

# History and Social Science Update – February 2020

## Governor Northam Announces ‘Black History Month Historical Marker Contest’

Competition could lead to new Historical Highway Marker



The competition invites students, teachers, and families to learn more about African Americans who have made important contributions to Virginia history. It invites ideas for new signs to teach history along Virginia’s roadways.

The contest encourages schools to feature a different African American historical marker each day of February, provides teachers with resources to guide history discussions, promotes Black History Month events around the Commonwealth, and initiates a competition for students to submit ideas for new historical markers to the Virginia Department of Historical Resources.

“Black history is American history,” said **Governor Northam**. “But for too long, we have told an inaccurate and simplified version of that history that did not include everyone. This competition is one new way to help tell a more true and inclusive story of our shared past. It means teaching history that accurately reflects the full spectrum of stories and experiences.”

- [Suggested Lesson Plan and Activity Guide For Classrooms](#): This lesson plan and classroom activity guide was created by Dr. Janice Underwood, Chief Diversity Officer for the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- [Black History Month Event List](#): A list of events and programming at libraries, state parks, historical sites, and museums all around Virginia in honor of Black History Month.
- [List of 20 Historical Markers](#): Highlight with your students and/or children this month.
- [Virginia State Parks Black History Month Event List](#): Virginia State Parks are offering free admission and parking to individuals attending a program in honor of Black History Month.

## Virginia General Assembly



### Regular Session

The General Assembly meets annually, beginning on the second Wednesday in January, for 60 days in even-numbered years and for 30 days in odd-numbered years, with an option to extend annual sessions for a maximum of 30 days.

The [Senate of Virginia](#) and the [Virginia House of Delegates](#), both bodies of the Virginia Legislature, meet in the historic, working Capitol building in Richmond, Virginia.

[LIS \(Legislative Information System\) – 2020 Session](#): **Keep track of legislation - THUS FAR**

# Virginia Board of Education

## **Newly Prescribed Standards of Quality**

On October 17, 2019, the Board of Education prescribed new Standards of Quality for the commonwealth’s public schools. The Standards of Quality describe the foundational instructional programs and support services all schools must provide. The *Constitution of Virginia* requires the Board of Education to prescribe Standards of Quality for the public schools of Virginia, subject to revision only by the General Assembly

The proposed new standards are aligned with the Board of Education’s goals of promoting educational equity, supporting educator recruitment and retention, and helping students and schools achieve the board’s graduation and accreditation requirements.

The [newly prescribed Standards of Quality](#) (Word) — and legislation necessary to enact the new standards — will be communicated to Governor Ralph Northam and the 2020 General Assembly, along with budget estimates required to support the new requirements and staffing ratios. You can also view the Board [resolution prescribing the SOQ revisions](#).

# Virginia Department of Education

## Superintendent’s Memo #266-19

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) will host a variety of webinars focused on best practices in literacy instruction and resources available to school divisions. Through the diverse expertise of our partners and presenters, our goal is to offer timely, research-based, and instructionally sound sessions to Virginia educators. Participants may register at [November 18th “Comprehensive Literacy-Best Practices for Elementary Reading Blocks” webinar](#).

## Superintendent’s Memo #016-20

### **Nominations for the 2020 Standards of Learning Item and Test Review Committees**

The Office of Student Assessment is seeking nominations for the 2020 Standards of Learning (SOL) Item and Test Review Committees. Approximately 15 members are needed for each of the committees, and school divisions may nominate one or more representatives for each committee.

## Virginia Declaration of Learning Program

This yearlong program is exclusively for educators working in fourth through twelfth grade art, social studies, English/language arts, special education, and English Learner classrooms as well as school librarians and media specialists and is offered at no cost to divisions or participants. Developed through a partnership with George Washington’s Mount Vernon, the American Civil War Museum, the Chrysler Museum of Art, and the Virginia Museum of History and Culture the VDOL is an immersive professional development experience, managed by the U.S. Department of State’s Diplomatic Reception Rooms. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on **February 23, 2020**, using the following [Application](#) link. Those interested in applying may learn more about the initiative at [VDOL](#). It is anticipated that a Superintendent’s Memo will be posted by February 7, 2020.

# History and Social Science

## **SAVE THE DATES!!**

The history and social science office is in the process of planning the following events for history and social science leadership and teachers. **Once completed, an announcement for registration and applications will be sent directly to history and social science contacts (coordinators, supervisors, or identified contacts).**

### **132 Workshop: April 27<sup>th</sup> – Omni Hotel, Charlottesville**

As a means of support, the Virginia Department of Education's history and social science office will host a *132 Workshop* in Charlottesville, VA for **division history and social science leaders and contacts**. Each division will be able to register one division history and social science leader or contact for this workshop. The goal of the workshop is to provide a differentiated sessions based upon your division's level of readiness with the following (tentative list):

- Performance tasks and assessments: development and tools, implementation and scoring, and balanced assessment plans
- Curriculum and Instruction: development and alignment and resources and professional development
- Literacy Integration: elementary, middle, and high

### **History and Social Science Range-Finding – April 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Charlottesville (Location TBD)**

The range-finding committees will review student work samples and recommend exemplars that demonstrate student performance at each score point of the VDOE common rubrics. Approximately 7 teachers will be selected to serve on each of the five committees. School divisions will be encouraged to nominate a representative for each committee. **Applications are forthcoming. Application link will be sent to history and social science contacts and posted in TeacherDirect.**

#### **Performance Tasks**

Schools and School Divisions contributing student samples to help finalize the VDOE common rubrics for history and social science, please be aware of the upcoming dates for submission.

#### **Submitting the Samples**

Schools will scan student work samples and submit (via SSWS to Taylor Snow) to the VDOE by **Friday, February 7, 2020**. Student names and any other identifying information must be redacted before the writing samples are submitted.

Contact the VDOE-HSS office if you have any questions.

### **VDOE Out-Service – July 2020**

Selected K-12 teachers will have an opportunity to work with museum educators, history and social science organizations, college professors to develop units of study using best practices for classroom instruction and assessment. These materials will not only support history and social science instruction and assessment, but also focus on students with disabilities and English Language Learners. This out-service will be a training session for selected history and social science educators and serve as a model program for regional collaboration and workshops across the Commonwealth. All participants will be provided an incentive of \$1,000 with expectations of resource development for VDOE use. **Applications are forthcoming. Application link will be sent to history and social science contacts and posted in TeacherDirect.**

### **Selected themes and locations:**

Abingdon - July 6 – 7, 2020: Integrating the Arts in the History Classroom

Staunton - July 13 -14, 2020: Teaching Difficult History: Tackling Genocide and the Holocaust

Richmond - July 20 – 21, 2020: History at the Local Level: Bringing Public History to Your Classroom

Hampton - July 27 – 28, 2020: The Geo-Inquiry Model with Local and World Geography

### **Black History Month**

As we move into February, many teachers, schools, and school divisions will provide programming, lessons and activities. We would like to encourage you to provide guidance across your school division as a means of support to the broader community. Please remember that Black history is much more than the civil rights era, but it is critical that students have a truthful—and complete—understanding of this foundational movement. Encourage and support teachers, schools, and your broader community to go beyond feel-good narratives and simple factoids by examining context and relevancy. This helps students learn a fuller and more accurate account of black history, including the often-oversimplified history of the civil rights movement.

In an article written by author Coshandra Dillard, [Teaching Tolerance](#), January 23, 2019, it explores revisiting familiar themes or introducing new projects during Black History Month. It is important to resist reducing topics to feel-good factoids devoid of context. As we ALL work to improve our instruction and opportunities for learning, we encourage you to flood your teachers' with meaningful lessons, activities, sources (print and digital), and professional learning opportunities that will support deeper understanding and celebrate Black History Month.

### **African American History Course-**

The development of this course takes time and at the PRESENT time we (**WHRO, VIRTUAL VIRGINIA, and VDOE**) **DO NOT** have specific details finalized regarding specifics that you need to enter this course into your system. PLEASE KNOW as soon as this information is available, it will be shared with ALL interested and necessary parties. Your patience and understanding are most appreciated.

### **Introducing “Following Harriet,” a new podcast from Virginia Tourism Corporation**



“[Following Harriet](#),” a podcast that takes a closer look at the life of Harriet Tubman. Narrated by broadcaster, author, and beloved TED talk speaker Celeste Headlee, “Following Harriet” goes into the life of Tubman, considered one of the bravest and most extraordinary women in our country’s history. Through interviews with leading historians, educators and the director of the film *Harriet*, it puts the American icon in a broader context and examines the 19th Century experience of African Americans, especially at major historical sites in Virginia.

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## *Resources and Professional Development Opportunities*

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### **Virginia Social Studies Leaders Consortium (VSSLC)** –

**SAVE THE DATE** - VSSLC's Spring Meeting will take place Friday, March 13, 2020 at the Moton Museum in Farmville from 8:30 AM - 4 PM. A block booking has been made at Hotel Weyanoke in Farmville. The registration deadline is February 12, 2020. You can book online at [hotelweyanoke.com](http://hotelweyanoke.com) and use the group code: STUDY. The folks at the Moton Museum helped us secure the state rate of only \$94.00 at this historic property that has recently been renovated into a boutique hotel in downtown Farmville. Many thanks to our kind hosts, Cameron Patterson and Cainan Townsend at the Moton Museum! If you would like more information or information regarding membership, please contact Beau Dickenson, President at [bdickenson@rockingham.k12.va.us](mailto:bdickenson@rockingham.k12.va.us).

### **Virginia Council of the Social Studies (VCSS)**

The goals of the Virginia Council for the Social Studies are to foster professional growth, develop communication among stakeholders in the social studies community, and to promote the teaching of social studies in Virginia, the United States, and the international sphere. The Virginia Council of the Social Studies is an affiliate with the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS).

**Mission:** The Virginia Council for the Social Studies engages and supports Virginia educators in advocating and strengthening social studies.

### **National Council of the Social Studies**

[NCSS 100th Annual Conference: Call for Proposals DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 10TH](#)

NCSS invites you to submit a proposal to present at our 100th Annual Conference! We also invite you to submit a proposal for the co-located National Law-Related Education Conference (sponsored by the American Bar Association) and the National Council for Geographic Education

[National Council for the Social Studies 100th Annual Conference: December 4-6, 2020](#)

**Walter E. Washington Convention Center | Washington, D.C.** *Registration and speaker information coming soon!*

[National Council for the Social Studies and inquirED are hosting the Elementary Inquiry Summer Institute \(EISI\) in Evanston, IL July 30, 2020 to July 31, 2020](#)

Attendees should expect a dynamic, two-day exploration of the tools and strategies that educators need to bring inquiry to life in their classrooms and schools. Workshops and sessions will address key inquiry concepts such as generating questions and planning inquiries, facilitating student-led investigations, and designing and implementing informed action projects.

### **English Learner (EL) News & Notes –**

Virginia Department of Education, Office of Humanities, EL Instruction Program Newsletter- Each month, Dr. Jessica Costa, Specialist for English Learner Instruction, presents interesting news about English language learners and related topics are provided. If you would like to subscribe to Dr. Costa's newsletter, please contact her at [jessica.costa@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:jessica.costa@doe.virginia.gov) to have emails sent directly to your inbox or to recommend topics or resources for inclusion in upcoming newsletters. Please note that the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) does not necessarily endorse these views or any others on external websites or links included in the newsletter.

## Introducing New American History

### A new way to teach American history

We breathe history as we do air. And yet to many students, it's unclear that we all live in history every day. At New American History, we're committed to helping students see how current events take their shape from history. Our tools and resources are free and freely available to all educators, intended to uncover new ways to teach the past in light of the present.

### American Panorama

*American Panorama* is an historical atlas of the United States for the twenty-first century. It combines cutting-edge research with innovative interactive mapping techniques, designed to appeal to anyone with an interest in American history or a love of maps.

### The Black Radical You've Never Heard Of: (Resource and Lesson)

**T. Thomas Fortune changed black history and seems to have been forgotten.**

# History

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## Black History Museum and Culture of Virginia

### Paradox Of Liberty: Slavery At Jefferson's Monticello - JANUARY 18 - APRIL 18

The Paradox of Liberty: Slavery at Jefferson's Monticello, gives voice to the many enslaved families who built and maintained Monticello. It highlights the stories of six families who, along with others, lived in slavery at Jefferson's home and plantation for generations.

## Panel Discussion: Into America's Wild with Astronaut John Herrington and Pilot Ariel Tweto

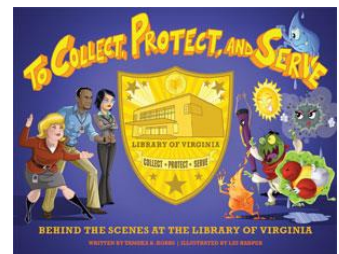
Tuesday, February 4, 2020, 1:30 – 2:30 PM Meet pioneering astronaut John Herrington, the first Native American to travel in space, and Alaska Native pilot Ariel Tweto, who are appearing in the upcoming *Into America's Wild*, "an unforgettable cross-country adventure into the hidden wonders of the natural world."

In conversation with Mandy Van Heuvelen (Mnicoujou Lakota) Cultural Interpreter Program Coordinator at the National Museum of the American Indian, Herrington and Tweto will discuss the spark that led them on their adventure pathways and share how their time in nature during the filming of this documentary provided opportunities to connect with their Native American heritage.

## Library of Virginia

### Book and Program for Elementary Students - To Collect, Protect, and Serve: Behind the Scenes at the Library of Virginia

Written by Tameka B. Hobbs, Illustrated by Les Harper, a guide young readers through a visit to the Library of Virginia. Documents and themes support the Virginia Standards of Learning for grades 1 through 5, especially for Virginia Studies. The Library is also offering a special *To Collect, Protect, and Serve* Program for elementary students featuring hands-on activities. Each student will receive a **free** copy of the book. More information about [To Collect, Protect, and Serve](#).



## [African American Education Resources](#)

New [African American Education Resources](#) are now available from the Library of Virginia. To view these resources along with a comprehensive list of all the education resources, visit the [Library of Virginia](#). eMediaVA, Virginia's premier (and free) digital media library for educators, has compiled their best resources on African American history, from 1619 to today. Topics include: Civil Rights Movements and Social Justice, Jim Crow and the Post-Reconstruction South, Arrival of the First Africans & Colonial Life, Slavery, Abolitionism, Revolt, and the Coming of the Civil War. To access this content and a whole lot more visit [eMediaVA African American History Playlists](#).

## [THE GILDER LEHRMAN INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN HISTORY](#)

Superintendent's MEMO 277-19 [National History Teacher of the Year Award](#) (Word)

[Self-Paced Courses](#) offer graduate-level online instruction in American history by eminent historians, available to watch or listen to on your own time and at your own pace, with no deadlines or expiration dates. The courses can be used to obtain professional development credit. To learn more, please contact us at [selfpacedcourses@gilderlehrman.org](mailto:selfpacedcourses@gilderlehrman.org).

NEW COURSES: Explore the Institute's 3 new self-paced courses, each offering 15 professional development credits, here:

- Race and Rights in America, led by Professor Lucas Morel, Washington and Lee University
- Women in the American Revolution, led by Professor Carol Berkin, CUNY Graduate Center
- World War II, led by Professor Michael Neiberg, US Army War College

## [International March of the Living](#)

A specially produced media event co-sponsored by Rutgers University and the March of The Living will be broadcast live from Auschwitz at approximately 5 PM Poland time on Monday, April 20, 2020 which is the day before Holocaust Memorial Day. We would like to reach as many people and organizations as possible for this broadcast. Program updates and a single link will be sent to the VDOE and will be distributed to ALL school divisions.

## [The Holocaust Commission of the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater](#)

### **What We Carry-Stories of Survival**

*What We Carry* is a multimedia project of first person accounts of The Holocaust. The program has been presented at the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, the Virginia Conference of Social Studies Educators, the National Social Studies Conference, and the International Conference at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. Since the Holocaust Commission began presenting the program in the fall of 2011, over 41,000 people have experienced it. Your group can too! Docents travel up to an hour's drive to share presentations. For educators outside the local area a traveling version of the program is also available. Please contact the Holocaust Commission at [info@holocaustcommission.org](mailto:info@holocaustcommission.org) to schedule a presentation today!

## ["The Long Road From Brown"](#)

Secondary teachers (grades 6-12) are invited to participate in a one-week workshop on school desegregation in Virginia following the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. Teachers will interact with leading scholars in the field, visit historic sites and archives, and will discuss curricular and teaching techniques related to this subject.

Dates: July 12-17 and July 26-31, 2020 in Richmond, Virginia

**Application Deadline: March 1, 2020** with a Stipend: \$1,200

## Monticello Archaeology Teacher Workshop 2020

Professional educators are invited to join Monticello Archaeologists for a one-day workshop on July 15<sup>th</sup> or July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. In the morning, participants engage in archaeological field excavations at an early-19th-century slave quarter. The afternoon includes artifact processing in the archaeology lab as well as discussions of archaeological analysis and classroom applications of archaeological methods and data. Participants will receive a certificate of completion, a resource packet, light breakfast, and one-day access to the Grounds. Space is limited to 12 participants per day, so reserve your spot soon! \$20 per teacher. Questions? Email Beth Sawyer, [esawyer@monticello.org](mailto:esawyer@monticello.org). Registration available online: <https://www.monticello.org/exhibits-events/calendar-of-events/details/archaeology-teacher-workshop/2020-07-15/>



## Stanford History Education Group (SHEG)

### **New Year, New History Materials 2020**

A complete list of the new or revamped lessons and assessments that we've published in the last couple years: **Reading Like a Historian lessons**

## National History Club

**Start a Club this School Year!** For additional questions please contact Executive Director **Robert Nasson**

# Civics

## US Census Bureau

### Statistics in Schools (SIS)

Using new SIS resources in your classroom during the 2019-2020 school year will support efforts to make sure EVERY child is counted in the 2020 Census. This count impacts the federal funds that communities receive for special education, classroom technology, teacher training, after-school programs, school lunch assistance, and more.

### 2020 Resources

New activities designed specifically for the 2019-2020 school year spotlight the 2020 Census and the importance of making sure everyone is counted, especially children. The decennial count impacts the federal funds that communities receive for special education, classroom technology, teacher training, after-school programs, school lunch assistance, and more. Use activities for pre-K through 12th grade today to help your students, school, and community.

### Get Involved

Be a leader. Promote the Statistics in Schools (SIS) program and educate your community about the importance of counting all children in the 2020 Census. Your efforts today will impact schools, students, and communities for the next 10 years.



## 2020 Maps

Capture the attention of students with large, colorful maps filled with fun census-based facts about the country and its territories.

## Virginia Commission on Civic Education –

Superintendent’s MEMO 005-20

Secretary of Education’s 2020 Essay Challenge for Virginia and United States Government

Students (Word)

- MEMO 005-20 Attachment A: Secretary of Education’s 2020 Essay Challenge Entry Form (Word)
- MEMO 005-20 Attachment B: Secretary of Education’s 2020 Essay Challenge Prompt and Score Sheet (Word)

## **American Lawyers Alliance Educator Award**

Law-Related Educator of the Year Awards honor public and private high school teachers who have made significant contributions in law-related education. Nominations for the award may be submitted by an applicant or other interested parties by March 15, 2020. [American Lawyers Alliance Teacher of the Year](#)

## iCivics

In honor of historically extraordinary women, **iCivics** and [Seneca Women](#) have partnered to produce a classroom lesson based on Justice O’Connor’s life. [Seneca Women](#) is a global leadership platform dedicated to advancing women and girls to fast forward us to a more equitable and prosperous world. Below please find links to a [photographic biography](#) exploring Justice O’Connor’s life and career, as well as a Powerpoint presentation.

## VA Civics:

Competition dates are set for the 2019–2020 We the People Regionals and State Finals! Join us as a [volunteer](#) for one of these inspiring events. Competition dates are set for the 2019–2020 We the People Regionals and State Finals!

**Virginia Civics is now accepting applicants for the 2020 We the People Training Program!** The We the People Training Program provides participating educators with the intellectual foundation and pedagogical preparation to be effective teachers of civics and government. Cohort members receive contact hours for Professional Development, a classroom set of We the People textbooks, up to \$100 travel reimbursement per training, lodging and most meals associated with training, and access to top scholars and mentor teachers. Interested applicants can view more about the program by visiting the link below. The deadline for submitting applications is April 30, 2020. [vacivics 2020 cohort program](#)

# Economics

## Virginia Council on Economic Education

Virginia Council on Economic Education Workshop: Understanding Fiscal Responsibility (and Elections). Attention Middle and High School Educators! With the 2020 political campaigns in full swing, students need to be informed and to think critically about national economic issues. This workshop offered through the Virginia Council on Economic Education will give Educators up-to-date, inquiry-based lessons to help students.

VCU, Richmond-January 18, 2020

GMU, Fairfax March 21, 2020

JMU, Harrisonburg April 24, 2020

JMU, Harrisonburg May 1, 2020

# Geography

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## Virginia Geographic Alliance

### The Story Behind the Map: 2020 Virginia AGO Map Competition

In collaboration with Esri (Environmental Systems Research Institute) Education, the Virginia Geographic Alliance is coordinating the 2019-2020 Virginia Map contest based on the theme, “**How has the use of resources impacted the lives of Virginians?**” Showcase the work of your students as they use the resources of an Esri Organizational Account to create a Story Map Journal or Web App to communicate their interpretation of the theme. Please visit the [VGA website](#) for more information and entry requirements. **Completed entry form for each product must be submitted by midnight Friday, May 1, 2020.** Entries received after the deadline will not be judged. (The entry form will be available on the VGA website late January.)

### APHG Teacher Delegation to South Korea 2020

The 2020 Delegation of APHG teachers will depart for South Korea on June 24 on the trans-Pacific flight in the afternoon or evening for a late afternoon or evening arrival on June 25 in Seoul-Inchon International Airport. The return departure to the U.S. will be on July 2 or earlier. We are working on funding for a field study extension, but a lack of funding will move the departure closer to June 30. The dates will be confirmed prior to ticketing. It is possible to arrive early or remain in South Korea longer at the delegate's own expense. Airfare, hotel, most meals, and most local transportation is provided by the South Korean hosts during the program of activities. APHG teachers are given priority to participate in the U.S. Delegation. Other high school geography teachers may also apply. The program is designed to provide an international experience that will expand your world view, and especially your knowledge of the Korean Peninsula. If you are an APHG teacher and interested, please contact Joseph Stoltman ([stoltman@wmich.edu](mailto:stoltman@wmich.edu)) to receive an application."

### Scholarships for NCGE GeoCamp Iceland 2020

**Four \$3000 Scholarships for Virginia teachers** are available. Please consult the NCGE site for details and an on-line application. VGA will coordinate the acceptance process with GeoCamp 2020 co-leader Professor Ellen Foster. **Applications due February 15, 2020.** Applications and program description at: <https://ncge.org/programs/geocamp-iceland/> VGA contact person: Bob Morrill at [morrill@vt.edu](mailto:morrill@vt.edu)

### VGA Geography updates and resources:

Link: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/14vdpzvbbK4iZa49e15\\_jXer95owOBO3RVpl2h1hhoU/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14vdpzvbbK4iZa49e15_jXer95owOBO3RVpl2h1hhoU/edit?usp=sharing)

## Other items that may be of interest...

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### Field Trips and Learning Experiences

#### [Determined: The 400-Year Struggle for Black Equality](#)



In commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first enslaved Africans in British North America, *Determined: The 400-Year Struggle for Black Equality* will examine the long history of black Americans as they have fought for freedom, equal justice, and access to opportunities. Their actions have pushed our nation ever closer to its ideal of universal equality.

#### [BOOK A FIELD TRIP TO VMHC](#)

Education is at the core of our mission. Take your group or students on a field trip through 16,000 years of Virginia history with a visit to the Virginia Museum of History & Culture, or book a virtual HistoryConnects program with one of our educators and let us visit you! We offer educational opportunities and programs for all ages!

#### [Agents of Change](#)

July 19-22, 2020 - A Youth Leadership Conference at The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown - brings together high school students and their teachers or organization leaders from across Virginia to focus on leadership, service and civic responsibility. Students will be inspired to take action by developing projects to improve their community.

This Virginia youth leadership conference will:

- Help students and leaders develop a framework for project-based learning and assessment in social studies.
- Be an active hands-on experience that has students “up and doing”.
- Provide an opportunity for students to collaborate and begin to develop a plan for making an impact in their community.

### Student contests and scholarships

#### **National History Day in Virginia**

[National History Day](#) is a project based learning program for students grades 4-12. Students may choose a topic related to this year’s theme, *Breaking Barriers in History*, and conduct primary source research on their topic. Contact [Sam Florer](#), Virginia History Day Coordinator, for any questions or see the [website](#) for details.

#### **The 2020 Elie Wiesel Writing and Visual Arts Competitions for Students**

Every year, the Holocaust Commission invites middle and high school students in grades 6-12 to participate in writing and visual arts competitions named in honor of Nobel Laureate and Holocaust Survivor, Elie Wiesel. **The Writing Competition Deadline is Friday, February 7, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.** **The Visual Arts Competition entries will be accepted Monday, March 2-Friday, March 13, 2020.** For additional information and applications, visit [www.holocaustcommission.org](http://www.holocaustcommission.org)

# Research and Articles

## Articles:

- [\*\*TWO STATES. EIGHT TEXTBOOKS. TWO AMERICAN STORIES.\*\*](#)  
American history textbooks can differ across the country, in ways that are shaded by partisan politics. - By [Dana Goldstein](#) Design by Adriana Ramic Jan. 12, 2020 (NY Times)
- [\*\*Lessons from the Constitution: Thinking Through the Fifteenth and Nineteenth Amendments\*\*](#) by *Lisa Tetrault*  
The upcoming anniversaries of the Fifteenth and Nineteenth amendments offer an ideal opportunity to facilitate a classroom debate on whether these suffrage amendments succeeded in guaranteeing the right to vote.
- [\*\*A Veteran Teacher's Lessons: Commemorate Civil Rights Hero Fred Korematsu by David Forrest\*\*](#)  
January 30<sup>th</sup> is Fred Korematsu Day in California. Korematsu became a national civil rights hero for his refusal to go to the US government's incarceration camps for Japanese Americans during World War II. The end of this month is a chance for social studies teachers to tell his story to students.

## Webinar: [\*\*Using Inquiry in Elementary Social Studies with NCSS President, Dr.\*\*](#)

[\*\*Tina L. Heafner\*\*](#) - February 19, 2020 - 4:30pm EST What's it like to use inquiry with a first-grader who is just learning to read? A third-grader who struggles during group work? Or a sixth-grader who is just gaining the confidence to speak in class? This webinar explores the unique challenges, opportunities, and benefits of shifting to inquiry in elementary social studies.

**Who Should Attend:** Teachers, instructional coaches, and administrators interested in learning about inquiry-based social studies at the elementary level. [Register](#)

## Speech: [\*\*An excerpt from President Heafner's Message: "Agency, Advocacy, Activism: Action for Social Studies"\*\*](#)

*To achieve a world in which all students are educated and inspired for lifelong inquiry and informed civic action, we must recognize the need for a responsive approach to social studies education that understands and incorporates contemporary cultural realities. Social studies shapes society. Through civic agency, advocacy, activism, and informed action, the guardrails of democracy, social studies can fulfill its promise of critical inquiry for civic life. For social studies to succeed, we must create an educative environment that:*

1. Harnesses diversity and individualism,
2. Provides equal educational opportunities and confronts racialized narratives,
3. Forges common contemporary civic values and social harmony in a pluralistic society,
4. Adopts pedagogical approaches that promote civility, inclusion, collaborative reasoning and deliberation, critical inquiry, and participatory experiences, and
5. Capitalizes on the positive possibilities of the internet and social media.

## [The Inquiry Design Model](#)

The Inquiry Design Model (IDM)™ is a distinctive approach to creating curriculum and instructional materials that honors teachers' knowledge and expertise, avoids over-prescription, and focuses on the central elements of the instructional design process. The Inquiry Design Model is co-authored by S.G. Grant, John Lee, and Kathy Swan who worked as leaders and writers in the C3 Framework project.

## [Superintendent's Memos](#)

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Weekly memoranda from the superintendent of public instruction are the means by which the Virginia Department of Education communicates official information to the commonwealth's school divisions. Superintendent's memoranda are posted on Fridays.

January 24, 2020

- MEMO 020-20 [Black History Month Resources](#) (Word)
- MEMO 019-20 [Public Comment on the Proposed Revised Fine Arts Standards of Learning](#) (Word)
- MEMO 018-20 [School Divisions of Innovation – Application for Division Designation 2020](#) (Word)
  - [MEMO 018-20 Attachment A: School Divisions of Innovation Application for Division Designation 2020](#) (Word)
- MEMO 017-20 [Nominations for the 2020 Range Finding Committee for Grade 5 Writing Local Alternative Performance Assessments](#) (Word)
- MEMO 016-20 [Nominations for the 2020 Standards of Learning Item and Test Review Committees](#) (Word)
- MEMO 015-20 [Request for Proposals for 21st Century Community Learning Centers Competitive Grant Program](#) (Word)
  - [MEMO 015-20 Attachment A: Regional RFP Technical Assistance Workshop Registration Form](#) (Word)
- MEMO 014-20 [Announcing #GoOpenVA Mini-Grant for Development of OER](#) (Word)
  - [MEMO 014-20 Attachment A: #GoOpenVA Mini-Grant for Development of OER: Grant Requirements and Application](#) (Word)
- MEMO 013-20 [#GoOpenVA Launch](#) (Word)

## Thank You

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. As always, thank you for your time, patience, and support of history and social science instruction across the Commonwealth. We appreciate all that you do and contribute. We look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards – Jacqueline, Brandi, Taylor and Christonya (Team HSS)