

ALL PRINCIPALS/APS/TEACHERS: Social Sciences – Upcoming Instructional Resources for September 2018

*Category: For Your Information*

**Audience:** All Principals/APs, All Teachers

Due Date: n/a

Meeting Date: n/a

To provide instructional resources to all schools to support the commemoration of American Founders' Month, Patriot Day, Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, and Celebrate Freedom Week. All commemorations occur during the month of September 2018.

- The Division of Academics, Department of Social Sciences has compiled instructional resource guides and PowerPoint presentations to assist teachers in providing instruction during the month of September 2018. These guides include background information, suggested classroom activities, suggested Internet resources, and other activities to support the character education core value designated by the District for September (Respect).
- Please click on the appropriate link below to access the instructional resource guide, as well as the accompanying PowerPoint Presentation for each commemoration.
- **American Founders' Month (September):**
  - The Florida Legislature has designated each September to be commemorated as American Founders' Month.
  - American Founders' Month provides us with the opportunity to study our nation's early history and the leaders who defined the fundamental principles on which our nation was established, who wrote our founding documents, and who helped to establish our nation and government.
  - Florida Statutes 683.1455 establishing American Founders' Month reads as follows:
    - The month of September of each year is designated as "American Founders' Month."
    - The Governor may annually issue a proclamation designating the month of September as "American Founders' Month" and urging all civic, fraternal, and religious organizations and public and private educational institutions to recognize and observe this occasion through appropriate programs, meetings, services, or celebrations in which state, county, and local governmental officials are invited to participate.
  - [Elementary American Founders' Resource Guide](#)
  - [Secondary American Founders' Resource Guide](#)
  - [American Founders' PowerPoint](#)
- **Patriot Day – September 11, 2018**
  - Patriot Day will be commemorated on Tuesday, September 11, 2018. This day marks the 17th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks against the United States at the World Trade Centers, the Pentagon, and aboard United Flight 93 over Pennsylvania.
  - In recognition of Patriot Day, it is strongly recommended that schools develop a short commemorative program which incorporates a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. in memory of those who lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. (8:46 a.m. marks the

time the first hijacked airliner struck the north tower of the World Trade Center.) The suggested narrative for the moment of silence is provided in the instructional resource guide accessible via the Resource Guide link below:

- [Patriot Day – September 11, 2018 Resource Guide](#)
- [Patriot Day – September 11, 2018 PowerPoint](#)

- **Constitution Day and Citizenship Day – September 17, 2018**

- Every September 17th, per federal legislation and Florida Statutes, all schools are required to hold educational programs commemorating Constitution Day and Citizenship Day.
- [Elementary Constitution Day/Citizenship Day Resource Guide](#)
- [Secondary Constitution Day/Citizenship Day Resource Guide](#)
- [Constitution Day/Citizenship Day PowerPoint](#)

- **Celebrate Freedom Week – September 17-21, 2018**

- Celebrate Freedom Week will be commemorated state-wide from September 24-28, 2018.
- The commemoration of Celebrate Freedom Week is required by Florida Statutes 1003.421. The statute requires instruction on the Declaration of Independence during Celebrate Freedom Week, as follows:
  - The last full week of classes each September shall be recognized in public schools as Celebrate Freedom Week. Celebrate Freedom Week must include instruction on the intent, meaning, and importance of the Declaration of Independence.
  - During the last full week of September, at the beginning of each school day or in homeroom, public school principals and teachers shall conduct an oral recitation by students of the following passage from the Declaration of Independence:
  - “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”
  - Upon written request by a student's parent, the student must be excused from the recitation of the Declaration of Independence.
- [Elementary Celebrate Freedom Week Resource Guide](#)
- [Secondary Celebrate Freedom Week Resource Guide](#)
- [Celebrate Freedom Week PowerPoint](#)

- Please share these resources with the teachers in your school. Please also feel free to duplicate copies of the resources, as needed.
- In addition, these resources are also posted under the District’s [“Curriculum Resources”](#) tile through the portal. Once you have logged in, see the tab titled: “Special Commemorative Resources” and click on the desired resource.
- If you have any questions regarding any of the above commemorations, please contact Mr. Robert Brazofsky, Executive Director, Department of Social Sciences, at the contact number listed below, or by e-mail at [rbrazofsky@dadeschools.net](mailto:rbrazofsky@dadeschools.net).

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