

**HORRY COUNTY SCHOOLS
MONITORING REPORT – R-4 Social Studies**

I certify that the information in this report is true.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Rick Maxey, Acting Superintendent

Disposition of the Board:
 In compliance
 Not in compliance
 Compliance with exception

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Joe DeFeo, Board Chair

Comments: _____

R-4 – Social Studies	Supt	Supt	Board	Board
	In compliance	Not in compliance	In compliance	Not in compliance
Each student will achieve mastery of performance standards in Social Studies.				

Interpretation: I interpret this policy to mean that Horry County Schools will implement a course of study that is aligned with the South Carolina academic standards for K-12 for social studies that will prepare students in the areas of history, geography, economics, and political science coupled with additional offerings at the high school level in the areas of sociology, psychology, current events and law.

I further interpret this to mean that the staff will regularly monitor and evaluate the instructional programs at each school as part of the ongoing efforts to improve student learning in the area of social studies. Staff will also provide ongoing support through professional development opportunities designed to build capacity for historical thinking, develop content knowledge, and foster strong literacy experiences for our K-12 social studies teachers.

Indicators of Evidence and Compliance:

We are in full compliance of this policy. Evidence is listed below:

- Horry County Schools curriculum and course offerings are aligned with the 2011 South Carolina Academic Standards for Social Studies.
- Instructional materials adoption processes comply with state requirements.
- Implementation of the South Carolina state support document continues to be a strategy for improving teaching and learning.
- Visual displays and timelines have been developed to support social studies instruction.
- Consensus maps (pacing guides), lesson plans, and assessments have been developed to support implementation of state academic standards and improved instruction.
- Expanded teaching strategies such as content vocabulary, content-area literacy, Paideia seminars, interactive notebooking, and problem-based learning have been emphasized in professional development.
- Students participate at both state and national competitions, to include but not limited to, *We the People*, *Mock Trial*, *SC Geography Bee*, *National History Day*, and *Stock Market Challenges*.
- Eighty-six middle and high school students from Horry County Schools were regional winners in the National History Day competition and were eligible to compete in the state competition on April 25.
- In 2015, OBM student Christoph Tatgenhorst was chosen to represent South Carolina at the NEH Breakfast on the Hill for his documentary on *William Moultrie's Leadership and Legacy*. At the state competition, SJM student Cassie Herberger received the Eliza Lucas Pinckney Award for Outstanding Entry on Colonial History.
- Due to the success of the National History Day program in this district, Horry County is its own region. The regional competition was held March 6 at Early College High School. At the state National History Day competition on April 25, HCS students received 19 out of the 55 awards available thereby collecting over 35% of all awards.
- SC history honors and middle school English 1 honors teachers collaborated on a timeline for research consistent with the research elements for National History Day. Papers were written in English I classes, and products were created in SC history honors classes.
- Document-based questions (DBQs) have been created by teams of teachers to be used in middle school social studies classes.
- District-developed benchmark assessments have been implemented in grades 3-8 and in US history as tools to progress monitor mastery of standards and assist teachers in making instructional decisions.
- Teachers serve on various state committees to include, but are not limited to, g, curriculum, assessment, and textbook adoption.
- Teachers co-plan with specialists and assist in leading professional development on district staff development to support social studies instruction.
- Teachers' expertise is recognized, and they are asked to share their knowledge with others at state and national conferences. Two teachers serve as officers in the SC

Council of Social Studies and the National Council of Social Studies. Several teachers presented at the SCCSS conference in October 2014.

- Advanced Placement offerings exceed all other disciplines. These offerings include Human Geography, World History, European History, Psychology, U.S. History, U.S. Government and Politics, Macro Economics, and Comparative Government and Politics.
- Teachers from Carolina Forest, Conway High, Scholars Academy, and AAST participated as readers of the AP test in June. A Scholars Academy teacher serves as a table leader for the scoring of the AP U.S. History exam.
- Document-based questioning (DBQs) is required in grades 4-8 and global studies, U.S. history, and government. Gifted and talented students in the 3rd grade are also introduced to the DBQ process.
- Online opportunities for social studies are provided in middle and high schools through Horry County Virtual School. Online social studies course offerings include college preparatory, honors and Advancement Placement.
- Teachers and students use digital content as a preparation for Social Studies PASS, U.S. History EOCT, and AP U.S. History.
- Samantha DeCerbo from ECHS has been named the SC Bar Teacher of the Year and the Patricia Behring 2015 Teacher of the Year.
- Digital curriculum has been created and blended learning has been implemented.
- Teachers are using a variety of online resources.
- Middle school teachers collaborated to create standards-aligned courses in iTunes U to serve as digital content in middle school classes.
- District common assessments have been created for U.S. history and grades 6-8 social studies. Mini-assessments have been created to test each indicator at the middle school level.
- Elementary teachers and curriculum coaches have created integrated social studies curriculum guides for 4th and 5th grade.
- Elementary teachers and curriculum coaches will create standards-aligned courses in iTunes U to serve as digital content in grades 4 and 5 classes.
- Elementary teachers and curriculum coaches will create common assessments for all grade levels.
- Fourth grade teacher from Carolina Forest Elementary received the **Palmetto Teacher of Excellence** award sponsored by the South Carolina Council for Social Studies.
- Recently adopted 6th and 7th grade social studies, world geography, economics, and U.S. history textbooks include online resources and student management systems.
- Over 500 teachers have been trained in Kagan Cooperative Learning Structures that promote students collaboration and engagement in all content areas.
- Seventh-grade teachers from Forestbrook Middle and St. James Middle have been recognized for significant achievement on social studies PASS. Jeanie Dailey, Gretchen Ayers, Samantha House, and Grayson Hancock have been asked to participate in three SDE workshops in Spartanburg, Columbia, and Horry County. They will present some of the reasons Horry County is so successful.