

Social Studies Content Standards Writing Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 21-22, 2026

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

8:15 AM – 4:30 PM

Coteau Room, North Dakota State Capital

Facilitator: Davonne Eldredge, NDDPI

Meeting Convened: 8:15 AM

Meeting Adjourned: 4:30 PM

Attendance – ND Social Studies Content Standards Writing Committee Members

- Brandt, Grace - Wahpeton Public Schools
- Davis, Melissa - Bismarck Public Schools
- DeCoteau, Vanessa - Bismarck Public Schools
- DelaBarre, Kyra - Bismarck Public Schools
- Dolajak, Haley - Bismarck Public Schools
- Douglas, Devan - Dickinson Public Schools
- Duerr, Rachel - West Fargo Public Schools
- Dunnigan, Ryan - Bismarck Public Schools
- Evenson, Melissa - Fargo Public Schools
- Greif, Sarah - West Fargo Public Schools
- Hall, Kari - Williston Public Schools
- Hanson, Kristi - Jamestown Public Schools
- Horning, Beth - Bismarck Public Schools
- Kallenbach, Jennifer - Kidder Co. Public Schools
- Keena, Morgan - West Fargo Public Schools
- Klootwyk, Kate - Bismarck Public Schools
- Learn, Dr. Michael - ND University System
- Moran, Lauren - Fargo Public Schools
- Owens, Kristine - Bismarck Public Schools
- Petersen, Erin - West Fargo Public Schools
- Rice, Jessica - Fargo Public Schools
- Rudebusch, Aaron - West Fargo Public Schools
- Schuehle, Rachel - Light of Christ Schools
- Storseth, Dana - Minot Public Schools
- Weber, Alexandria - Midway Public Schools
- Wenger, Laurel - Bismarck Public Schools
- Werre, Kayla - Nedrose Public Schools

Attendance – North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI), Northeast Education Services Cooperative (NESC), ND Courts, and State Historical Society Members

- Davonne Eldredge, NDDPI
- Shannon Sorenson, NDDPI
- Bryan Pechtl, ND Courts
- Kate Oster, NESC

Welcome and Introductions

Davonne Eldredge welcomed the Social Studies Writing Committee members reviewed the work the committee had completed during the March meeting.

Review of Compiled Expectations

The committee divided into small groups to review the compilations of the grade/subject expectations and graduation expectations they had created in small groups in March.

Identification of Categories and Goals

The committee was divided into small groups to identify potential categories and create goal statements for each. Suggestions were documented in the TEAM folder. They returned to the large group to discuss the potential categories and goals. The group selected potential categories and goals.

Write Standards and Clarifications

The group was divided into grade-span groups to start writing standards and clarifications. The high school group broke into four smaller groups for this task. Work was documented in the TEAM file.

Progress Check

The group was called together to check progress and ask questions. After this was completed, the committee resumed the work started on standards and clarifications.

Write Standards and Clarifications

The grade span groups continued writing standards and clarifications. Work was documented in the TEAM file.

Review Progress and Plan for Day Two

Progress writing standards and clarifications were reviewed. The work will continue throughout day two and an initial alignment check will be done.

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Coteau Room, North Dakota State Capital

Facilitator: Davonne Eldredge, NDDPI

Meeting Convened: 8:30 AM

Meeting Adjourned: 4:30 PM

Attendance – ND Social Studies Content Standards Writing Committee Members

- Brandt, Grace - Wahpeton Public Schools
- Davis, Melissa - Bismarck Public Schools
- DeCoteau, Vanessa - Bismarck Public Schools
- DelaBarre, Kyra - Bismarck Public Schools
- Dolajak, Haley - Bismarck Public Schools
- Douglas, Devan - Dickinson Public Schools
- Duerr, Rachel - West Fargo Public Schools
- Dunnigan, Ryan - Bismarck Public Schools
- Evenson, Melissa - Fargo Public Schools
- Greif, Sarah - West Fargo Public Schools
- Hall, Kari - Williston Public Schools
- Hanson, Kristi - Jamestown Public Schools
- Horning, Beth - Bismarck Public Schools
- Kallenbach, Jennifer - Kidder Co. Public Schools
- Keena, Morgan - West Fargo Public Schools
- Klootwyk, Kate - Bismarck Public Schools
- Learn, Dr. Michael - ND University System
- Moran, Lauren - Fargo Public Schools
- Owens, Kristine - Bismarck Public Schools
- Petersen, Erin - West Fargo Public Schools
- Rice, Jessica - Fargo Public Schools
- Rudebusch, Aaron - West Fargo Public Schools
- Schuehle, Rachel - Light of Christ Schools
- Storseth, Dana - Minot Public Schools
- Weber, Alexandria - Midway Public Schools
- Wenger, Laurel - Bismarck Public Schools
- Werre, Kayla - Nedrose Public Schools

Attendance – North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI), Northeast Education Services Cooperative (NESC), ND Courts, and State Historical Society Members

- Davonne Eldredge, NDDPI
- Shannon Sorenson, NDDPI
- Bryan Pechtl, ND Courts
- Kate Oster, NESC

Welcome Back and Announcements

Davonne Eldredge welcomed the group back and previewed the agenda for the day.

Reflections on Day One

Mrs. Eldredge reviewed work from the previous day. Feedback was provided to the groups on the work they had completed.

Preview of Tasks for Day Two

The committee would continue to work on the standards and clarifications. They would share their work K-12 to start vertical alignment. At the end of the day, they have a first draft ready for public comment.

Write Standards and Clarifications

The grade span groups continued writing standards and clarifications. Work was documented in the TEAM file.

Progress Check

The group was called together to check progress and ask questions. After this was completed, the committee resumed the work started on standards and clarifications.

Write Standards and Clarifications

The grade span groups continued writing standards and clarifications. Work was documented in the TEAM file.

Review Standards Written and Initial Alignment Check

The group broke into cross grade level groups for each of the categories to review the written standards and conduct an initial check for alignment. Grade level group members shared the standards created at their level. The other group members provided feedback and suggestions. Information was documented in the TEAM.

Report on Feedback to Team

Grade level team members returned to their original working groups to share feedback provided and make revisions.

Write Standards and Clarifications

The grade span groups continued writing standards and clarifications. Work was documented in the TEAM file.

Release of First Draft for Public Comment

The group reviewed the work completed and discussed the release of the first draft for public comment. The committee decided to release their work for public comments to receive feedback to help provide direction for future writing sessions. The standards are not fully completed at this point, which will be noted in the draft and in the public comment survey. The draft will be sent to the committee for review prior to being released for comment.

Reflections on Day Two and Planning for July Meeting

The work completed during the April meeting was reviewed. The committee completed much of the standards writing during the two days. When the committee meets next, they will review the public comments and feedback from the review committee. They will continue writing the standards and revise completed work based on feedback. The standards will be vertically and horizontally aligned during this session. Committee members were thanked for their work. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.