, additions, and reorganization. This includes additions, deletions, revisions and reorganizations of the standards. This document provides a summary of the substantive revisions that the drama and theater arts standards review committee recommends. Public feedback is being sought from Oct. 16 through Nov. 27, 2017. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/casreview-publicfeedbackresources>.

The review committees are proposing common changes to the structure of the standards that apply to all content areas. These include:

- Changes to the title of the *Prepared Graduate Competencies* section of the standards document to *Prepared Graduate Statements* to reduce confusion with competency-based learning systems of instruction and assessment practices.
- Changes to the title of the right side of the standards document from *21st Century Skills and Readiness Competencies* to *Academic Context and Connections*. The sections within the *Academic Context and Connections* continue to focus on essential skills and relevant connections to the *Grade Level Expectations*. The committees are proposing some variation to the sub-sections in order to capture the unique subject specific elements needed to create context for learning.

Finally, revisions to the preschool standards for all content areas contain proposed revisions to align the expectations with Colorado's Early Learning and Development Guidelines and the latest revision of the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.

**Proposed Revisions Applicable to All Grades (Preschool through 12th grade):**

- The committee proposes sections within the *Academic Context and Connections* to be titled *Colorado Essential Skills, Inquiry Questions, Nature and Skills of the Discipline* (e.g., Economics), and *Disciplinary, Information and Media Literacy*. This alignment of the right-hand side of document illuminates considerations of essential skills, inquiry, and disciplinary practices relevant to given *Prepared Graduate Competencies* (PGCs) and *Grade Level Expectations* (GLEs).
- The committee is proposing to move all *Personal Financial Literacy* (PFL) expectations into the economics standards. Applicable math PFL *Evidence Outcomes* (EOs) have been incorporated into the social studies economics standards (*PFL Grade Level Expectations*). The PFL expectations are on a separate tab in the spreadsheet containing a complete list of proposed revisions available at <https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/casreview>.

**Proposed Revisions for Kindergarten through 2nd Grade:**

- The committee proposes revising the history standards to include more disciplinary-based language (*Grade Level Expectations*, primary and secondary sources, compare/contrast, sequence, etc.) to better

align them within and across grade levels.

- The economics GLEs and EOs shifted to improve alignment and increase rigor by including common economics language within and across grade levels.
- A revision to the PFL standards is also being proposed by the committee to focus on costs and benefits of making informed financial decisions.

#### Proposed Revisions for 3rd grade:

- The committee proposes revising the PFL *Evidence Outcomes* to engage learners in higher-level thinking and action to plan and set financial goals.

#### Proposed Revisions for 4th grade:

- The proposed changes to the 4th grade social studies standards include the removal of the risk management expectations from the evidence outcomes as well as a revision to the cause/effect relationships between events in the United States and Colorado.

#### Proposed Revisions for Middle School (6th grade through 8th grade):

- The proposed revisions to the 6th and 7th Grade social studies *Evidence Outcomes* include shifts to a regional lens (Western and Eastern Hemisphere respectively) rather than a historical emphasis in an effort to better integrate, align, and focus the standards.
- The proposed changes to the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade PFL *Evidence Outcomes* were made to focus on the role of consumers, competition, resource distribution, and marketing within market economies. This proposed revision will also create better alignment with the study of the Western Hemisphere.
- The committee proposes revising the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade PFL *Evidence Outcomes* to focus on comparing financial systems, workplace conditions, consumer choices, and the role of government among global economies. The committee also proposes moving tax concepts to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade 8 to create better alignment with the Eastern Hemisphere.
- The committee is proposing that the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade PFL *Evidence Outcomes* are revised to address the fundamental consumer and employment issues as relevant to the study of U.S. History.

#### Proposed Revisions for High School History (9th grade through 12th grade):

- The committee proposes that all United States History evidence outcomes be moved to GLE 1 and 2 and World History evidence outcomes be moved to GLE 3.
- The committee is also proposing that the High School History Standards be revised to include inquiry. Finally, the committee proposes redefining grade level expectations 2 and 3 to support two distinct learning opportunities in United States and World History.

#### Proposed Revisions for High School Geography (9th grade through 12th grade):

- The committee proposes adding evidence outcomes about the impact of climate patterns and land use over the course of history.

#### Proposed Revisions for High School Economics (9th grade through 12th grade):

- The committee proposes revising the high school PFL expectations to focus on the four themes of financial planning and decision-making that align to social studies economic concepts.

#### Proposed Revisions for High School Civics (9th grade through 12th grade):

- A revision to the civics evidence outcomes is being proposed by the committee to remove the duplicate content and fill gaps in the content of the political process and increase the focus on civic virtue and democratic principles.

For further detail regarding the standards review and revision process the following resources are available:

- [Review Criteria for High Quality Academic Standards](#): This resource provides a compilation of critical elements needed for high quality state standards.
- [Online feedback system](#): This system enables all Coloradans to review the revisions embedded within the standards and offers commenting capabilities to share feedback directly to the review and revision committees.
- [Complete lists of proposed revisions](#): These spreadsheets outline each revision proposed including a side by side comparison between the current standards and the proposed revision and the rationale for the recommendation.

**For more information about the standards review and revision process, please visit:**

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/casreview>.

**For more information about the Social Studies committee, please visit:**

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/cas-committees-socialstudies>.