



DIVISION of LEARNING

Bob Bedford
Assistant Superintendent



**Social Studies
Instructional Materials Adoption
Middle School Social Studies Advisory Committee
Recommendation Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2024**

**MCO – Boardroom
5:00 p.m.**

Instructional Vision for Social Studies:

Our K-12 Social Studies program makes a commitment to an exemplary standards-based social studies education that prepares students to be college, career, and community ready. This means:

- Students gain critical and independent thinking and communication skills that allow them to know the past, engage in the present, and participate actively and effectively as an informed citizen of a democracy.
- Students build meaningful knowledge with complex content through the exposure to high quality instructional materials using primary sources and authentic texts for a deep understanding of Social Studies content.

Overarching Goal:

To select high-quality Social Studies instructional materials for our K-12 students aligned to the following priorities:

1. Priority 1: Content - Building knowledge through standards-based, content-rich instructional materials
2. Priority 2: Instruction – Evidence and inquiry-based questions, tasks, and assignments
3. Priority 3: Usability for teachers & students
4. Priority 4: Support for diverse learners
5. Priority 5: Assessment



Agenda Item	Time	Guiding Questions & Activities
Welcome and Introductions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lisa Oberdier, Director of Secondary Learning</i> • <i>Donna Dunakey, Curriculum & Instruction Specialist, K-12 Social Sciences</i> • <i>Division of Learning Facilitator and Note-Taker</i> 	5-10 mins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and Introductions • Review Agenda • Review Participant Folders
Administrative Process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Donna Dunakey, Curriculum & Instruction Specialist, K-12 Social Sciences</i> 	15 mins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructional Vision • Overarching Goal • Purpose • Objectives • Format • Consensus • Meeting Norms
Review of Data; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Advisory Committee Members</i> • <i>Division of Learning Facilitator & Note-Taker</i> 	15-20 mins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review EdCredible • Review Applicable Feedback Forms
Open Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Advisory Committee Members</i> 	Will vary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Discussion of the Instructional Materials Packages Under Review
Reaching Consensus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Advisory Committee Members</i> 	Will vary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach Consensus on the Final Ranking Form
Submission of Recommendation and Ranking Form <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Division of Learning Staff</i> 	Will vary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign and Submit the Recommendation and Ranking Form
Meeting Adjournment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Division of Learning Staff</i> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No later than 7:00 p.m.

Notes:

Welcome and Introductions:

- *Lisa Oberdier, Director of Secondary Learning*



- Welcome and thank you for taking the time to participate in the very important role of selecting new instructional materials.
- *Donna Dunakey, Curriculum & Instruction Specialist, K-12 Social Sciences*
 - Welcome and thank you
 - Review of Agenda and folder materials
 - Purpose of Committee Meeting:
 - Review Quantitative and qualitative data
 - Review feedback from teachers, administrators, community, and student
 - Objective- Consider data and rank materials to provide a recommendation for adoption by CCPS.
 - Consensus- For the purpose of this meeting consensus is coming to an agreement that all team members can support, with no member in opposition.
 - This will occur after every committee member has reviewed all data shared their recommendation with the group. If consensus is not reached, members will rank materials in EdCredible. In the case of a tie, the DOL will make the final decision about the recommendation.
 - Meeting norms presented to group with no additional comment.
 - Next steps presented to committee members to understand the process following the committee recommendation.
- Committee Review of Feedback forms- 15-minute review from 5:15-5:30
 - Committee Comments:
 - Looking at the data, there were a lot of comments
 - Familiar with process. Thinking about both textbooks, I could live with both. I preferred Savvas for all students. I loved the 50/50 setup. McGraw Hill was busy with small text. Overall for all students, I would choose Savvas.
 - Been through the process before. I would be fine with either as well but am leaning more toward MCGRAW HILL. I didn't feel the Civics was rigorous enough in Savvas, but thought the MCGRAW HILL might have been too rigorous in spots.



- I lean toward MCGRAW HILL because I felt there was more rigor in the content. It may be challenging for a low-level reader. I loved the ELL strategies and the UDL.
- I personally liked the MCGRAW HILL. If I were thrown into history, I'd rather be thrown in with the MCGRAW HILL than Savvas, but I did like the spiral of the Savvas. I personally loved the technology side of MCGRAW HILL, it was easier to navigate as a teacher.
- I could live with either book. I favored the MCGRAW HILL book because as a new teacher, that is what I had access too and it is easier for me to navigate. I love the layout and love the primary sources. It does feel more rigorous.
- I too prefer the MCGRAW HILL. The digital access was much more comprehensive. Savvas has too little geography for 6th grade, but MCGRAW HILL did cover that.
- Either book. I preferred Savvas. If I were a student sitting in a middle school class, I would see it as easier to navigate.
- I'd be okay with either one of the books, but this was hard because I wasn't happy with either one of the books. MCGRAW HILL is overwhelming and should be two books. The website was really good with really good materials. I was concerned about the reading level. I lean toward MCGRAW HILL because of the comprehensiveness of it.
- Savvas average Lexile is 960 and MCGRAW HILL average Lexile is 980.
- I preferred Savvas mainly for the graphics. The graphics in MCGRAW HILL were too overwhelming. I think they would be too much for some 8th grade, but definitely for 6th grade. I didn't like the lack of pictures in Savvas. I could live with either, but I personally preferred Savvas. I thought some of the things included were not in our scope of teaching, but I preferred Savvas.
- Overall, I would lean toward Savvas. For me, the online component was easier to navigate. I would be okay with either book, but prefer Savvas.
- I like both books. MCGRAW HILL was overwhelming especially for someone who is easily distracted, but it had so much more in it. Savvas is going to need replaced a lot faster, but it is easier to follow and will keep student's attention. I prefer Savvas.



- I prefer the MCGRAW HILL. The Savvas make me think we are staying where we are right now. MCGRAW HILL is more rigorous. On MCGRAW HILL my notes said great primary resource. I'm sticking with MCGRAW HILL; I think it is the better of the two.
- I liked MCGRAW HILL as well. I think when it comes down to it, the Civics book in Savvas did the disservice; it was too light. I did not like that Savvas used the word you when talking to the reader and needs to be more objective. Overall, I liked the MCGRAW HILL.
- I also favored MCGRAW HILL. I liked the biographies and the primary sources within the chapter. When I logged into the online resources, I felt the MCGRAW HILL was easier to find things if I was a parent trying to help my child. Overall, I thought the MCGRAW HILL book was a better book.
- Clarifying Questions/Comments:
 - Is the content going to be too rigorous because the Lexile is too high?
 - Approaching On grade level is 660-920 for 6th grade
 - That is why I liked the Savvas for the simplicity of it.
 - Are these books for grades 6-8 standards if it says grade 8, will it cover grade 6 standards?
 - Yes- they are 6-8 standards.
- Vote is 9 to 5 in favor of MCGRAW HILL. Are there any questions or changes of preference?
 - No comment.
- Is there anyone who would like to comment about MCGRAW HILL?
 - What I really liked about the graphics, and I'd like to dummy down the content if I have to instead of adding, but the graphics were very relevant.
 - I felt that with Savvas I would be supplementing a lot.
 - I felt that Savvas would add work as a teacher.
 - MCGRAW HILL is great, it gives so much detail, but it is all over the place.
 - I thought of that but what percentage of kids will need extra remediation? 25-30% may struggle, 30% will meet the level and upper



level kids will be challenged.

- A good portion of kids will not move forward because of the cluttered layout. Savvas is giving an easier reading frame, but we're losing a large amount of history.
 - But we are pushing our higher kids.
 - The textbook shouldn't push the higher kids, they should get enrichment.
- Of 16 evaluations of the 2 textbooks; the average scores were very close-graphic shown for evaluation scores.
 - Considering different student demographics across the county; you should push Savvas and supplement. I will live with either choice, you should push supplemental instruction. MCGRAW HILL will need to be broken down, the moment they open it they will give up unless we read it with them. Savvas doesn't have enough, but MCGRAW HILL has too much.
 - The eBook in MCGRAW HILL, you can assign up to 2 grade levels below. MCGRAW HILL was not my favorite, but some in the building would need that textbook.
 - Did anyone look at what that looked like?
 - Either way we go, we will supplement anyway. I'd rather have a book that is really good with the basics and appeal to students. The MCGRAW HILL will intimidate students.
 - Initial Consensus- Committee members used thumbs up to determine consensus. 100% in agreement for McGraw Hill.
 - Final recommendation completed and all signed.
 - Meeting adjourned at 6:19PM.

Respectfully submitted: Ashley Monier