| **Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item** | **Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia** |
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# Agenda Item: B

## Date: March 22, 2018

### Title: Final Review of Proposed State Approved Textbooks for K-12 History and Social Science

#### Presenter: Ms. Christonya Brown, Coordinator – History and Social Science

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## Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by state or federal law or regulation.

## Executive Summary:

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) began the process to review history and social science textbooks following the Board of Education’s approval to do so on February 23, 2017. The Department followed the [Timeline for State Approval Process for History and Social Science](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/textbooks/history_social_science/2017-approval/anticipated-textbook-timeline-hss.docx) (Word) and the [Textbook Criteria for History and Social Science](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/textbooks/history_social_science/2017-approval/textbook-criteria-hss-2017.docx) (Word) to conduct the textbook review. Between June 2017 and August 2017, committees of Virginia educators used the approved process to receive, review and submit textbook correlation information to the VDOE. Committee members conducted analyses of the materials using evaluation criteria for Standards of Learning (SOL) correlation, content, bias, and design for instructional planning and support. In January 2018, VDOE staff presented the list of proposed approved textbooks for presentation to the Board.

In February 2018, review copies of the history/social science textbooks were made available for public examination at various sites around the Commonwealth between January 29, 2018, and March 1, 2018. Four individuals and one organization submitted comments through the online mailboxes outlining preferences regarding alignment, terminology, reading level, review and recommended changes within the proposed textbooks. All reviews and comments were sent to the appropriate publishers.

The list of 36 proposed recommended history and social science textbooks, including the status of the Publisher’s Certification and Agreement forms for each, is included as Attachment A.

## Action Requested:

Final review: Action requested at this meeting.

## Superintendent’s Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education approve the attached list of proposed recommended textbooks for K-12 history and social science.

## Rationale for Action:

Review and approval of K-12 history and social science textbooks that are aligned to the 2015 *History and Social Science Standards of Learning* aligns with Priority 1: Provide high-quality, effective learning environments for all students of the [Board of Education *Comprehensive Plan: 2018-2023*](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/boe/plan/comprehensive-plan.pdf) through having resources that support a system of quality education.

## Previous Review or Action:

Previous review and action. Specify date and action taken below:

**Date:** February 23, 2017

**Action:** The Board of Education received a report outlining the anticipated timeline and the approved process to review and approve of K-12 History and Social Science Textbooks and Instructional Materials.

**Date:** January 25, 2018

**Action:** VDOE staff presented the Proposed Recommended History and Social Science Textbooks for first review to the Board of Education.

## Background Information and Statutory Authority:

In 1991, the Board of Education adopted a resolution delegating its authority for textbook adoption to the superintendent of public instruction. Since 1995, the Department of Education has worked with state committees to review and evaluate publishers’ textbook submissions primarily with respect to Standards of Learning (SOL) correlation. Following each review, the Department of Education provided school divisions with a list of the instructional materials submitted and a profile of each submission that included the degree of Standards of Learning correlation. Once approved by the Board, the list was provided to school divisions.

In 2002, the Board of Education adopted a resolution to approve textbooks and instructional materials in accordance with the *Constitution of Virginia*, Art. VIII 5(d). This action indicated that beginning with future adoptions, the Department of Education would recommend and the Board of Education would adopt an approved list of basal textbooks and instructional materials for subjects being reviewed.

The Board of Education’s *Regulations Governing Textbook Adoption* (8 VAC 20-220-10 et seq and 8VAC 20-230-10 et seq) prescribe procedures to be followed in state and local adoption processes and the kinds of materials that may be adopted. Basal textbooks or instructional materials are terms often used to describe the types of materials described in 8 VAC 20-220-30. These materials may be print and/or electronic.

In January 2018, upon acceptance of the list of proposed K-12 history and social science textbooks for first review by the Board of Education, a 30-day public comment opened. The history and social science textbooks submitted for review were available at eight sites across the Commonwealth: The College of William and Mary, George Mason University, James Madison University, Radford University, The University of Virginia’s College at Wise, Longwood University, Old Dominion University, and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. Public comments were submitted through the VDOE web site and sent via e-mail.

## Timetable for Further Review/Action:

Upon approval, the Department of Education will publish the list of adopted textbooks and instructional materials on its Web site.

## Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

This responsibility was absorbed by the agency’s existing resources at this time. If the agency is required to absorb additional responsibilities related to this process, other services will be impacted.

## Attachment A – Page 1

Proposed Recommended History and Social Science Textbooks for Approval

March 22, 2018

| **Grade/**  **Course** | **Publisher** | **Title** | **Satisfactory Completion of Publisher’s Certifications and Agreements** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Kindergarten** | | | |
|  | Five Ponds Press | Our World: Our Community |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | Virginia Social Studies: Living, Learning and Working Together |  |
| **Grade 1** | | | |
|  | Five Ponds Press | Our World: Our State |  |
| **Grade 2** | | | |
|  | Five Ponds Press | Our World: Our United States |  |
| **Grade 3** | | | |
|  | Five Ponds Press | Our World: Ancient World Cultures |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | Grade 3 Social Studies: Exploring People Places and Cultures |  |
| **Virginia Studies** | | | |
|  | Five Ponds Press | Our Virginia: Past and Present |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | SS Virginia Studies |  |
| **United States History to 1865** | | | |
|  | Cengage/National Geographic | US History: American Stories, Beginnings to 1877 |  |
|  | Five Ponds Press | Our America to 1865 |  |
|  | Houghton Mifflin Harcourt | United States History Beginnings to 1877 |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | Discovering Our Past: A History of The United States- Early Years |  |
|  | Pearson | United States History Beginnings to 1865 |  |
| **United States History: 1865 to the Present** | | | |
|  | Five Ponds Press | Our America: 1865 to the Present |  |
|  | Houghton Mifflin Harcourt | United States History: Civil War to the Present |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | A History of the United States |  |
|  | Pearson | United States History: 1865 to the Present |  |

## Attachment A – Page 2

Proposed Recommended History and Social Science Textbooks for Approval

March 22, 2018

| **Grade/**  **Course** | **Publisher** | **Title** | **Satisfactory Completion of Publisher’s Certifications and Agreements** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Civics and Economics** | | | |
|  | Five Ponds Press | Our State & Nation: Civics and Economics |  |
|  | Houghton Mifflin Harcourt | Civics |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | Building Citizenship |  |
| **World Geography** | | | |
|  | Cengage/National Geographic | National Geographic Learning- World Cultures and Geography Survey |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | Geography: The Human and Physical World |  |
| **World History and Geography to 1500 A.D. (C.E.)** | | | |
|  | Cengage/National Geographic | National Geographic World History: Great Civilizations |  |
|  | Houghton Mifflin Harcourt | Modern World History |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | World History and Geography Early Ages |  |
|  | Pearson | World History and Geography Beginnings to 1500 |  |
| **World History and Geography: 1500 A.D. (C.E.) to the Present** | | | |
|  | Houghton Mifflin Harcourt | Modern World History Survey |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | World History and Geography, Modern Times |  |
|  | Pearson | World History and Geography From 1500 |  |
| **Virginia and United States History** | | | |
|  | Houghton Mifflin Harcourt | American History |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | United States History & Geography |  |
|  | Pearson | Virginia and United States History |  |
| **Virginia and United States Government** | | | |
|  | Cengage/National Geographic | Govt9: Principles of American Government |  |
|  | Houghton Mifflin Harcourt | Government |  |
|  | McGraw-Hill | United States Government: Our Democracy |  |
|  | Pearson | Magruder’s American Government |  |