



June 2012

A monthly newsletter for social studies educators

New Social Studies Academic Content Standards Web page posted

The ODE Web site (www.education.ohio.gov) has a new page for users who wish to learn about academic content standards and model curriculum. From the home page click on *Academic Content Standards* under the *Educators* column to open the new page with links to each of the content areas.

The social studies content area pages have been redesigned for easier use. It also contains new tools to assist districts in transitioning to the *College and Career Ready Standards in Social Studies*. These tools can be found under the "Transition" and "Resources" links and include a *Gap Analysis* tool and a *Revision of District Curriculum* tool. A sample social studies *Eye of Integration* can be found under the *Resources* link. There is also a *Prof. Development* link that provides access to materials being used with professional development sessions related to the standards and model curriculum. Links to brief instructional videos will also be included to help guide users through the transitioning steps.

Contribute your technology integration ideas to the Model Curriculum!

ODE's Office of Curriculum and Assessment is incorporating resources and strategies for technology integration directly into the model curriculum for each content area to best support teachers' efforts to integrate technology content and skills into their classroom experiences. We are asking for your help in developing this component of the model curricula and are interested in learning about specific ways you have integrated technology to support instruction of targeted content and skills.

Free updated materials to teach the Constitution available

Using updated Supreme Court cases about students and actual issues they face to teach them about the Constitution is the teachable moment behind *Constitution Classroom*. Nearly 200 pages of content, lesson plans, activities, and PowerPoints, researched by lawyers but written for teachers and students, are presented by the Ohio State Foundation's 2010 Fellows Class (attorneys) as a public service to enhance student understanding of the Constitution. In addition, these committed lawyers can be resource speakers in your classroom. *Constitution Classroom* is easily accessible online at www.osbf.net. You can also contact Beth Gillespie at bgillespie@osbf.net or (614)487-4474 for a free DVD and notebook or for more information.

Invitation to the 2013 Ohio Youth in Government

A low cost, effective way to build a *Youth in Government* program is to send teens to the HI-Y Leadership Summit from June 17 – 23 at YMCA Camp Horseshoe. A high school team of students who attend will be prepared to recruit other youth, create their Hi-Y, and involve their members in Youth in Government. Students who attend the summit will work with experienced 2013 *Youth in Government* and *Model UN* officers, HI-Y officers and members, and others who are new to HI-Y. HI-Y's chartered Croswell bus begins in Cincinnati with stops in Columbus and Cambridge, Ohio and Parkersburg, West Virginia. A round-trip bus ticket is only \$50. For more information, contact Lois Nelson at the Ohio-West Virginia State YMCA at (304) 675-5899 or email lois@hi-y.org.

First Freedom Student Competition offers awards for students

As the 2011/2012 school year is winding down and planning begins for summer workshops and the next school year, the Freedom Center invites social studies, English and media department teachers to the upcoming *First Freedom Student Competition*.

The First Freedom Student Competition is a national essay and video contest offering high-school students an opportunity to compete for \$2,500 awards as they examine the First Amendment and the history and implementation of religious freedom in American democracy and the world today. The upcoming school year's topic, guidelines, student flyer and classroom poster can be found at www.firstfreedom.org (click on the red button, center column). The competition is open to students in the United States and U.S. territories, and to American schools and American home-schooled students worldwide. Students in 9 - 12 at all levels of academic placement are invited to participate.

The early bird catches the...discount!

The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education will host its annual Law & Citizenship Conference on Sept. 23-24, 2012, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dublin. This conference will give teachers current and relevant content and teaching tools that are "must haves" for their classroom needs. Register before June 30 and receive up to 20 percent off the two-day conference rate. Earn continuing education contact hours and Ashland University graduate credit

Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted and the chairs of the Ohio Democratic and Republican parties will give keynotes at the conference. Among the topics to be presented include the hot topics of the 2012 elections, literacy through social studies, technology in the classroom, founding American documents, Ohio Constitution and High School Mock Trial. Visit www.oclre.org for more details or contact Tim Kalgreen www.oclre.org for more details or contact Tim Kalgreen www.oclre.org or (614) 485-3515.

OCLRE offers transition special for elementary grade teachers

To make it easier to move to the new standards, the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education is offering a special discount on *MY OHIO: A Closer Look at Local, State and National Citizenship* Activities through the end of the school year. CD versions of the text for grades 3 and 4 are being offered at \$15 each, with a 40 percent discount for current or new members (membership is \$30). Shipping is free for this special offer.

The 3rd grade material centers on the local community, while the 4th grade looks at Ohio and the national government through an Ohio lens. The activities offered are not the typical paper/pencil type activities. Lessons are aimed at an in-depth understanding of local, state and national governments, necessary and historical documents (local charters, Ohio Constitution, the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution) as well as lessons on citizenship rights and responsibilities. Also included are lessons that prepare students as future global citizens with a better understanding and appreciation of the cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity that surrounds us. *MY OHIO* is aligned to the 2010 Ohio Academic Content Standards for the Social Studies. To review *MY OHIO* and the related standards, go to http://www.oclre.org/TheCenter/myohio.htm. to order, go to www.oclre.org. For more information contact Jared Reitz, director of programs at jreitz@oclre.org or toll free at (877) 485-3510.

Complimentary online resources for election year

The Electronic Field Trip "The Will of the People" examines the presidential election of 1800, one of the most bitter in U.S. history, and provides a surprising lesson for a 21st-century student. Thomas Jefferson explains how negative campaigning, partisan politics, and contested elections have been a part of our political system since the earliest days of the republic. Complimentary access to the field trip includes:

- Online video streaming available 24/7 from September 1 to September 30, 2012
- Email Thomas Jefferson
- Interactive online games
- Downloadable resources, such as the teacher guide and program script (PDF)
- Comprehensive lesson plans for grades 4-8

To register, click here.

Social Studies Signal will return in August
The Signal will take a break in July, but will return in August. The staff in the Office of Curriculum and Assessment wishes you a great summer!

Send comments/questions to:

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