
Steering Committee Guidance to the Writing Team

Overall:

Bring up to date with clear language

Identify terms that need to be defined

Be consistent with terms throughout the document

Be aware of teacher capacity at all grade levels

Update with technology as appropriate

Thoughtfully thread the topics of Maine Native American History and Maine history into the standards and performance indicators as they currently seem to be add-ons.

Reorganize document so that “Strand A” is not viewed as another part of content

B-E should become A-D and stand alone as content

Strand A should become an overarching piece that shows how it connects to teaching the content and the student application of their knowledge and skills

Intro/Key Idea:

Put a greater emphasis on skills

Update the eras

Identify more “themes” than unity & diversity

Emphasize the idea of connecting and spiraling across K-12

More specific information about Maine Native American and Maine history statutes.

Strand A - Application:

Reorganize document (see above) so that we “lead with A”

Either combine A3 with A2 or use A3 to promote a variety of rigorous/authentic assessments that go behind a community service project

Identify skills that can be used to find “common ground” with other content areas

Strand B - Civics & Government:

B3 can’t be a catch all for unity/diversity, global, Maine Native American, immigrants, etc

Most likely will need to be split

Strand C - Economics

Needs to be retitled Personal Finance and Economics

The standard needs to be re-written to reflect “good” personal finance and not just have the term added into the standard. Focus should be given to make sure that the key topics from the PF definition are included - “The aspects of individuals or family life that involve earning and spending money; often includes making budget choices, savings and investing, the use of credit, and managing risk and insurance.”

Move C1 & C2 down to C2 & C3 and create a C1 for personal finance

The new C1 should pull the personal finance out of the original C1 (which will help narrow it down a bit), and look at national standards to strengthen the new C1.

Strand D - Geography

Modernize to reflect: best practices, up to date terminology, and technology

Strand E - History

The use of primary & secondary sources need to be identified earlier in the standards

Replace “multiple sources” with primary/secondary