

# **African-American History and Racial and Ethnic Awareness**

## **1.00 African-American History and Racial and Ethnic Awareness**

1.01 These regulations shall be known as the Arkansas Department of Education Regulations Concerning African-American History and Racial and Ethnic Awareness.

1.02 The State Board of Education enacted these regulations pursuant to its authority under Act 326 of 1997.

## **2.00 Purpose of Regulations**

2.01 The purpose of these regulations is to establish a task force to select instructional resource materials appropriate for teaching African-American history in all grade clusters in kindergarten through grade twelve in the public schools to advance in the training of educators in racial and ethnic awareness.

## **3.00 Definitions**

3.01 Training: training of school district personnel in the use of instructional materials combined with the development of their greater awareness of ethnic and racial differences.

3.02 Black History Task Force: the only group commissioned to recommend instructional resource materials for use in African-American History.

## **4.00 Composition of seven person task force**

4.01 These regulations indicate that the seven (7) members of the Black History Task Force shall be appointed by the chairperson of the Black History Advisory Committee of the Arkansas History Commission.

4.02 These regulations mandate that the Black History Task Force of seven (7) members is to be composed of classroom teachers representing each of the grade clusters in K-12 and an historian from an institution of higher learning. Members shall represent the regional diversity of Arkansas.

## **5.00 Reviewing bodies**

5.01 For the purposes of these Rules and Regulations, a "reviewing body" is any person or organization that would serve to evaluate or critique the work of the Black History Task Force.

5.02 These regulations maintain that the Black History Task Force will not be composed of any person from any reviewing body, such as the Arkansas Department of Education or the Black History Advisory Committee.

## **6.00 Distribution of Funds**

6.01 When funds are available for African-American History expenditures in public schools, such funds will be distributed for the purchase of materials from a prepared resource list on a per pupil basis to local school districts or to educational service cooperatives. However, the Arkansas Department of Education may elect to fund pilot programs on a competitive basis, in lieu of per pupil disbursements.

6.02 At least ninety (90) percent of all funding shall be dedicated to the purchase of material and/or required training.

### **7.00 Training**

7.01 Each school district shall send a district trainer for training as a resource for others in the district in the use of instructional materials and in racial and ethnic awareness and sensitivity.

7.02 All training for African-American History implementation shall be delivered through the statewide system of education service cooperatives and the three (3) Pulaski County school districts.

7.03 During the required training session, each trainer shall receive training in developing greater awareness of ethnic and racial differences, improving interpersonal skills, and enhancing racial harmony.

7.04 All training required by the Black History Task Force for teachers of African-American History shall be concluded by August 1, 1999, if funds are available.

7.05 All materials recommended by the Black History Task Force for teachers of African-American History shall be authorized by August 1, 1999, if funds are available.