

***ND Social Studies Content Standards Writing Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 8-9, 2026***

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

8:15 AM – 4:30 PM

North Dakota Heritage Center

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
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
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 and reviewed the work the committee completed during the April meeting and actions occurring following the meeting (draft preparation, release of public comment on first draft).

Review of July Agenda

Ms. Eldredge reviewed the tasks that were to be completed during the July meeting. During this meeting, the committee will review the public comments, revise standards that were completed, and complete the standards that were unfinished.

Review of First Draft and Public Comment

The committee broke into grade span groups to review the public comments. As they reviewed the comments, they noted actions taken and provided reasons for the actions being taken. This was noted in the TEAM file.

Examine Reviews of the Standards

The committee broke into grade span groups and examined the reviews of the standards on specificity, rigor, and alignment. As they reviewed the information, they used that information and information from the public comments to complete unfinished standards and revise the standards that were completed. Their changes were noted in the TEAM.

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.

Standards Revision and Drafting

After checking progress, the committee continued working on revisions. As they worked, they would check in with other grade spans to discuss bridges and alignment. Revision work was recorded in the TEAM.

Review Progress and Plan for Day Two

Progress was checked at the end of the day. The committee determined they had two consistency items they wanted to discuss at the beginning of day two before continuing with their standards work. During day two, the committee will check alignment of the standards.

Thursday, July 9, 2026

8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

North Dakota Heritage Center

Facilitator: Davonne Eldredge, NDDPI

Meeting Convened: 8:30 AM

Meeting Adjourned: 4:30 PM

Attendance – ND Social Studies Content Standards Writing Committee Members

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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.

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 will have a second draft ready for public comment.

Consistency Conversation

The committee met as a whole group to discuss how they wanted the clarifications formatted for the standards. They discussed the terminology they would use to introduce the suggested topics for instruction. They also discussed the approach they would use for the skills section and when and where it would be used in the standards, so all smaller groups would be consistent. Once the group came to consensus, they broke into smaller groups to continue writing and revising standards.

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 provided the opportunity to ask questions. After this was completed, the committee resumed the work started on standards and clarifications.

Mixed Group Review

The group was divided into smaller groups to review standards from other grade spans. This review was to identify standards and clarifications that were not clear. The groups made notes in the TEAM file as they reviewed the work.

Standards Revision and Writing

Once the reviews are completed, the committee returned to their original groups to review the notes and make revisions. As they worked, the groups met with peers from other grade spans to check alignment. Revisions were noted in the TEAM file.

Release of First Draft for Public Comment

The committee reviewed their work and moved it into a central file in the TEAM to be formatted for the second draft of the standards. They discussed the release of the second 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 draft will be sent to the committee for review prior to being released for comment. The second draft will be reviewed by a review committee. That committee will provide feedback for the use of the writers when they meet next.

Reflections on Day Two and Planning for September Meeting

The work completed during the July meeting was reviewed. The committee completed writing and revising the standards and clarifications. 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.