



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF
LEARNING SERVICES

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Subject: Message #1: Announcing the new Fine Arts and Social Studies Curriculum Frameworks

Date: January 15, 2015

To: adecurriculum@lists.state.ar.us

From: Arkansas Department of Education Curriculum and Instruction Unit

Dear Arkansas Curriculum Leaders,

The Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) is pleased to announce that the State Board of Education has adopted new Fine Arts and Social Studies frameworks, to be implemented beginning with the 2015-2016 school year.

The new frameworks can be accessed via the ADE Curriculum Frameworks page which can be found here:

<http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/frameworks> (<http://goo.gl/fGsEld>).

Schools will find that there are shifts within the Social Studies content. The most significant of these content shifts are found within the Grades 6-8 Social Studies Frameworks. A document, created by ADE Social Studies Content Specialist Margaret "Maggie" Herrick, outlining these shifts is available for download at <http://goo.gl/fxaNk3>. School districts should examine and plan for full implementation of the frameworks and give appropriate consideration to content shifts when updating local curriculum.

Schools are reminded that all existing course approvals for any Fine Arts or Social Studies courses will no longer be valid as of July 1, 2015. Schools should visit the ADE website for more information on when course approvals are required and how to submit approval requests.

<http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/course-approvals> (<http://goo.gl/KPTupV>)

Commissioner's Memos providing more information about the frameworks, including notices about upcoming informational webinar opportunities, should be posted on the ADE website within the next several days.

Please share this information with others that might be interested. Thank you for serving the students of Arkansas.

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