

2/27/18 Augusta Meeting – Audio Time Stamp: 32:44

Jesse Hargrove – Social Studies Teacher – Herman HS – Dept. Chair

Overall, I will be brief primarily because I think the standards in general are good. I guess if there some compliment that I would give, it is that we are definitely shifting more towards a skills focused more than a content focused and the standards are written in a way to allow for...instead of focusing on specific units but there are broad variety of ways that for example the history guidelines or geography guidelines can be taught allowing for student choice, allowing for different creative approaches by the teachers. If there is one specific component that I can acknowledge myself feeling a little uncomfortable with however it's in the economics section where I feel that there are some components are beyond even with a minor in economics, beyond what I am ethically able to work with and that is when it deals with stock markets. There's also an economic reality that most of my students face given the data and statistics of the world where 50% of the equity ownership is held by I think 1% of the population. I don't know that it is realistic for me to expect of my students going to be themselves playing the stock market game. If they do it will be through a retirement plan or mutual fund, so I can understand why we might want to look at that through a personal money management side of things, but when we really get into the intricacies of the stock market as a standard that everyone should be learning. I also don't want to set them up to fail and I don't want to be talking to them about this and them having them dabble in the stock market and having some dire consequences as a result. So that's really my only corrective suggestion, what do we really want 16 year olds who I my situation who are more concerned with buying a new track for their snowmobile, so what do we really want them to know about the stock market and some of these more advanced financial components of our economy.