



Updates from the Ohio Department of Education

Grade-Level Standards Documents Released

The Ohio Department of Education's Office of Learning and Instructional Strategies prepared [grade-level documents](#) that include all the content standards for kindergarten through grade 8. These documents will assist elementary and middle grade educators from having to pull documents from several Department webpages. Instead, all the information will be in one place.

News from Other Organizations

Ohio YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly

The Ohio Alliance of YMCA's will hold the annual Ohio YMCA Youth & Government High school State Assembly for 9th - 12th grade students on April 15-17, 2021 at the Statehouse in Columbus. The Ohio YMCA Youth & Government program provides 9th - 12th grade students with a unique opportunity to become acting state legislators, governors, lobbyists, lawyers, committee chairs. The students simulate all phases and positions of the actual state government. These students are challenged with many of the issues our real legislators must face in their elected offices. March 1st is the deadline to register. For more information contact State Director, Charlie Myers at 419-632-1000 or email cmyers@ohioymcas.org

Ohio Supreme Court Updates

The Supreme Court of Ohio has two **new** digital learning resources available on its [Judicial Branch Education Resources](#) webpage.

- The Human Cannonball's Flight Through the Courts
 - Free lesson plans aligned with Ohio's Learning Standards for fourth and eighth grade social studies and English language arts curricula for grades 4-8. Over multiple class sessions, students learn about a real legal dispute between Hugo Zacchini, a man who performed a human cannonball act, and an Ohio television station that recorded and broadcast the full 15-second performance without his permission. The lesson culminates in a mock trial where students act out the various roles—judge, attorneys, witnesses and others—and decide the outcome of the case.
- Ohio's Three Branches of Government Video
 - A fun and fast-paced video that explores the critical concepts of checks and balances and the role of the state and federal constitutions. It also explains who does what in Ohio's judicial, legislative and executive branches.

Ohio Center for Law-Related Education Updates

- 'Tis the season for Mock Trial. The 2021 high school case, ***State of Buckeye v. Micah Opessa***, is available for purchase, and team registration is live on the [Mock Trial website](#). Want to know more before committing? Check out the [case capsule video](#).
- Registration for the virtual We the People High School State Competition is now open. The competition will take place via Zoom on **Friday, Jan. 29**. To register or to find out more about the We the People program, visit www.oclre.org/wtp.

Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland Programs

- **Danny Dollar Academy** is a free financial literacy program that promotes entrepreneurship, personal finance, civic responsibility and smart financial decision-making in grades 3, 4 and 5. The program is based on the best-selling children's book "Danny Dollar Millionaire Extraordinaire: The Lemonade Escapade" by Ty Allan Jackson. To learn more, contact Cariss Turner Smith by email to Cariss.Turner@clev.frb.org.
- The **Money Museum Virtual Field Trip Program** offers an engaging experience for K-12 and university students that provides participants with information on the history of the Federal Reserve; a virtual tour of the Cleveland Money Museum using Google Arts and Culture 360; and an engaging educational activity. [Schedule](#) a visit today!



Election Resources

PBS Learning Media: Election Central Resources

Voting and elections are an essential part of democracy. Keep up with election news, study the history and process of presidential elections, explore voting rights and engage in classroom debates with these videos, activities and lesson plans located at [Election Central](#). Resources also include Media Literacy, Voting Rights, the Electoral College and How Voting Works. The site is geared toward students in grades 6-12 and can be added to the Google Classroom platform.

Monster Needs Your Vote

Election season is here, and Monster is ready to vote. But why cast your ballot when you can run for president instead? With speeches, debates and a soapbox or two, Monster's newest tale is a campaign encouraging kids to take a stand and fight for what they believe in. Law students from the University of Minnesota law school read "Monster Needs Your Vote" in several languages:

- [English Version](#)
- [Spanish Version](#)
- [German Version](#)
- [Mandarin Version](#)
- [French Version](#)
- [Somali Version](#)

Resources

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Releases Teachers Resource Guide for Veterans Day

The 2020 edition of the [Teachers Resource Guide for Veterans Day](#) is intended to assist educators and other mentors in teaching students about the significance of Veterans Day. The guide includes a page of "Student Activities," as well as suggestions for Veterans Day programs and detailed instructions on how to properly fold the U.S. flag. Also, historical context for the celebration of Veterans Day, including the service and sacrifice of veterans in America's wars; their suffering at the hands of the enemy as POWs; the significance of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; and how citizens can honor the memories of those who are missing in action (MIA).

Library of Congress: Veterans Day Project

The [Veterans History Project](#) of the American Folklife Center collects, preserves and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans, so future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war. Schools and classrooms of students can participate in the project by following the guidelines of the program to collect stories via interviews, artifacts and correspondence from veterans from different eras.

PBS News Hour Extra: The Meaning of Sacrifice

This lesson from PBS News Hour focuses on [Veterans and the Meaning of Sacrifice](#) and is geared toward middle and high school students. There are several videos and writing prompts teachers may choose to share with their students that focus on the theme of the meaning of sacrifice.

Echoes and Reflections

[Echoes & Reflections](#), a partnership between the ADL, USC Shoah Foundation and Yad Vashem, offers an open-sourced curriculum and a variety of no-cost professional development to middle and high school teachers focused on Holocaust education, including contemporary anti-Semitism. Please reach out to Jesse Tannetta, jtannetta@adl.org, if you have any questions or would like to schedule this free program.

League of Women Voters Releases Civics Curriculum Designed for Online Learning

League of Women Voters of Ohio Executive Director Jen Miller said the curriculum, titled "[Voting and Civics: Know Your Ohio Government](#)," is designed for use in middle and high school classrooms, but its framework is flexible enough to work for elementary through college-level classes. Miller said instructors will be able to pull the individual resources they like from the program for use in their lessons.



U.S. Census Bureau: Statistics in Schools

The U.S. Census Bureau's Statistics in Schools (SIS) program offers teachers free and engaging activities for use in subjects such as math, geography, sociology, English and history. Incorporating SIS materials into the classroom can help increase students' statistical literacy and prepare students for a data-driven world. It continues to provide fun and interactive resources that incorporate real-world data into student experiences, whether in person or through virtual learning. Teachers across the country have found innovative ways to use SIS [activities](#), [videos](#), and [colorful maps](#) in their classrooms. Visit census.gov/schools today to find resources for lessons.

Transatlantic Educators Dialogue 2021

Educators interested in talking to other teachers about educational issues beyond classroom management and who get excited about topics such as immigration, youth culture, notions of the "other" in national identity formation and education in rural vs. urban contexts are invited to join a 12-week online program: [Transatlantic Educators Dialogue, 2021](#). This project, coordinated by the European Union Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, is recruiting teachers in the U.S. and EU to come together once a week (Sundays, 1-2:30 p.m.) in online sessions to explore a variety of educational topics as they relate to issues of identity and difference. Participants will meet simultaneously online using the Blackboard Collaborate application. In addition, prior to each session, participants should access an online course website to read materials and post responses related to the week's topic. The "Transatlantic Educators Dialogue" program will begin on Feb. 16, 2021, and conclude on May 3, 2021.

Webpage Note

A resource was posted to the Department's "Resources for Social Studies" webpage that was a list of about 200 various books, articles, podcasts and films presented as an Allyship Starter Pack. The resource provided no information regarding the criteria used to assemble the list nor how the resource could be effectively used by Social Studies teachers in their classrooms. For this reason, the resource was removed from the webpage as it was determined to not meet the Department's standards for quality curricular resources. The removal was not intended to represent judgement about any of the items included in the list, but rather the usefulness of the list as a curricular resource. We have put into place procedures to ensure that only quality resources are shared in the future.

The resources in this newsletter are free and have been reviewed using the Department's Social Studies resource filter against established criteria. Copies of the completed filter forms are available upon request. Inclusion in this newsletter does not represent a recommendation to use a resource. Many quality resources are available beyond those included here. Educators should use their professional expertise to determine the suitability of any particular resource for use in their district, school or classroom.

Send comments/questions to:

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