

## ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS/APs: New Social Studies Pacing Guides for Middle School Courses

*Category: For Your Information***Audience:** Principals/APs (Middle)

Due Date: n/a

Meeting Date: n/a

The Division of Social Sciences and Life Skills has produced new pacing guides for middle school social studies courses including the new Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Social Studies. Please see below for important details.

- Beginning school year 2012-2013, the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Social Studies (NGSSS-SS) will replace the Competency-Based Curriculum for Social Studies as the District's required curriculum. Based on the new standards, some grade levels face major changes in the course content while others face minor changes.
- The following grade-level themes for middle school social studies instruction will be utilized under the NGSSS-SS:
  - 6th Grade: World History- Early Civilizations to the Ancient and Classical Civilizations of Africa, Asia, and Europe. (Geography as a stand alone course will cease to exist and geographic concepts will be taught through the study of early, ancient, and classical civilizations);
  - 7th Grade: Civics; and
  - 8th Grade: U.S. History - Exploration to Reconstruction.
- A Power Point presentation, with details in the notes section, that provide highlights and explanations of the changes taking place in social studies instruction, K-12, as a result of the NGSSS-SS, may also be downloaded from the Division of Social Sciences website, <http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net/>, under "Curricular Documents- NGSSS-SS Power Point."
- Administrators are encouraged to either use this Power Point Presentation during a faculty meeting or inform their teaching staff to review the information on the Power Point accordingly.
- Since current adopted instructional materials for **seventh grade (Civics) and eighth grade (U.S. History) closely match the NGSSS-SS, the required document to drive instruction for seventh and eighth grade will be the new pacing guides effective immediately for the 2010-2011 academic year.** These pacing guides can be downloaded from the Division of Social Sciences website, <http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net/>, under "Curricular Documents- NGSSS-SS Middle School Pacing Guides."
- Since current adopted instructional materials for the sixth grade Geography course **DO NOT support full implementation of the NGSSS-SS, new pacing guides for sixth grade will not be published until 2012-2013** when new instructional materials for social studies instruction are scheduled to be available to schools. However, in order to allow teachers the opportunity to begin infusing the NGSSS-SS into their current social studies instruction for sixth grade where appropriate, the NGSSS-SS benchmarks and course descriptions for sixth grade may be downloaded from the Division of Social Sciences and Life Skills website, <http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net/>, under "Curricular Documents- NGSSS-SS Middle School Grade Level/Course Descriptions." Teachers are encouraged to review the NGSSS-SS for their particular teaching assignment and infuse them into their social studies instruction accordingly.
- **For academic years, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, the document that should continue to drive instruction for sixth grade geography will still be the Recommended Scope and Sequence plans using the Competency-Based Curriculum standards,** which can also be downloaded from the Division of Social Sciences and Life Skills website.
- If you should have any questions or need additional information about the changes outlined here for middle school social studies instruction, please email, [rbrazofsky@dadeschools.net](mailto:rbrazofsky@dadeschools.net), or see the contact information below.

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