



1                                   **District of Columbia State Board of Education Resolution**  
2                                   **To Approve the District of Columbia’s Social Studies**  
3                                   **Standards**  
4                                   **SR23-7**

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6   **WHEREAS**, the DC State Board of Education (State Board) shall advise the Office of the State  
7 Superintendent of Education (OSSE) on educational matters including state standards and approve  
8 state academic standards for the District, as recommended by OSSE, pursuant to the Public  
9 Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007 (D.C. Law 17-9);

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11   **WHEREAS**, the State Board, in SR19-7, *On the Implementation of Working Group Proposals*,  
12 called for revised and updated state social studies standards for the District that would be culturally  
13 inclusive and anti-racist, impart important social studies content in the early grades, strengthen  
14 student knowledge of democratic principles and values, and promote civic engagement;

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16   **WHEREAS**, the State Board established a Social Studies Standards Advisory Committee (SSSAC)  
17 in July 2020 composed of a diverse and knowledgeable cohort of 26 members that represented  
18 teachers, curriculum experts, school and district leaders, parents, students, higher education  
19 personnel, and experts from organizations in relevant social science fields;

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21   **WHEREAS**, the State Board, in SR20-15, *Social Studies Standards Guiding Principles*, adopted  
22 the SSSAC Guiding Principles which identified 19 needed shifts in the revised standards including  
23 fewer, clearer, higher, more rigorous social studies standards that are anti-racist, incorporate District  
24 history throughout all grades, foster media literacy and global competence, and reflect the history  
25 and culture of under-represented groups;

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27   **WHEREAS**, OSSE convened a Technical Writing Committee comprising 32 educators, experts,  
28 and stakeholders from across the District of Columbia to draft revised social studies standards in  
29 alignment with the SSSAC Guiding Principles;

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31   **WHEREAS**, OSSE convened a panel of expert reviewers to provide feedback on the draft of Social  
32 Studies Standards;

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34   **WHEREAS**, OSSE engaged in an extended period of public comment (December 16, 2023 through  
35 February 10, 2023), as well as LEA listening sessions, to refine the draft social studies standards;

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37   **WHEREAS**, the State Board engaged in a robust period of public engagement, including  
38 community listening sessions and public meeting testimony;

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40   **WHEREAS**, OSSE carefully reviewed and fully considered comments received during the public  
41 engagement and public comment process and, in consultation with expert reviewers and the  
42 Technical Writing Committee, made significant revisions to address State Board and public feedback  
43 where appropriate;

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45   **WHEREAS**, the State Board has reviewed the revised social studies standards in consideration of  
46 the SSSAC Guiding Principles, expert opinions, internal analysis, memoranda and support materials  
47 provided by OSSE, and the range of feedback received from the public throughout this process;



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49 **WHEREAS**, the 2023 social studies standards are historically accurate, incorporate the histories and  
50 perspectives of historically marginalized groups, are academically rigorous, and provide an  
51 outstanding foundation for student inquiry, critical thinking, and civic engagement through action  
52 civics; and

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54 **WHEREAS**, OSSE has committed to ensuring the revised social studies standards are implemented  
55 with fidelity through developing curricular support materials, providing technical assistance, and  
56 facilitating professional development so that the District’s educators are supported during the  
57 transition and all students in DCPS and the District’s public charter schools will benefit from this  
58 update.

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60 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the State Board approves the District’s  
61 revised social studies standards as proposed by OSSE.

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63 Date Adopted: June 21, 2023

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

64 *Eboni-Rose Thompson, President*

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