

MASSA

The Multicultural Alliance for Social Studies Advocacy

Statement of Purpose

Recognizing the essentially multicultural nature of our state and nation and the value of teaching future generations the best qualities of democracy, human rights, and social justice, we the Multicultural Alliance for Social Studies Advocacy, are committed to promoting through a variety of activities, the teaching of accurate, significant, relevant, and culturally diverse social studies in the public schools of Texas.

The Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies

The first MASSA project will focus on recruiting faculty, teachers, students and other interested individuals willing to provide oral and/or written testimony to the State Board of Education regarding the social studies TEKS in January, 2010. The newly revised TEKS will establish the curricular foundation for social studies teaching, textbooks, certification and high-stakes testing in Texas public schools for the next decade. Recognizing that the education of millions of Texas students will be impacted by this document, it is incumbent on MASSA to ensure that these standards are accurate, significant, relevant and culturally diverse. To that end, MASSA will provide convincing and well documented testimony with the objective of having a positive and lasting influence on the contents of these essential standards.

Submitted by:

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**PROCESS FOR PROVIDING ORAL AND WRITTEN TESTIMONY
TO THE TEXAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ON THE
TEXAS ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
FOR THE
SOCIAL STUDIES**

Oral Testimony to the SBOE in Austin on Wednesday, January 13, 2010:

1. Call TEA at: (512) 463-9007 on either January 8th or 11th to register and be placed on the official list of presenters.
2. Prepare a 3 minute statement to be orally presented to the SBOE regarding the TEKS for social studies focusing on a specific elementary grade level or secondary level course.
3. Arrive early to the William B. Travis Building, 1701 Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701 to sign-up on the roster which determines the order of the presenters. Bring at least 30 copies of your oral statement in writing to distribute to SBOE members and other TEA officials.
4. Be ready and willing to respond to any questions which SBOE members may ask regarding your testimony.

Written Testimony to the SBOE before the January 13th Board Meeting:

1. Based on your review of the social studies TEKS for a specific grade level or course, prepare a written statement. Although there is no set limit to the length of your report or critique, it is best to keep it short and to the point.
2. At least a week of several business days before January 13th, send your written statement to SBOE Support.

Via Fax: (512) 936-4319

Via Email: sboesupport@tea.state.tx.us