Colorado Academic Standards for Social Studies: Email Feedback
(Received April 1, 2022-April 23, 2022)
Hello!

First, thank you for your work in ensuring that our state standards are comprehensive and well-thought out.

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies standards. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

If you would like more information or would like me to speak to folks directly, please don't hesitate to reach out. Again, we appreciate your work here in the Thompson School District.

Sincerely,

Tracy Stegall

Executive Director for Teaching and Learning

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Self-expression and self-identification is one of my professional and personal values. One way I practice these values is to share personal gender pronouns and create safe spaces for others to do the same. I use she, her, hers pronouns. What pronouns do you use?*

* (720) 323-1087 (cell)
Dear CDE:

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Devon Hedrick-Shaw
University of Colorado-Boulder

Devon Hedrick-Shaw
PhD Student (he/him/his)
Equity, Bilingualism & Biliteracy; Teacher Learning, Research & Practice
Field Coach, Elementary Education
A Queer Endeavor
School of Education, University of Colorado-Boulder
devon.hedrick-shaw@colorado.edu

CU Boulder is built on the traditional territories of the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute Nations
To whom it may concern,
As a social studies teacher and person of the LGBTQ community I completely support the update of social studies standards to reflect the history of all people, not just majority groups.

--
Best Wishes,
Sami Certain
Pronouns- She/Her

If you are always trying to be normal you will never realize how amazing you can be. -Maya Angelou
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Daniella Escobar

(Any Pronouns)
GENERATIONS Program
(formerly known as GENESISTER)
Youth Program Specialist
Volunteer Supervisor
Boulder | Lafayette | Louisville
Work Mobile: (720) 413-6508

Boulder County sits upon the unceded territory of the Hinono'ei (Arapaho), Nuutsiu (Ute) and Tsitsistas (Cheyenne) Nations and is home to many Native Peoples today.
Hello,

I am a parent to a fourth grader and a fifth grader in Ouray County, CO (Ridgway Elementary School).

A friend and fellow parent asked me to review the Revised SS Standards and to send you a note regarding my support. Of course I support these Revised SS Standards - thank you so much for the efforts towards them. They do feel like a much needed modernization - and there are huge improvements here!

I have one caveat. I want the teachers to discuss the history and positive impacts on our communities of minorities and LGBTQ+ community. But I don’t need teachers to be forced to teach it during every history lesson. A 10-15 minute review/discussion periodically, or highlighting our heroes when appropriate will be sufficient. From these stds, it appears the minority language has been jammed into every session (history and social studies in particular), and that seems a little overkill, and likely to irritate some of our teachers. Can we consider adjusting lightly to get even more support from all stakeholders?

Please reach out if you would like. Thank you for all your work!

Dina Gaspari
9707088638

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lori Patton <lori.a.patton11@gmail.com>
Date: March 25, 2022 at 2:39:22 PM EDT
To: dina.gaspari@gmail.com
Subject: Support Revised PK-12 Colorado Social Studies Standards

In May 2019, Governor Polis signed a bill mandating Colorado's PK-12 Social Studies standards be revised and updated to include minorities be reflected in the curriculum, including LGBTQ+ minorities.

Currently CDE has extended the deadline past Feb 1 and is still accepting public feedback. They have received thousands of emails in opposition of the State BOE to accept the current revised standards. We need to let CDE know we are in SUPPORT of the revised SS Standards!!

Could you please take a moment to email CDE at costandardsrevision@cde.state.co.us

The Revised SS Standards can be found here: https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/socialstudiesrevisionrecommendationsnov-21
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Paula Battistelli

Parent of a Colorado 4th Grader and Employee at a Colorado University
To whom it may concern,

I am writing in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. Please read my letter aloud in the meeting April 12-14.

As the mother of a Black student in the St Vrain Valley School District, I am deeply aware of the lack of representation in my son’s education. It is vital that my son and others like him see people resembling them in their education. Learning about people from marginalized cultures validates my son’s existence. It strengthens him as a student, as a citizen of the United States, and as a person. Likewise, his white peers need to learn about the amazing contributions of Black folks in this country’s history. It is not always comfortable to talk about decisions that were made in the past, and that is why this curriculum is even more important. Teachers must be empowered, trained, and supported to facilitate these more difficult conversations between students of all colors and orientations.

As a nurse practitioner, I see firsthand the danger of depression in our youth. Colorado has a startlingly high suicide rate, particularly among young men. I fear for my own son’s life as he continues through his education, especially if the school’s curriculum leaves him feeling invisible and invalidated as a Black male. My son is just one of many youth from marginalized cultures whose mental health could be supported with this revision in the Social Studies curriculum.

The beauty of American freedom is that we are not tethered to one view and that we have the freedom to learn from one another. I am grateful to live in the state of Colorado and to be able to support the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email. And thank you for validating the worth of my son and so many others like him.

Sincerely,
Katherine Atherton-Wood
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, “Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?” Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards. Furthermore, history is not only formed by one group, to say so would be an inaccurate representation of our history.

Sincerely,

- Katrina Lee
Longmont, CO
(she/her)
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Mike Strife, 4th grade teacher, BVSD
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely

Vanessa Dimiziani-Cascio (she/her/hers)
Language Arts & ELD teacher/ Advisor
vanessa.dimiziani-ca@bvsd.org
720-561-8720

We acknowledge that New Vista High School sits on land that was brutally taken from the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute tribal nations. While white settlers were originally peacefully welcomed by Chief Niwot into Boulder Valley in the fall of 1858, he and his people were forced off the land, and then attacked by Col. John Chivington and his cavalry in the horrific Sand Creek Massacre on November 29, 1864. As educators dedicated to the work of equity and social justice, we must face this ugly truth before we can begin.

New Vista High School
700 20th St. Boulder, CO 80302
Website: http://www.bvsd.org/schools/nvhs/Pages/NVHS.aspx
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. As a former high school science teacher in Denver and Colorado Springs, and a current teacher educator, I know firsthand that it is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

--
Will Lindsay, Ph.D.
he/him/his
Assistant Teaching Professor
CU Teach
School of Education
University of Colorado Boulder
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Seth Chernoff
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that ALL students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Students must see themselves represented and included in the social studies narratives, not just from the perspective of the majority, but from the perspective of authentic voices with lived experiences.

Sincerely,

Mandy Blumreich, she/her/hers
Parent and LGBTQ advocate in St Vrain Valley School District

2212 Mariner Dr
Longmont, CO, 80503
720-839-6731
Hello! I'm submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?"

Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

~Elizabeth Dutro
Professor of Education
Bruno, Joanna

From: Eve Steed <eve.steed@bvsd.org>
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2022 12:56 PM
To: costandardsrevision
Subject: SUPPORT for new Social Studies Standards

Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Eve Steed, MA, CCC-SLP

BVSD

--

Eve Steed, MA, CCC-SLP
Speech Language Pathologist
Heatherwood Elementary School
Pronouns: she, her, hers
Hello,

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Ruby Johnston (she, her, hers) | Crisis Line and Resource Coordinator ruby@safehousealliance.org
SPAN creating positive social change and working together to end violence
835 North Street, Boulder CO 80304 | Crisis Hotline 303-444-2424
DONATE | Visit us on Facebook | Follow us on Twitter

*I acknowledge that I live in the territory of Hinóño’élí (Arapaho), and Só’taeo’o / Tsétséhéstähese (Cheyenne) Nations, according to the 1851 Treaty of Fort Laramie, and that Colorado’s Front Range is home to many Native peoples.

*Reconozco que vivo en el territorio de las naciones Hinóño’élí (Arapaho), y Só’taeo’o / Tsétséhéstähese (Cheyenne), según el 1851 Tratado de Fort Laramie, y que el estado de Colorado al este de las Montañas Rocosas es territorio de muchos pueblos indígenas.
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Loraine Glidewell
--
she/her/hers
CU Boulder PhD Student
"Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet." ~Stephen Hawking
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Susan J. Davis
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Thank you!!
Kathryn Wiley

--
Kathryn E. Wiley, Ph.D.
Faculty Fellow
National Education Policy Center
School of Education
University of Colorado Boulder
kathryn.wiley@colorado.edu
Mobile: 303-579-7385
Pronouns: she/hers
Katherine Atherton-Wood <k.athertonwood@gmail.com>

Friday, April 1, 2022 1:04 PM
To: costandardsrevision
Subject: Re: SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum

Thank you!

On Fri, Apr 1, 2022 at 12:54 PM costandardsrevision <costandardsrevision@cde.state.co.us> wrote:

Hello Katherine,

Thank you for providing feedback. I will make sure that the State Board of Education receive your feedback.

Regards,

Joanna

Katherine Atherton-Wood <k.athertonwood@gmail.com>
Friday, April 1, 2022 12:49 PM
To: costandardsrevision <costandardsrevision@cde.state.co.us>
Subject: SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. Please read my letter aloud in the meeting April 12-14.

As the mother of a Black student in the St Vrain Valley School District, I am deeply aware of the lack of representation in my son's education. It is vital that my son and others like him see people resembling them in their education. Learning about people from marginalized cultures validates my son's existence. It strengthens him as a student, as a citizen of the United States, and as a person. Likewise, his white peers need to learn about the amazing contributions of Black folks in
this country's history. It is not always comfortable to talk about decisions that were made in the past, and that is why this curriculum is even more important. Teachers must be empowered, trained, and supported to facilitate these more difficult conversations between students of all colors and orientations.

As a nurse practitioner, I see firsthand the danger of depression in our youth. Colorado has a startlingly high suicide rate, particularly among young men. I fear for my own son's life as he continues through his education, especially if the school's curriculum leaves him feeling invisible and invalidated as a Black male. My son is just one of many youth from marginalized cultures whose mental health could be supported with this revision in the Social Studies curriculum.

The beauty of American freedom is that we are not tethered to one view and that we have the freedom to learn from one another. I am grateful to live in the state of Colorado and to be able to support the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email. And thank you for validating the worth of my son and so many others like him.

Sincerely,

Katherine Atherton-Wood
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Ali O’Brien
Lecturer of Literacy
Residency Site Coordinator
Teacher Education Department
Metropolitan State University of Denver
alecoq@msudenver.edu
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive an education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kimberly Erickson
Good afternoon!
I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,
Laura Montoya, Development Associate of Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN)
Laura Montoya (she, her, hers) | Development Associate
lauram@safehousealliance.org | 303.449.8623. ext. 106

SPAN creating positive social change and working together to end violence.
835 North Street, Boulder CO 80304 | Crisis Hotline 303-444-2424
DONATE | Visit us on Facebook | Follow us on Twitter

*I acknowledge that I live in the territory of Hinóno’éí (Arapaho), and Só’taeo’o / Tsétséhéstahese (Cheyenne) Nations, according to the 1851 Treaty of Fort Laramie, and that Colorado’s Front Range is home to many Native peoples.
*Reconozco que vivo en el territorio de las naciones Hinóno’éí (Arapaho), y Só’taeo’o / Tsétséhéstahese (Cheyenne), según el 1851 Tratado de Fort Laramie, y que el estado de Colorado al este de las Montañas Rocosas es territorio de muchos pueblos indígenas.
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It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Kelly Langley-Cook

She/Her/Hers
U.S. History and Secondary Teacher Education Program

Spring 2022 student hours: 2-3 pm Tuesday/Thursday - Ross 3294
Drop by Tuesday or Thursday or make an appointment for a different time. Students can come by in person or request to zoom.
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Emma Yux
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Maria Magallanes
Lecturer of Elementary Education
MSU Denver

Maria Magallanes- Lecturer of Elem. Ed. and Literacy
School of Education
Metropolitan State University of Denver
(303) 605-7562
Pronouns: She/Her/Hers
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Marlys Lietz

Heatherwood Elementary, Boulder Valley School District

- Marlys Lietz
School Office Manager
Heatherwood Elementary
720-561-6901

Preferred Pronouns: she, her, hers
Feedback in support in favor of Bill HB19-1192

I wholehearted SUPPORT the revised K-12 Social Studies curriculum. As an advocate for gifted students and an educator that is supportive of all students regardless of their identity, I believe it important that students see themselves mirrored in their education. It is also important for students to have windows into the worlds of diverse populations across history and in civic engagement. My gifted students are strong social justice advocates and often need to work toward better visibility for themselves and their peers. This curriculum will provide the platform for better discussion and in depth learning that is inclusive of ALL. It is also imperative for the mental health of students that may be part of marginalized groups since students that do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, are less likely to be engaged in learning. Overall it is imperative for students to develop civic and historical understanding from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. Education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado is needed to teach our students well. Encouraging students to ask, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" develops critical thinking and includes our most vulnerable while expands the minds of others that may be part of the traditional norm. Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards. Colorado will be a state that is leading the way to excellence when other states are being pulled down with misunderstanding and status quo (or even back stepping on inclusivity). Please approve the new SS Standards for ALL students and the betterment of Colorado.

Sincerely,

Jaimarie Nelson

Jaimarie Nelson, MA Gifted Ed (she/her/hers)
Gifted and Talented Coordinator (Secondary/Charter)
St. Vrain Valley School District
Endorsed Gifted Specialist P-12
nelson_jaimarie@svvsd.org
X57852
303-702-7808
fax: 303-651-3066
http://gifted.svvsd.org/
@GTweetsStVrain

"Our kids are normal, they just aren't typical." --Jim Delisle, gifted educator
"Fair doesn't mean giving every child the same thing, it means giving every child what they need."
--Rick Lavoie, special educator

Statement of Confidentiality

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To the Colorado Department of Education,

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

As a member of both the Latinx and LGBTQ+ community, it is imperative that the social studies curriculum be revised to include people like me. It doesn’t make sense to exclude us, as it would just be another boon for erasure. It would also be a the discredit of youth who are coming into their identities, seeing that we are not included in the curriculum. Thus, I support the revisions to social studies curriculum that would include LGBTQ+ people. Be part of the change for bettering youths’ mental health.

Best,

Janice Stiglich, PhD
A la Raíz/To the Root
Boulder County Public Health
elle / ella / they / she
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Lisa Taylor

Sent from my iPhone
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Sam Long
She/her/hers
Academic Advisor
School of Education
University of Colorado Boulder
T 303-492-4306
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Kerri Wingert, PhD

CU Boulder
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Michal Duffy
they/them pronouns
Registered Yoga Teacher
MS Technology & Environmental Design
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Santella

--
Stefanie Santella
2nd Grade Teacher
Leroy Drive Elementary
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Jon Sawyer

Jonathon E. Sawyer
Graduate Admissions Coordinator
PhD Student | Education Policy
School of Education
University of Colorado Boulder
jonathon.sawyer@colorado.edu
(he/him)

Click here to schedule a graduate admission appointment
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Jillian Kneeland (she/her)

PhD Student in Literacy Studies
Field Coach & Instructor, Secondary Humanities
School of Education, University of Colorado Boulder

Language alone protects us from the scariness of things with no names.
Language alone is meditation. - Toni Morrison
Hello,

I SUPPORT the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform and it honors their dignity. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Ashley Potvin

--
Ashley Seidel Potvin, Ph.D.
Research Associate | Renée Crown Wellness Institute
University of Colorado Boulder
Pronouns: she/her/hers

CU Boulder is built on the traditional lands of the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute Nations.
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Krissy Freemyer

"It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities." - Albus Dumbledore
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. As a teacher, I see first hand how important it is for students to see diversity reflected in their curriculum. One might think this is not an important bill; however, the fact that it is being met with such resistance is evidence of its necessity.

This bill gives educators the legal backing to share the historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded (which should be taught in the first place, without fear of opposition).

Sincerely,
--
Charlie Plehaty (they/them)
Music Education
Lyons Elementary School
(303) 823-6915 Ext. 23154
Virtual Classroom
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

I’m a social studies teacher in the Greeley-Evans School District-6. I teach geography and American government in a juvenile detention center.

Sincerely,

Scott Johnson

Evans, CO

--
Scott Johnson
PVYSC Social Studies Teacher
Hello,

As an educator, I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is important that all students see themselves represented in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform for them. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of ALL minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado (including people of color and the LGBTQ+ community), as well as understand how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, “Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?”

Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Thank you for adopting the revised social studies standards.

Sincerely,

Jack Ganse
Boulder Valley School District
Hello!

I'm submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive an education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?"

Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Maren Gauldin

Parent to 2 Colorado school children

---
Maren Gauldin
gauldin@gmail.com
720-394-7202
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Danée Duffy-Bricker

--
Danée Duffy-Bricker

Lower Elementary Lead Teacher
My Gender Pronouns: She, Her, Hers
Montessori School of Evergreen
P.O. Box 2468
Evergreen, CO 80437
303-674-0093
duffybricker@montessori-evergreen.org
www.montessori-evergreen.org

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Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Emily Yerkes

Emily Yerkes (she/her/hers)
PhD Candidate: Curriculum & Instruction, Literacy Studies
Graduate Research Assistant James S. McDonnell Project
Instructor, Foundations of Reading Instruction K-12
CU Boulder | School of Education

CU Boulder is built on the traditional territories of the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute Nations
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, ”Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?” Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Bridget Shaughnessy
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Sarita Rivard
Parent
--
Sarita Rivard Guerrero
She/Her/Ella
GB & GGG
www.goldenbridge.org
GoldenGirlsGlobal.org
kindlingforthefire@gmail.com
510-205-2847
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Mandy Stepanovsky

Fifth Grade Teacher/Parent

--

“Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you did not do than by the things you did do. So, throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.”

-Mark Twain
We do not need to be taken back to the dark ages! We need honest and inclusive education for all!
L. Hucheson
GJunction 81507
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Eve Penberthy
Dear CDE-

I support the revisions to the Social Studies standards. Including marginalized groups in discussions about history is critical to fully understand context. Thank you for the difficult work you've been doing to make sure all voices are heard.

Sincerely,
Stuart
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Elana Campbell

Sent from my iPhone
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Clover Collardson- Longmont, Colorado
(She/Her)
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Anderson

--

Anderson Travis, L.K. | They/Them/Thiers
Visual Arts Teacher
Essentials Team Leader
Denver Remote Elementary
Denver Public Schools
p 720-282-9665 | e anderson_travis@dpsk12.net

Students First . Integrity . Equity
Collaboration . Accountability . Fun
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Dan Laman - 10-year secondary ELA educator in BVSD

--
Daniel Laman, M.Ed.
Centennial Middle School
Language Arts Teacher

Class Website: [bit.ly/mrlaman](http://bit.ly/mrlaman)

Pronouns: he/him/his
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, ”Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?” Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards. Please read this letter aloud during the meeting.

Sincerely,

Kira Withrow  
4th Grade teacher  
Denver public schools  
--  
Best,

Kira Withrow  
4th Grade ELA-S  
Force Elementary  
(720) 424-7461  
Pronouns: they/them  
"Taniktuuun: together we learn and get better" - Inuvaliut Elder
I just wanted to take a moment and THANK YOU for this bill. In the midst of the dog whistles around the country, it is nice to have support from our state government. I am gay so it is especially helpful.

Regards,

Brian Johnson (he, him, his)
Odyssey School of Denver
5th-6th Math - Room 120
Work: 303-316-3944 x115
Cell: 720-353-1237
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,
Darlene Shaver
Pronouns: she/her
8th Grade Language Arts
Shadow Ridge Middle School
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Thanks,
Liz Anderson
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Personally, as a person of color, I grew up in a school that offered Chicano studies classes, which crossed over with LGBTQ+ allies in the curriculum and that was huge coming from a very Catholic family who had completely different values than what I was learning in school. By learning about my culture, and famous activists in my culture who identified in the LGBTQ+ community was huge for me. It was not something I had been introduced to and I have not seen anything like that in the district I teach. I think we need to have a fair opportunity for students from ALL parts of our state to be introduced to the same standards and information so they all can see themselves represented in their academics. I encourage you to keep the revised standards.

With Gratitude,

Rae Ann Armijo, Adams 12, Northglenn High School
Hello!
I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards. I would like my email to be read out loud during the meeting. Thank you.
Sincerely,
Adilene Marquez
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,
Raymond Garcia

Raymond Garcia (he, him, his/they, them, theirs) | Creating Protective Environments Coordinator
rayg@safehousealliance.org | 303.449.8623. ext. 116

SPAN creating positive social change and working together to end violence.
835 North Street, Boulder CO 80304 | Crisis Hotline 303-444-2424
DONATE | Visit us on Facebook | Follow us on Twitter
Hello... This is just to let you know I do support the revised Social Studies Standards. Good to evolve with what’s happening with our kiddos and what we are allowed to teach and discuss. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Jeanne Kipke
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive an education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Brian Pavlak (He, Him, His), New Vista High School
School Counselor
720-561-8744
https://nvh.bvsd.org/counseling-support

“I regard it as the foremost task of education to ensure the survival of these qualities: an enterprising curiosity, an undefeatable spirit, tenacity in pursuit, readiness for sensible self-denial, and above all compassion.” -Kurt Hahn
Dear Colorado Content Specialists,

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum.

It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives.

It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, ”Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?” Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Vicki Hand, 80305
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Evelyn M. Mouriz
Boulder County Public Health – GENESIS Program
1735 S. Public Rd.
Lafayette, CO  80026
Office: 720.564.2707
Cell: 303.817.8840
Hours: M-Th 7am-5:30pm
www.bouldercountyGENESIS.org
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,
Kim Dyer
Dear CDE,

I am emailing my strong support for the revised Colorado Social Studies standards. I am our district's Curriculum & PD Coordinator, and in listening to our content teachers' expertise and perspectives, I strongly believe that the proposed pathway of including factual information about historically marginalized populations is essential in helping our students learn about our state's and country's past.

Without factual representation in the standards, we continue the disservices and injustices that have been perpetuated in the past by denying students accurate understanding of the actions of their predecessors.

Most sincerely,

Ben Lausten

"Improvement is based on change, which is based on learning." - Fullan, Hord, & Von Frank

Ben Lausten, Ed.S.
Curriculum and Professional Development Coordinator
150 School Rd. PO Box 7 Frisco, CO 80443 (970) 368-1333
Hello, my name is Kyl Caragol and I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. As a person of queer experience, I can speak firsthand to the critical importance of learning about one's culture and identity as a young person in school. When I was in middle school, I recall feeling ever so slightly safer, more seen, and like I must have had at least one ally in my school when I would find the rare LGBTQ-related book in our library. Sadly, these were the only times I learned anything about LGBTQ history or culture while in school. Having to search the stacks to find the one or two books which we had also made me feel lonely and fearful.

It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform and provide them with a sense of belonging and safety. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning — I can attest to how much anxiety comes from feeling different and judged by my peers. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. Unfortunately, I had to find support in this regard outside of the classroom. It is imperative that youth receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Kyl Caragol

1457 Lincoln Cir, Longmont CO 80501

--

Kyl Caragol

K.Caragol@gmail.com
415-902-8437
Hello!
I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, “Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?” Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.
Sincerely,
Rebecca G. Kaplan, PhD
Library Information Specialist
Summit School District
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, “Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?” Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely, Ayn Juleik (she/her)
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely, Chris Castañeda, Youth Program Assistant at Out Boulder County

--

Chris Castañeda (they/them/elle)

Youth Program Assistant
Click here to learn more about our Youth Program
Follow our youth page on facebook!
Out Boulder County
(303) 499-5777 Ext. 106
3340 Mitchell Ln
Boulder, CO 80301
Direct Line/Confidential Youth Line (720) 788-1252

Boulder County sits upon the unceded territory of Hinóno'éí (Arapaho), Nuutsiu (Ute) and Tsitsistas (Cheyenne) Nations and home to many Native Peoples today.
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Anne Webb

6th Grade Special Education Teacher, Summit Middle School

Parent of 7th grade student at Summit Middle School

--

The information in this email is confidential. If this email was sent to you mistakenly, please delete it. Thanks!

Colorado Crisis Line: 1-844-493-8255, or you can Text “TALK” to 38255
National Suicide Prevention Life Line: 1-800-273-8255
Safe2Tell: 1-877-542-7233
Hello! §

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.§

Sincerely,§

Stephanie Linskens§
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Jody Slavick

BUENO Center, CU Boulder
From: Becki Beckham <becki.beckham@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 3:55 PM
To: costandardsrevision
Subject: Social studies revise curriculum

I support the revised social studies curriculum. Please pass this.
Joyce Beckham

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone
503 Northstar Ct.
Boulder, CO 80304

April 4, 2022

To: Colorado Dept. Of Education
Re: Revised Social Studies Curriculum

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the revised Social Studies Curriculum. This new curriculum provides a more inclusive look at history and emphasizes how to evaluate what you read and learn, and consider the voices that have been elevated and those that have not, a very necessary skill in today’s world of competing “news” sources.

As Program Director for Colie’s Closet and a Director on the Board for Rise Against Suicide, I know that it is critical for children’s mental health that they see themselves represented in our telling of history. When children feel marginalized, their risk for suicide increases dramatically. One example of this is that LGBTQ youth are more than four times as likely to attempt suicide than their peers (Johns et al., 2019, 2020.)

It is critical for minority and non-minority learners of all ages to understand that there are multiple perspectives. It is only by learning to see and hear the “other” that we will thrive in peace with one another.

I laud Colorado for seeking to make changes to our curriculum to address these needs in our society. This is why I support HB19-1192 and the adoption of this new curriculum.

Sincerely,

Andrea Jason
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Kathy Valentine

Louisville Colorado
I ask that my comments are read aloud and that the articles I've linked are added to the record.

Dear Standards Revision Committee,

I am a graduate of both Cherry Creek and Denver Public Schools, a former science teacher and teacher leader, a current PhD candidate at CU Boulder's School of Education, the step-parent of a Black ten year old, and the niece of a once bubbly, loving uncle who has been lost to white supremacist extremism and despair.

I am writing in strong support of the revised Social Studies curriculum. Generations of Black, Indigenous, Asian, Latinx, Chicanx, and LGBTQ students and parents have been asking for school curriculum to include their contributions and histories. These are the kinds of changes that are reflected in these revisions, and the kinds of changes that benefit all students. Any honest advocacy for and respect of parents' rights in education must respect these parents also.

If disgruntled and misled members of these minority groups simply bombarded the CDE with messaging from well funded, anti-democratic conspiracists, and which echoed word for word the anti gay, anti- trans, and anti "woke" rhetoric of Vladimir Putin -- rhetoric we see culminating in violence at home and war crimes abroad -- would you be paying them any mind? Especially if many of them weren't even parents of school age children? I think the answer is no.

As someone who has both white and Black family members who are harmed by the manufactured conflict campaign in education, I trust you will approve the revisions to Colorado's Social Studies standards as a step toward fulfilling the CDE's promise to ensure that all Colorado students -- particularly the ones who have historically been deprived of such -- have access to high quality public schools. Doing so will also be a step toward our nation's and our families' healing.

Thank you,

Melissa Campanella

Centennial CO, 80015
Hello! 

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Shira Spielman- Leroy Elementary School
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. All students need to see themselves, their families, and cultures reflected in the curriculum. This can help them feel valued and respected at school. If students do not feel seen or supported at school, then they are not able to fully engage in learning and growth. It is important for students learn about contributions of people from diverse backgrounds starting in kindergarten.

It is important that our children learn to explore the historical, social, and cultural influences of minoritized groups in the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that have been traditionally excluded from textbooks and mainstream curriculum resources.

Classroom teachers need to feel confident and supported when teaching content that includes stories of LGBTQ people, Native Americans, Latinos, African Americans and other minoritized groups. The revised K-12 Social Studies standards will help teachers be able to make more classrooms and schools affirming of diversity and more welcoming for all learners. It will help ensure LGBTQ students and families can see themselves represented in the histories taught at school.

Sincerely,

Liz Meyer, Associate Professor

School of Education, CU Boulder

*I would like this email to be read aloud.
I would like to share with you that I oppose the new social studies curriculum.

Sent from my iPad
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

--
Rita Tracy
English Language Development Teacher
Summit School District
970-368-1163
Pronouns: she, her, hers
Zoom link: lxtw23-ssq 2yw3B: 4==6469=Ct\{hAhXQ -lq tvKr9XK |lgVPUo5-X4={ ^-4=
$ 
Q iixrk$6! 4$=6$69=$
Tezwjshi.$Z688j
Good Afternoon,

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Chippy M. Cianci
1316 Dexter St.
Broomfield CO 80020-1344
Email: Chippycmc15@outlook.com
Cell: 720-203-2869
To whom it may concern,

I'm submitting feedback in **SUPPORT** of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?"

**Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.**

Thank you for listening and taking action to include this information in our state curriculum.

--

Julia Schock
6th Grade Science
& Technology Support Specialist
Summit Middle School
970-368-1290

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY: This email transmission, including attachments, is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential information and/or information that is legally privileged and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you are not authorized to read this email and/or any corresponding attachments. Any review, disclosure, printing, distribution, copying or use of this information, including attachments, found or learned as part of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy the original transmission and its attachments without reading or saving in any manner. Thank you.
Laurie Kane Houde
7180 N 115th St.
Longmont, CO 80504
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Ashley Cartun
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,
maggie (Jusell)
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,
Allison Pettersson
I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of HB19-1192, the revised Social Studies curriculum. The changes more accurately reflect the world we live in and encourage more critical thinking among our students of all ages. It reflects the role of technology in education and most imperatively, allows all students to see themselves mirrored in their education which provides stable mental health platform.

It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded.

Our educators need to feel supported when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Thank you!
Sharon Behl
+01 303-638-9199
6210 Dakota Ridge Drive
Littleton, CO 80125

Bruno, Joanna

From: MB <morebtr8@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 9:49 AM
To: costandardsrevision
Subject: HB92-1192

I am a school psychologist and see first hand the need for HB19-1192. It is imperative that students see themselves reflected in their curriculum and school culture. Research shows that this is central to their wellness, their development & sense of self, and their success academically.

Thank you and please pass the revisions!

MB McDermott
Bruno, Joanna

From: Colorado State Board of Education Relations
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 9:01 AM
To: costandardsrevision
Subject: FW: CDE Webmaster - Reid - Monday, April 4, 2022 - 10:44am

-----Original Message-----
From: cde_communications_office@cde.state.co.us <cde_communications_office@cde.state.co.us> On Behalf Of Reid via CDE
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 10:44 AM
To: Colorado State Board of Education Relations <state.board@cde.state.co.us>
Subject: CDE Webmaster - Reid - Monday, April 4, 2022 - 10:44am

Submitted on Monday, April 4, 2022 - 10:44am Submitted by user: Anonymous Submitted values are:

First Name: Katie
Last Name: Reid
Job Title:
Organization:
Phone: 3039415913
Email Address: ktsing32@gmail.com
My comment pertains to: State Board of Education Please Enter Your Comment or Question: I am writing in support of the proposed CO Social Studies standards and for accurate and inclusive education. Thank you for your support of teachers, students, and the community!

Webmaster
Communications Division
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P 303.866.6600
201 East Colfax Avenue, Denver, CO 80203 webmaster-2@cde.state.co.us | www.cde.state.co.us

Email cannot be guaranteed to be secure or error-free as information could be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, arrive late or incomplete, or contain viruses. Therefore, email cannot be used to transfer files containing personally identifiable information of educators or students. Contact the intended recipient to mutually determine enhanced security options for transferring such information.
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Laurie Houde, BSN, RN, IBCLC
Genesis Program Nurse
Boulder County Public Health
515 Coffman
Longmont, Co. 80501
Cell: 303-817-1360
Email: lhoude@bouldercounty.org
Website: www.bouldercountyGENESIS.org
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Ken Houde
7180 N 115th Street
Longmont, CO 80504
Hello,

I am writing to let you know that I support the new revised social study standards. We need to have a diversity of experiences in our curriculum to reflect the diversity in our world. It also helps students to feel seen and safe, which increases their ability to learn and stay present in the classroom.

--
Lauren Moler
Lower Elementary Assistant Teacher

My Gender Pronouns: She, Her, Hers

Montessori School of Evergreen
P.O. Box 2468
Evergreen, CO 80437

www.montessori-evergreen.org
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Bethann Huston

--
Bethann Huston
Summit Middle School
6th Grade English Language Development
To the Colorado State Board of Education:

Please be sure to preserve and protect honesty in education. Recent trends of banning books or calling certain topics too "uncomfortable" for children are very concerning. We need our children to learn, from an early age, about the good and the bad, the beautiful and the ugly parts of our past and our present.

1. Children who see themselves represented in the books available to them at school have better mental health.
2. Providing representation of all types of families, all genders, races, religions makes those things less "other" and reduces bullying and violence.
3. The old adage about those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it is a good one. We need to learn about the bad in our collective history so we can recognize it and avoid making the same mistakes. Pretending our history is all sunshine and excellence is a lie that will result in a lot of problems.
4. The presumption that children are "too young" to hear about troubling things is, in itself troubling. Very young children are constantly dealing with difficult things. Many children are dealing with poverty, hunger, violence in their homes and/or neighborhoods. Giving them space to understand that they are not alone in dealing with these issues can help them find ways to improve their own lives and the lives of those around them.
5. Privileged children need to develop empathy towards those less fortunate. If they are never exposed to "uncomfortable" topics, they are going to be wholly unprepared to meet the real world one day.
6. Even privileged children encounter uncomfortable issues in their lives. We need to allow them to know they are not isolated and that there are tools available to cope and to perhaps make things better.
7. Teachers WILL encounter situations and conversations that are "uncomfortable." They should not feel like they are unable to contribute to or guide the conversations without risking their jobs. Teachers need to be able to actually teach in the moment - and with honesty.

Our society functions at it's highest levels when all people feel included, respected, and heard. Limiting school teaching and conversations to topics that are "safe" and "positive" does NOT accomplish this. Limiting teaching to "safe" topics specifically excludes marginalized people from the conversation and pushes them further to the margins of society, where it is difficult for them to contribute.

Sincerely,

Susan K Carter Ruskell
Arvada, CO 80004
susan.carter.ruskell@gmail.com
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Nelle Biggs

Assistant Principal/Social Studies teacher

*if you would like your email to be read aloud during the meeting, add a note in your email

--

Thank you,

Nelle Biggs
Assistant Principal/MYP Coordinator
Summit Middle School
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Ann McIntosh

Dillon, CO

--

Ms. Ann McIntosh
Art Educator
Summit Middle School
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,
Melissa Hubbert, MSW
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,
Julio Ferreira

Sent from my iPhone
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Quentin Toews
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, “Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?” Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,
Dianna Blackburn
Dear CO State Board of Education,

I am writing in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. I am a parent and an Occupational Therapist and this is important to me.

We as a nation are having a pivotal moment of choosing to be bold and do the right thing continuing to do better - towards truthfulness, honesty and support of history and the diversity of people that make up our communities - versus allowing the rigid and often vocal minority of people against inclusiveness.

As a parent of an LGBTQ teen, we have experienced first hand the difference it makes when our child has access to books, literature, examples, peer and teacher support, and discussion of LGBTQ people who have contributed to our society (and there have been many!) throughout history. It is IMPERATIVE for the social and emotional well-being of our kids that students see themselves in the curriculum and the educational environment. It not only helps the social, emotional health and well-being of kids of color, those with disabilities, LGBTQ kids and those from LGBTQ families, it helps other kids learn to be compassionate and interested in those who are different from them. It builds stronger relationships and communities, as well as kids who are more well-rounded going into adulthood.

If students and staff are not supported in being themselves at school, then learning is not happening. The real world is diverse. Kids need to learn to listen to perspectives from others of differing backgrounds and engage in the stories and history from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Please pass this revision to benefit all kids. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Alisha Blackburn

My pronouns are She / Her / Hers

Why pronouns matter

Be a Good Human
Hello,

Please see the attached 4 letters from students at Doull Elementary School regarding HB19-1192. Please feel free to read the letters aloud during the meeting.

--

Carla Graeber  
School Psychologist  
Doull Elementary School  
she/her/hers  
720-424-8008
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

--
Sophie Krauth
5th Grade Teacher
Preferred pronouns (she, her, hers)
Leroy Elementary
Adams 12 Five Star Schools
sophia.h.krauth@adams12.org
Hello!

As a gay man and educator I feel strongly about including every voice in the history and representation that our students experience in everyday classrooms across the state.

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Mike Keldsen,

Denver resident and educator
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Jenna

Jenna Osborne  
Director of Nursing  
Clinica Family Health  
1735 South Public Road  
Lafayette, CO 80026

Office: 303-412-8180 Ext. 1097  
Email: josborne@clinica.org
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Natalie Ooi
I am dismayed and disgusted that the committee has moved to strip references to LGBT issues from the standards for students below 4th grade. I’m sure that much if not most of the public feedback was due to a campaign by homophobic people and organizations using age appropriateness as their talking points. The opportunity to provide public comment was not publicized well. I strongly oppose this change to the standards.

Robert Slay
Arvada, CO

--

Robert
Hello,

As a teacher educator, I’m submitting feedback in strong SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards. Please reach out if you have any questions about my stance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Vanessa Santiago Schwarz (at the University of Colorado-Boulder)

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Vanessa Santiago Schwarz, Ph.D.
Pronouns: she/her/hers
Assistant Teaching Professor
Equity, Bilingualism & Biliteracy
School of Education
University of Colorado Boulder
Office Hours [Signup](#)

CU Boulder is built on the traditional territories of the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute Nations
As a parent, I think it is time for there to be a social studies standard taught on history and civil government. When I was growing up all I heard about was a very narrow view. As I got older, traveled and lived in different states my eyes were open. My daughter knew more than I did even in kindergarten and she is still was not getting the whole picture on how things are related to one another.

As a side, with social media, your child will gather whatever they can find so why not teach them in an environment where questions can be asked and other views heard? Makes for a better rounded child.

- It is time for the social studies standards to be updated with the history, culture, and social contributions of all groups.
- Including but not limited to the history, culture, and social contributions of American Indians, Latinos, African Americans, and Asian Americans; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals within these minority groups; the intersectionality of significant social and cultural features within these communities; and the contributions and persecution of religious minorities.
- Inclusion is need in our standards. Hopefully this will be an antidote for the poisonous political environment we find ourselves in not just from local school boards but all over.

Thank you for undertaking this lack of information, and crafting something that will encompass all-

M. Steger
Hello!

I’m reaching out in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is essential that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, “Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?” Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,
Greer

Greer Galloway (she/her/hers or they/them/theirs)
Administrative Manager
Tara Performing Arts High School
4180 19th Street
Boulder, CO 80304
303.440.4510

Please join us in remembering that Tara is located on land recognized by treaties as territories of the Arapahoe, Cheyenne and Ute Tribes. While we benefit from historic and ongoing injustices committed against the indigenous peoples of this land, we honor the many native people and communities with whom we work and who continue to live here today.

I contribute to the Tara Sponsor a Student Program - Click here to join me!
Use AmazonSmile to support Tara Institute of the Performing Arts
Hello!

I am a grandparent and have raised all our children in Colorado, and I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum.

It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives.

It is essential that our children receive an education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?"

Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Please help to support our children as well as our educators in this matter.

Sincerely,

Donna Deganhart

null
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?"

Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Please feel free to read my email out loud in the meeting.

Ana Ruiz
Denver, CO
I am in support of Colorado Studies Standards that include accurate history and are inclusive of the stories and innovations of BIPOC, LGBTQ and disabled people. We must not allow history to be rewritten. Accurate knowledge and critical thinking are important.

Thank you.

Debbie McInnis
Littleton, CO 80125

Sent from my iPhone
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?"

Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Ms. Stecina she/her
- 6th Grade
Black Team: stecina_lisa@svvsd.org
Pride Time
Science
Math
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Jax Gonzalez
Thank you for all the work being done to make sure Colorado's social studies curriculum is inclusive and representative of ALL groups, not excluding the information from our history that might make some people uncomfortable.

Please move forward with the recommended improvements to the Social Studies standards that include the perspectives, history, culture and social contributions of Americans in all of our diversity, including Indigenous Peoples, Latinos, African Americans, Asian Americans, the disabled and those from the LGBTQIA+ community.

Whether it is slavery, the Holocaust, or genocides of Indigenous Peoples, literature and the study of ALL of our history can help us cultivate public memory so that these atrocities don't happen again. We should definitely expand the curriculum to include more books, speakers, and content from the above-listed communities. There are incredible contributions and harms that have existed in our history and they should be acknowledged and taught so that the harms don't continue to be perpetuated and the contributions are elevated and empowering.

Banning books and content that expose students to atrocities and inequities of our country and world DOES NOT protect them. It leaves them less equipped to understand why our society looks the way it does today. Teaching them these histories helps our kids make sense of who they are.

Please continue to move forward with the improvements to the Social Studies standards. It is for our kids' and society's greatest good.

Thank you,

Becca Jay
ACSM Certified Personal Trainer
GET UP! Training
IG beccajay.getuptraining
she, her, hers
303-564-9161
I am writing to express my support for the proposed State social studies standards. It is crucial that our students receive an accurate and inclusive education, starting in preschool. Our BIPOC, LGBTQ and special needs students deserve to see their own culture and history reflected in their classroom instruction. We cannot afford to let the voices of a frightened minority result in the censorship and whitewashing of our nation’s history. As a preschool special education teacher, I understand the importance of teaching understanding, respect and inclusion at an early age. These topics can and should be taught in an age-appropriate manner, but even our youngest learners deserve access to the truth. Students who do not feel welcomed and accepted into their school community are at high risk for school failure. This cycle begins very early, especially for our most vulnerable students (BIPOC, LGBTQ and students with disabilities). We must take every measure possible to help these students reach their potential, and the proposed standards are an important step toward this goal. Please approve the new standards as originally written, without watering down the content for our youngest learners. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jill Sprafke

Sent from my iPhone
Specifically, our kids need to learn accurate history, including history from the perspective of non-white, non-cisgender, non-heterosexual people. Whitewashing, ignoring, or erasing history does not serve public education.

Sincerely,
Kristen Hirsch
Littleton, CO 80120
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, “Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?” Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Bree Owens, LCSW

Sent from my iPhone
Good day,

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Karamjeet Khalsa

CU Boulder Graduate Student in Education
Hello,

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Castellanos
Denver Public Schools employee and mom
Hello,

I'm a parent to two elementary aged students who attend our neighborhood school in Douglas County. I'm reaching out to share my support of the proposed Colorado Social Studies Standards. My children deserve accurate and inclusive education, specifically the inclusion of BIPOC, LGBTQ, and people with disabilities in our state standards.

Sincerely,

Bianca Smith
As an educator in Denver I support the revised curriculum.
Allan Cutler
Bruno, Joanna

From: Megan Burch <mgnburch@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 7:39 AM
To: costandardsrevision
Subject: Colorado Social Studies Standards

Good morning,

My name is Megan Burch, and I am a parent of two students in Douglas County schools who are also part of the LGBTQ community. I am writing today to encourage you to include LGBTQ references for ALL students.

Your removal of LGBTQ references as a result of coded homophobic and transphobic concerns sent to you is incredibly harmful for our LGBTQ students. You are communicating a message to our LGBTQ students that they do not belong and that there is something wrong with them.

We have data that tells us that our LGBTQ students are at a higher risk of suicide due to homophobia and transphobia. Why is the Colorado Department of Education condoning these homophobic and transphobic narratives and threatening the mental health and well being of LGBTQ students? These actions are reflective of extremist educational gag orders, such as the one we just saw in Florida's so called "Don't Say Gay Bill."

Again, I urge you to include LGBTQ references for ALL students in our state curriculum.

Thank you for your consideration,

Megan Burch
From: Laura Reynolds <laurareynolds521@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 6:12 AM
To: costandardsrevision
Subject: I support accurate history that includes all viewpoints!

Please do not let a very small, very vocal group of hateful people drive your decision about what is to be included in the new social studies/history standards for our state. It is important to include voices from ALL people, not just a select few! Keeping the perspectives of BIPOC and LBGTQ people continues to marginalize them.

Loving one's country means teaching its history honestly, acknowledging the good, the bad, and the opportunities to keep making it better for everyone.

Laura Reynolds
Douglas County Parent
Highlands Ranch
Hello!

I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. As the mother of a transgender grade school student, I can attest to the fact that it is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education and that doing so will provide them with a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, “Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?” Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Dear CO State Board of Education--
I am in full support of the proposed Social Studies Standards. I am a parent to elementary aged children in Douglas County. Thus, we need these standards more than ever!! Standards that are accurate and inclusive of ALL people (BIPOC, LGBTQ and disabled persons) are important for our kids' education. We are at a real crossroads in education, not just here in CO, but across the nation. Let's lead by example and adopt these standards! When we know better, then we should do better.

Kind Regards,
Lindsey Retterer
I am writing to support the full implementation of House bill 19-1192, Inclusion of American Minorities in Teaching Civil Government. As an LGBT elder, I was happy to see that bill become law, since it recognizes the role that minorities have played in American history. I can remember my years in K-12, in which (looking back now with life’s insights) history and related studies were told from a mostly white, cisgender, straight, and usually male point of view.

I fully support the original recommendations from the Committee from November, 2021.

Unfortunately, trying to include other voices into the conversation – those of minorities – has been met with considerable resistance, especially lately by small, vocal, well-funded groups who label such efforts at inclusivity as ‘woke’, part of the ‘leftist or gay/transgender agenda’, or worse, ‘immoral.’ Attacks on the transgender community, especially trans kids, have been devastating – what hate!

Think about the K-3 kids who are members of these minority groups, or kids with gay parents. Please walk a mile in their shoes; try to see things from their perspective. Wouldn’t it be valuable for them to see stories of others like themselves, making contributions to a society which truly celebrates diversity and inclusion?
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to submit updated commentary re: revised social studies standards. I initially wrote in support of the new standards, but now that the LGBTQ content has been removed from the K-3rd standards I must revise my comments. I am writing as a parent, former teacher, current teacher educator and scholar of education policy and gender and sexual diversity in schools. Erasing LGBTQ people from the curriculum are harmful and misinformed. When my son was in 2nd grade, he was bullied for having 2 moms. Children in his class told him his family was either impossible or a “stupid fake” family. Schools are responsible for the health and well-being of all children. Here are 6 reasons why we need LGBTQ-inclusive education at all grade levels and I urge you to adopt the standards drafted prior to the removal of LGBTQ-content.

1) Trans kids know their identity as young as age 2. There is ample research indicating the struggles trans youth experience in our society. Some of which are documented in a recent trans policy brief I co-authored with colleagues for the National Educational Policy Center. In order to counteract these harms, schools need to be able to talk about gender diversity at early ages to challenge gender stereotypes and make room for kids of all gender identities to be seen, respected, and safe at school and in their community.

2) GLB kids know they are different as young as age 5. We also know that school and society are difficult places to grow up if you don’t identify as heterosexual. Children need to be able to see and understand that there are many healthy, happy GLB people who have made a difference in our world. Learning about LGB history and community members is one way to help GLB youth recognize their identity is not a source of stigma or shame so they can grow up with a healthy sense of pride in who they are. This can also protect them from later engaging in dangerous behaviors that result from homophobia including: drug and alcohol abuse, skipping school, and self-harm.

3) Kids in GLBTQ families deserve to be included at school. Children who live in GLBTQ-headed households often do not see other families like theirs in books and lessons at school. We know positive relationships with families and communities improve students’ engagement at school, so it is essential to talk about GLBTQ people and families with students of all ages.

4) Bullying and name-calling are often based in harmful stereotypes. In order to reduce bullying and name-calling, teachers need to be able to plan and design thoughtful and inclusive lessons about diversity and difference. Some of the most common insults in elementary school are “gay” “lesbo” and “fag”. Children may not know what these terms mean, but they know they are insults designed to harm. Educators need to be supported as they implement lessons that address harmful stereotypes to address bullying and reduce these harmful forms of name-calling in elementary school.

5) Kids need to learn an awareness about the diverse world we live in. When we don’t talk or teach about GLBTQ people until children are older, we are deceiving and ill-preparing them for the world we live in. They see that official erasure and silence around LGBTQ people and history and learn to believe that it is negative and to be avoided. These lessons endure unless we thoughtfully offer accurate, age-appropriate information for students of all ages.
Social studies lessons are not sex ed. Proponents of these bills argue that teaching about GLBTQ topics is "grooming" children for pedophiles or that it is teaching explicitly about sexual behaviors. What inclusive curriculum does is ensures diverse identities, families, and communities are part of the history and stories taught in schools. We talk about straight families and historical figures all the time without mentioning their sex lives. The same is true for LGBTQ families and historical figures.

Schools are responsible for preparing our children to become engaged citizens responsible for our functioning democracy. By officially erasing a large segment of our population (10-12% by most estimates) we are reinforcing negative stereotypes and creating another generation of people who believe LGBTQ people’s existence is “inappropriate”. Teachers need to have the support of legislation, state standards, and their communities to be able to be effective. Our kids deserve a complete picture of the world we live in. As a judge in Canada once ruled on a case in 2002 for the inclusion of LGBTQ books in a kindergarten classroom, "tolerance is always age-appropriate."

*I would like these comments read-aloud during open comment period.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth J. Meyer, Ph.D. (she/her/hers)
Associate Professor, Educational Foundations Policy, and Practice
Women's and Gender Studies Affiliate Faculty
UCB 249 | Fleming 507
Boulder, CO 80309
303-735-3029
Office Hours Calendar
Zoom Room: https://cuboulder.zoom.us/my/lizjmeyer
www.colorado.edu/education
Campus map

Be Connected.
Dear Members of the Social Studies Standards Review Committee,

I'm writing today in response to recent recommendations to remove all references to LGBTQ topics below the 4th grade in the Colorado Social Studies Standards. I am a Coloradoan, a homeowner, a taxpayer, and a gay man.

My experiences in an LGBTQ agnostic public school system during the 1990s and early 2000s made me feel outcast. I grew up attending public schools that made no mention of a person's sexuality in the curriculum, and anything we did "know" came from wild speculation or word of mouth. No one around me said it was okay to be gay. In fact, it was the opposite. Many times, what I learned about LGBTQ topics came through terrible instances of bullying over the course of my time in K-12 schools. In light of my experiences, I have questioned numerous times how the educators and policymakers of that time actually believed they were creating a school environment that allowed all children to thrive.

As a gay voter, I was over the moon when I heard Governor Polis signed HB19-1192 because it meant future generations of public school students might not grow up feeling ostracized as I did. So the recent news about proposed curriculum changes to remove LGBTQ topics from social studies comes as a slap in the face. Unlike HB19-1192, which sought to highlight the strengths of our diverse society, the proposed social studies changes show a school system manipulated to purposefully discriminate against LGBTQ students from cradle to career.

How can the state suggest it is living up to its constitutional provisions to provide a free and uniform education under these proposed guidelines? What harms to LGBTQ children and families is the state willing to take responsibility for as a result of the recommended curriculum changes? Why do you hate LGBTQ people so much that you are willing to go this far?

I implore you to reject the proposed revisions to "remove all references to LGBTQ below 4th grade" in CO Social Studies.

Best,

Matt Garcia
Bruno, Joanna

From: Theresa Becker <becker.tere@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 12:19 PM
To: costandardsrevision
Subject: support for inclusion of all family types in k12 curriculum

My child is in 2nd grade and he has a wonderful teacher. By sharing the broad details of her upcoming marriage, she has helped her students to navigate issues like early elementary crushes and boyfriend/girlfriend issues for healthy social emotional development.

I would hate for her to not be able to discuss these issues in class. If she were gay and were marrying her partner, I would hate for self-censure or district or state censure to make her feel like she could not share her full self with the class, because that provides such a rich nurturing environment for kids to feel like their teacher is human and cares about them. Just like my child's teacher did.

My child's teacher is a highly qualified professional, who has undergone more training and licensure than the majority of other career professionals. Daily she must navigate all kinds of unforeseen questions and situations and she should not be hamstrung by what she can talk about in class and her response. I trust that she has the best interest of kids and their healthy development in mind.

Families, whether mom/dad, mom alone, dad alone, grandparents, foster parents, two dads, two mommies, etc are families and are the people who love and care for you. All family types deserve to be honored in the school environment. If a child has two mommies and wants to talk about them at school or share, or have them chaperon a field trip, that should be honored in the same way as a traditional family unit without stigma or censure of the child. Helping children to see that family units may look different than theirs but are all ok should be a goal of the SS curriculum.

I am just as offended that my child's right to openly learn and question might be curtailed by other people's religion invading the public space and that the State of Colorado might cede my rights to theirs.

My son last night asked me why "puto" is a bad word since it sounds so similar to "pluto" and we talked about how bad words in other languages can sound similar to words in English but if it's a bad word, we still shouldn't say it. If that word is going around my son's classroom, I would want the teacher and administration to have all means available to effectively address that situation without worrying that it might run against state policy - where teachers turn a blind eye because they are not supposed to talk about some issues, or where they just tell the kids to talk to their parents, which leaves the kids in the dark.

When my son was 4 he wanted to marry a lizard we found outside. While I tried to talk to him about that not being very practical, eventually I let him explore that space. Children should have a loving supportive environment of professionals versed in child psychology (like his teachers) in which to explore who they are. I don't want my child in an environment where someone else's traditional values are being imposed on his being.

For some children, school is their only safe place. A place to be who they are and have supportive teachers, to get a hot breakfast or lunch. I would not want that safety taken away by teachers having to say "We can't talk about that at school, you'll have to ask your parents." That doesn't mean that teachers and administrators need to provide graphic age inappropriate explanations, but that their judgement as professionals about what to say, how to say it and when should be respected. They are professionals and should be trusted to be professionals, while having the leeway to craft lessons that fit the needs of their classroom and the students in it.
Thank you for listening to my concerns.
Dear CDE,

As a Douglas County School District mother of one graduate and two currently enrolled students as well as an alumnus of DCSD, I am writing in support of the original language proposed in the Social Studies Standards. Up until this point, no teacher has questioned the ability to acknowledge same-sex parents or other family members of students or the students themselves. Removing any language from an inclusive standard will call to question how teachers can speak about our LGBTQ+ community. I trust our teachers know when the conversation is pertinent and teaching sexual orientation will not be the goal. By removing this language from K-3, you create doubt and confusion as well as send a homophobic and transphobic message.

Teaching about the leaders from the LGBTQ+ community does not mean explaining the acronym, it means exposing students to the content and accolades of these leaders. Please, do not create an environment of fear for teachers and/or an unsafe culture for our students. Public education is for ALL.

Thank you,

Julie Gooden

303-596-5002

"Throughout history, it has been the inaction of those who could have acted; the indifference of those who should have known better; the silence of the voice of justice when it mattered most; that has made it possible for evil to triumph."

Haile Selassie
Dear Revisions Committee Members,

I wanted to add my voice about the Social Studies Standards for grades K-3. As an educator, a parent, and as a member of the LGBTQ community, I feel that it is essential that all children learn about the contributions of all minority groups, and I am aghast that public opinion is influencing the standards in removing mentions of LGBTQ people from the Social Studies Standards.

I hope that our students get Social Studies standards that reflect the contributions of all people, not some bowdlerized version of history.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kelli Glorso-McCabe

--
Kelli Glorso-McCabe, M.Ed.
she/her
303-734-6697
Science Teacher
Heritage High School

- Link to LPS COVID19 site for updates and information - https://littletonpublicschools.net/district/coronavirus-updates
- If there is an emergency that is life-threatening, call 911.
- Colorado Crisis Services (1-844-493-8255)
- Safe2Tell (1-877-542-7233)
- LPS 24hr Security Department (303-347-3420) - https://littletonpublicschools.net/reporting-concerns
- For general concerns and situations that do NOT involve urgent danger, please contact the LPS Safety and Security Department 24 hours a day at 303-347-3420.
I was very disappointed to read that the committee has recommended cutting guidance directing teachers to highlight LGBTQ issues in every grade.

Talking about the fact that LGBTQ people exist is no more sex education than talking about the fact that married people exist.

Representation is important for all marginalized groups. As is talking honestly about our history, even the bad parts.

Do better.

Sincerely,
Brandon Neill
Arvada, CO

VMware Certified Instructor
www.travellingtechie.com
720-205-1927
Thank you for taking comments regarding the revisions to CO social studies standards for K-12. My apologies that I write as your hearings are underway this week and I hope it is not too late to take my comments into consideration. As a retired Colorado elementary educator and a retiree who continues to support minority and LGBTQ+ youth, I believe it is quintessentially critical that curricula reflect the diversity of students within our state's public schools. The power of accurately and authentically representing history and present day communities and cultures cannot be overemphasized. I strongly support the inclusion of LGBTQ+, Black, Indigenous and People of Color in our state's K-12 curriculum and encourage CDE to adopt these revised standards.

I also would like to offer the following observations having read much of the curriculum and scanned other sections:

- I noticed differently-abled people were not mentioned in the list of diverse voices and would suggest adding this demographic.
- 2nd grade Std 1 History Expectations: Line 11 is grammatically incorrect and should read: "compare HOW people" or "influence ON neighbors."
- 2nd grade Std 1 History Evidence Outcomes: Lines 19/20 and 27/28 perhaps c. and f. are redundant?
- 4th grade Std 1 History Inquiry Question #5: Line 4 perhaps should read People WITHIN or FROM Colorado rather than "for."
- 4th grade Std 1 History Nature and Skills: Line 12 remove the words "confrontation of"
• 4th grade Std 1 History Evidence Outcomes: Line 5 Please include Sand Creek Massacre here or elsewhere as an example. A tragic event not to be overlooked in Colorado history.

• 4th grade Std 4 Civics Inquiry Question #2: Line 7/8 (as well as 5th grade Std 1 History Essential Skills #1; Lines 22/23 and 36-38) 
"...diverse opinion/multiple perspectives such as African American, Indigenous, ..." implies that folks within one group always share the same opinion. So I suggest language such as "diverse opinions/multiple perspectives within and between cultural groups" to emphasize that often there exists as much diversity of thought, experience and perspective within a group (Latinx or queer, for example) as between them.

• 7th grade Std 1 History Evidence Outcomes Line 17: letter b. uses "marginalized groups" however unlike other grade levels does not mention African American, Asian American, Indigenous, LGBTQ+ etc. Naming some groups (including differently abled) could be beneficial to instructors/educators.

• 8th grade Std 1 History Outcomes Line 7/8: letter a. "grievances..." mention specific groups Latinos, Asian Americans, LGBTQ+, etc. Similarly with 8th grade Std 4 Civics Outcomes Line 22/23 letter a.

• High School Std 1 History Evidence Outcomes Line 30: a glaring omission of Indigeneity across the globe (except in Inquiry Question #7 which seems like an afterthought.) Please include reference to Indigenous peoples worldwide.

• High School Std 1 History Inquiry Question #18 Line 4/5 Another glaring omission of US response to genocide of Indigenous people here and abroad. Please include reference to this dark side of US history and past and present policy.
Thank you again for the opportunity to share my thoughts and I certainly hope the decision-makers at CO Department of Education will adopt the newly revised social studies standards with some or all of the above recommendations.

Respectfully,
Robyn Cascade
(she/ella)
575 Sabeta Drive
Ridgway, CO 81432
I heard today that changes are being made to require teaching about LGBTQ in all social studies curriculum in Colorado public schools. I think this is a big mistake and a distraction for our youth. The schools should be focusing on teaching science, math, reading, and writing and should not be spending time teaching about politics, religion, or hot button social/cultural issues at that younger age. Please leave the parenting up to the parents on these types of topics.

Thank you for your consideration,
Eric Rakers
I am writing you to urge you to include the LGBT experience in social studies for children earlier than 4th grade.

This is not a request to include any sort of sexual discussion. It is simply a request to acknowledge the diversity of people that exist in this world. Having two mothers or two fathers is nothing to be ashamed of and if a child does not see that representation when they are young they will question whether something is wrong with them or their family.

Please do not let the negative feedback of a small minority guide your decisions when recently passed legislation is guiding you to expand diverse points of view into teaching curriculum.

Warm Regards,

Julie
To the Standards Revision Committee,

I was disappointed to read that the committee is considering cutting guidelines to include diverse topics across grade level standards.

I have worked in the Denver area public schools for nearly 8 years, and I have served on a CDE committee, the preschool special education advisory committee. I have frequently told colleagues how impressed I was with the quality of people working at CDE.

I am therefore quite surprised to see this news. We know that diverse perspectives, including LGBTQ+ and non-white perspectives, exist in all communities across the state, and all of our students benefit from these diverse perspectives. I have personally seen the power of teaching kids that families look different, as early as 3 years old. Kids notice when Grandma and Grandpa have a different skin color than the student they're picking up. Kids notice when another student has no dad, or two dads. It is unreasonable to expect that we can excise families and interpersonal differences from our curriculum, while still seeking to produce well-rounded, empathetic students.

I encourage you to reconsider it this choice.

Thank you,

Sarah Gyory
Dear CDE representative,

Please read immediately as I just found out this is underway currently. I’m writing for two reasons.

First, I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum. It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Secondly, our family is concerned that you have removed LGBTQ+ references from K-3 grades because of feedback of quite honestly ignorant people who are speaking out of fear that it should not be there. For example, Is a child who has two fathers or two mothers to never see themselves represented? Also, in August 2018 a 9-year-old Denver boy committed suicide because he came out as gay to his friends and they told him he should just kill himself. He was then bullied. It is not too early to talk about these issues and educate children. In fact, doing so can save lives and the mental health of LGBTQ+ students and their families.

Being LGBTQ+ is not about sex. It’s about who love and how you express yourself in the world. Are 5-9 year-olds too young to learn about these topics or are they already doing it? I would say the latter. Please reconsider removing these references based on ignorant fear of some parents. It is NOT inclusive or wise to do so.

Sincerely,

Margi Resch
Colorado Voter 80027

--
Margi Resch, MEd (she/her/hers)
Mind, Body, Spirit Coach & Speaker

"Taking good care of you means the people in your life get the best of you ... not what's left of you."
Hello! I’m submitting feedback in SUPPORT of the revised Social Studies curriculum.

It is imperative that all students see themselves mirrored in their education, as it will provide a stable mental health platform. Think about Maslow’s hierarchy! If students do not feel comfortable being themselves in school, then they are not learning. If students are not learning, they do not succeed in school which has further ramifications for mental health.

It is equally important for students to develop relationships from diverse, differing backgrounds and have the ability to engage from those perspectives. It is imperative that our children receive an education that investigates historical, social, and cultural influences of minorities in civil governments of the U.S. and Colorado as well as how to value points of view that are traditionally excluded, and to contemplate, "Whose voices were left out of the process when establishing the US government?" Our educators need to feel courageous and confident when teaching inclusive content, which begins with teaching from the revised K-12 Social Studies standards.

Sincerely,

Dawn Kazeck

Adams 12 School District

Sent from my iPhone
I am writing today as a parent of three students in Douglas County schools. It is apparent more now than ever that we need the state to keep extremism out of our schools. Dark, outside money funded and got partisan extremists on our school board and they are now making changes that are detrimental to students. Without the protection of state standards and laws, we will see extremists from outside Colorado deciding what and how our children will learn as well as taking away protective measures of marginalized groups. We need to ensure accurate history and inclusive stories of BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and disabled people throughout Colorado.

With thanks,

Keri and Scott Beaumont

Sent from my iPad
I have recently read an article about the revisions being done to standards of education. I personally believe that it is important to include LGBTQ+ Perspectives in all grades. This serves to allow those of the community who are in such a group to feel welcome and apart of the community rather than some disgusting secret to be swept under the rug. LGBTQ+ perspectives is not, has not, not ever will be a discussion of sex it is simply the discussion that some people are different. A boy might like other boys, a kid in the class could have parents of the same gender, maybe someone is non-binary or trans. In none of these examples is it discussing sex. Placing the entirety of LGBTQ+ perspectives as discussions of sex is entirely misguided, misinformed, and malignant. I urge this committee show a modicum of respect for other human beings as Jesus would have done himself and push for keeping LGBTQ+ perspectives in the classroom.

As per anything pertaining to the history of America it is important we as a society learn from our mistakes. That means learning about some of the “darker” history the US has. It is important to teach about slavery and the importance of the civil rights movement. It is important to teach about the war on Native Americans and how that has impacted them to this day. It is important to teach about the short comings of trying to prevent communism in Central and South America and how sometimes that meant supporting an awful regime that would kill their civilians. Now some of these topics definitely need an age barrier, but where that stands is for you to decide.

In summary, please do not remove LGBTQ+ perspectives and maintain the discussion of all of US history during the course of a students career. Both of these are incredibly important for the future generations to be more compassionate, caring, and forward thinking. And please do keep in mind Jesus asked the world to be respectful of everyone and be kind to everyone. As we approach his day of resurrection, please do make the right choice to be loving and accepting of all individuals and all perspectives as he would have done.

- Leah, a concerned citizen

Sent from my iPhone
Email cannot be guaranteed to be secure or error-free as information could be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, arrive late or incomplete, or contain viruses. Therefore, email cannot be used to transfer files containing personally identifiable information of educators or students. Contact the intended recipient to mutually determine enhanced security options for transferring such information.

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathy & Jesper <kjnergaard@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2022 10:54 AM
To: CDE Communications Office <CDE_Communications_Office@cde.state.co.us>
Subject: Social Studies curriculum LGBTQ

I’m hopeful that Colorado will not be going back in time and erase any minimal headway we have made in recognizing all kinds of family units. A child early in their life recognizes how they feel about other people and their families. Not every family looks the same and that’s why it’s extremely important for us to allow teachers the freedom to recognize this during class. I realize the committee must hear comments but hopefully we won’t be violating the bill allowing teachers to discuss this vital and important topic with their students.

Thank you for your work on this issue.

Kathy Nergaard

Sent from my iPhone
I was extremely disheartened to read the report from Colorado Public Radio regarding the review of Social Studies standards for Colorado students.

Caving to a small group of commenters in response to the original recommendations shows a startling lack of courage and understanding. Especially given that the committee should be bound by the previously passed legislation that put forth the goal of increasing the diversity of subjects.

Acknowledging the existence of LGBTQ+ people is not sex education and teaching lessons critical of the United States is not unpatriotic.

The committee should know better, and reverse this erroneous decision.

Respectfully,

Conor Moore (Thornton, CO)

Source:

https://www.cpr.org/2022/04/12/colorado-academic-standards-lgbtq-issues/