



## Social Studies Signal

July 2020

### Updates from the Ohio Department of Education

A renewed focus on racism, discrimination, bias and injustice provides opportunities for Ohio's educators, parents and caregivers to have critical conversations with children about these subjects. It's likely that students have seen and heard about the many high profile news events connected to these topics on television, the internet, social media, in a school setting or from their friends. These events provide teachable moments for individuals in every learning community, particularly those teaching social studies. Conversations can be difficult to facilitate, and distance learning presents added challenges to teaching sensitive material. Despite these challenges, it's critical to make space for students to process the difficult and deeply painful events of the past several weeks. This issue provides resources to support educators as they spark meaningful and thoughtful discussions about these subjects in their school communities.

#### Race and Racism Virtual Meetups

The Ohio Department of Education's Social Studies team presents two virtual meetups to help understand race and racism in the United States today and help educators create tools to use in their classrooms to discuss race and racism. Both sessions will be recorded and be available on the Department's website.

Presenter: Cynthia A. Tyson, PhD., MSW, LSW, Professor, The Ohio State University, College of Education and Human Ecology- Department of Teaching and Learning.

#### **Race and Racism: Developing a Personal Understanding of Race and Racism, Monday, July 20, 10-11:30 a.m.**

This session is an introduction to race and racism and is intended for educators interested in learning about and teaching about race and racism but have questions and are unsure where to start looking for answers. This session will provide a safe space to ask questions, listen and reflect on race and racism in the United States today. The session will be recorded and posted on the Department's website. [Join here.](#)

#### **Teaching About Racism: Assembling a Teachers' Toolkit, Wednesday, July 29, 3-4:30 p.m.**

This session will help teachers create a toolkit of skills to teach about race and racism in their classrooms. It is designed for educators who want to teach about race and racism but need more background information, resources and confidence to teach these topics. The session will be recorded and posted on the Department's website. [Join here.](#)

#### Retirement of Dwight Groce

Dwight Groce, Social Studies Consultant, has retired from the Ohio Department of Education effective June 30, 2020. He spent 49 years in the profession, including 28 years in the classroom, six years as social studies curriculum coordinator for Columbus City Schools and 15 years at the Department. The Department staff wishes Dwight the best in his new adventures! Linda McKean will now serve as the Signal editor and her contact information can be found at the bottom of this newsletter.

#### Full implementation of Social Studies 2018 Standards and 2019 Model Curriculum this school year

The end-of-course assessments for American history and American government are aligned to the revised standards starting in the 2020 fall semester.

#### Social Studies Gap Analysis

[Social Studies Gap Analysis documents](#) are now available for educators to use as a planning tool for next year. As students are placed into new grades or high school courses, educators can review which content was taught in the classroom or remotely as part of their pre-assessment of students.



## Four Ohio students named U.S. Presidential Scholars

The White House Commission on Presidential Scholars recently selected four students in Ohio to be 2020 U.S. Presidential Scholars. The Ohio Department of Education is pleased to congratulate Ohio's Scholars:

- Ryan Nicole Brady from Shaker Heights, Hathaway Brown School
- Elizabeth Radway from Cincinnati, Indian Hill High School
- Aniv Ray from Worthington, Columbus Academy
- Olivia Wenzel from Parma Heights, Laurel School

U.S. Presidential Scholars are selected from a pool of outstanding students from across the country, Puerto Rico and U.S. citizens living abroad. Honorees are selected because they demonstrate leadership, scholarship, contribution to school and community and outstanding accomplishments in academic fields of interest. Learn more about the U.S. Presidential Scholarship program and read the [full list of honorees here](#).

## State organizations offering opportunities and resources

Join colleagues virtually for 2020 social studies conference, Oct. 4-11

The [64<sup>th</sup> Ohio Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference](#) will be an online event that includes sessions and panel discussions by leading researchers, practitioners and policy makers, and includes networking opportunities with state and national leaders, and interactions and demonstrations with exhibitors and vendors. The theme is *Preparing Energized and Engaged Democratic Citizens through Social Studies*.

Most sessions will be pre-recorded and released at specific time intervals. Sessions will be archived for one year and accessible with a paid conference registration starting at \$19.56, the year the council was founded. The deadline to submit session [presentation proposals](#) and [poster proposals](#) is Aug. 1.

**Ohio Center for Law-Related Education offers professional learning opportunities and antiracism resources**

- [Virtual Book Club](#): The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE) launched a virtual book club designed to foster a sense of community for teachers. Complete the book club survey and access resources to support distance teaching and learning.
- [Antiracism Resources](#): In order to support and facilitate open, yet often difficult dialogues, OCLRE has curated a list of resources for talking with young people about race, power and privilege.

**Holocaust & Humanity Center offers opportunities for virtual learning and professional learning**

The [Nancy & David Wolf Holocaust and Humanities Center](#) created resources to help support teachers and parents as their students work online.

- The [Digital Engagement Page](#) has a curated list of teaching and learning opportunities for educators and students, including:
  - [Echoing Voices](#), which is now available in an online format
  - [Virtual Book Club](#) information
  - [Holocaust & Humanity Center Speaker Series](#) on Zoom each Wednesday at 11 a.m.

**Ohio History Connection offers *Learn at Home* resources and professional learning opportunities**

The Ohio History Connection posted a [Learn at Home](#) webpage that has engaging and educational history resources for both teachers and families to support online learning. The resources are organized into grade bands, from kindergarten through grade 12.

On July 27, the Ohio History Connection is presenting [Ohio as America: Professional Development Bytes](#), a free, virtual event for all social studies teachers. The goal of this professional development opportunity is to provide teachers with tools and ideas of how to engage students remotely with meaningful and authentic content.

**INFOhio provides resources aligned to Ohio's Learning Standards**

INFOhio offers [Educator Tools](#) and [Professional Development](#) opportunities for all Ohio educators.



## **Celebrating 100 years of women's suffrage**

The 19<sup>th</sup> amendment that granted women the right to vote was ratified on Aug. 18, 1920, and Ohio is celebrating. Classroom resources from the National Archives, Library of Congress, National Park Service, PBS and the Smithsonian can be found on the [Women's Vote Centennial](#) website.

The Ohio History Connection's exhibit, [Ohio Women Vote: 100 Years of Change](#), is a traveling exhibit and available for schools and other organizations. The [Ohio Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission](#) webpage has a list of events occurring throughout the year.

## **National organizations offering opportunities and resources**

### **National Museum of the American Indian offers professional learning opportunities**

[The National Museum of the American Indian](#), as well as all other Smithsonian museums, continues to be closed to support the effort to contain the spread of COVID-19. The [Native Knowledge 360° Teacher Institute](#) is a free virtual experience for educators to learn more about the Native American experience in the past and in America today, but educators must register to participate. The institute will take place on July 21, 22 and 23 at 1 p.m.

### **U.S Census: Statistics in Schools Program**

[Statistics in Schools](#) is a program in conjunction with the U.S. Census Bureau and provides resources for K-12 educators in [history](#) and [geography](#) based on both contemporary and historic data. These sites include both teacher instructions and student resources that may include maps, charts, graphs and other tools designed to help students understand both the importance of the census and what can be done with the information that is collected.

### **National Geographic Society provides Learn at Home resources**

National Geographic Society has resources to support educators, learners, parents and caregivers that include:

- [Learn at Home](#) activities
- [Resource Library](#) with over 4,000 different resources
- [The Real Time Curriculum Project](#) is a series of minute projects that focus on real-time, relevant current events, including [coronavirus](#)
- [#TeacherStrong](#) NatGeo Education fellow, Dwayne Reed, hosts a weekly Twitter chat under [#TeacherStrong](#) each Sunday evening at 8 p.m.
- [DAILY Explorer Classroom event on YouTube](#) helps students develop an explorer's mindset with opportunities for them to connect with scientists, researchers, storytellers and other real-world role models/problem-solvers as they go out in the field.

### **National Geographic online courses for educators**

National Geographic is offering free [online courses](#) that equip educators with powerful tools to transform their learning spaces. Through these courses, educators build their own skills and knowledge so they can foster the mindset of a National Geographic Explorer in their students. These courses vary in length so busy educators can find a program that fits their needs. Courses are open to any educator from anywhere in the world who works with students in either a formal or informal setting. Note: In many of the courses, learners can earn graduate credits through the Nat Geo university partnerships.

### **The Hamilton Education Program**

The [Gilder Lehrman Institute](#) is partnering with the producers of *Hamilton* for the [Hamilton Education Program](#). The goal of the *Hamilton* Education Program is to help students see the relevance of the Founding Era by using primary sources to create a performance piece such as a rap, poem or a dramatic piece. The *Hamilton* Education Program is a free online history program available to all schools across the country for students in grades 6-12.



## **Facing History and Ourselves is offering professional learning opportunities**

Join [Facing History and Ourselves](#) to explore an interdisciplinary approach to civic education in its online course [Teaching Civics: Identity, History and Action](#). Teachers will learn how to nurture reflective, student centered classrooms that value student identities and how to integrate democratic principles of inclusion, civility and the common good into their classroom.

## **Constitutional Rights Foundation offers student programs**

The [Constitutional Rights Foundation](#) offers programs for students to encourage them to become actively engaged citizens, including the [Civic Action Project \(CAP\)](#). CAP students learn and engage in civic ideals by addressing real issues and problems that matter to them. They work with government officials and community agencies to achieve real policy change, from improving public transportation to instituting antibullying policies at schools.

## **Resources**

### **Teaching Tolerance**

[Teaching Tolerance](#) provides educator [workshops](#) that focus on topics including race and racism. [Teaching Current Events in the Classroom](#) provides support materials for educators to teach difficult current event topics.

### **Africans in America**

[Africans in America](#) is a four-part series from PBS that depicts the following eras: The Terrible Transformation, Revolution, Brotherly Love and Judgment Day. Each part includes a historical narrative, resource bank of primary sources and a teacher's guide.

### **C-SPAN Resources on Black History and Civil Rights**

[C-SPAN Classroom](#) has aggregated many of their resources in a [Google document](#) that relate to the history of African Americans in the United States.

### **Anti-Defamation League**

The [Anti-Defamation League](#) provides educators with resources for [Teaching About Racism, Violence, Inequality and the Criminal Justice System](#) that include lessons and primary sources. Their [Educator Resources](#) page includes links to literature, podcasts, guides for family conversations and lessons for both the classroom and online formats.

### **Mapping Inequality**

The [Mapping Inequality](#) site has the real estate maps that were shared by the federal government with local banks to determine which neighborhoods the banks should invest in and which neighborhoods to avoid. Maps of most major metropolitan areas are included. These maps are examples of institutionalized racism and the legacy of these policies and maps influence cities today.

### **Scholastic's Resources for Responding to Violence and Tragedy**

Scholastic provides [resources](#) for both young students and educators that deal with violence and tragedy.

### **TED: The Path to Ending Systematic Racism in the United States**

In [the Path to Ending Systematic Racism in the U.S.](#), presenters look at racial injustice in the United States, systemic racism, police violence and examine what a path forward might look like.

### **Visions of Education Podcast**

[Visions of Education](#) is a weekly podcast about big ideas and difficult topics in education. [Episode 100](#) is about teaching racial literacy and controversial issues.

### **Library of Congress: Voices from the Days of Slavery**

The [Library of Congress](#) American Folklife Center's online collection, [Voices Remembering Slavery: Freed People Tell Their Stories](#), has recordings of former slaves and slave descendants that are available to hear first-person accounts of slavery in the United States.



## **Civic Online Reasoning**

The [Civic Online Reasoning](#) curriculum provides free lessons and assessments that help educators teach students to evaluate online information that affects them, their communities and the world.

## **iCivics and iCivics Ohio**

The [iCivics](#) and [iCivics Ohio](#) programs engage students in meaningful civic learning. All resources on these pages are free.

## **Articles**

[Avoiding Racial Equity Detours](#), Paul Gorski, *EdChange*, April 2019. Retrieved June 25, 2020.

[A look at Implicit Bias and Microaggressions](#), Todd Finley, *Edutopia*, March 25, 2019. Retrieved June 25, 2020.

[Let's Talk! Teaching Race in the Classroom](#), Candra Flanagan and Anna Hindley, *Social Education*, 2017. Retrieved June 25, 2020.

## **Send comments/questions to:**

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