

Colorado State Board of Education Meeting Notes

Live Streamed broadcast

November 10, 2022

Submitted by Kathy Wilson

The meeting opened silently at approximately 9:30am due to transmission problems. Both video and audio transmission did not start until approximately 10:45am in the midst of public comment. Almost all the public comments asked for the original draft of the Social Studies Standards be adopted, which included specific inclusion of the diversity language from HB19-1192. Speakers offering in-person testimony ranged from high school students, teachers, school district representatives, representatives from organization that worked with diverse population, and private citizens. The Board could not accommodate everyone who had signed up on the roster to speak, but the requests and rationales eloquently supported a return to the original language in the Standards.

Topics discussed after the period for public comment included:

- Read Act assessment tools for identifying early readers who struggled with literacy skills. They discussed the differences between screening and diagnostic assessments. Particular focus was placed on choosing adequate assessments for the early diagnosis of dyslexia.
- CDE testimony on ratings for science and engineering statewide assessment tools, as well as indicator cut scores for demonstrating proficiency levels for the grouped middle school student and grouped high school ranges was presented. The Board will vote in December on which tools to approve.
- Rulemaking regarding the Education Stability Grant for supporting highly mobile students was approved.
- After lunch the Board began the discussion and voting on the amendments to the Social Studies Standards that the State Board Members proposed. These links take you to the page in the agenda with the documents listing the two sets of amendments that were proposed and voted on.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/co/cde/Board.nsf/Public>

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Most of the amendments added back the diversity categories required in HB19-1192 that eliminated vague language in the June 2022 version. A few added additional categories based on requests from the public. Most amendments that were passed along party lines. All the amendments that failed were again due to party line votes. One Board member suggested scrapping the just-approved SS Standards and replace them with the American Birthright Standard. The motion failed along party lines.

- The Genocide and Holocaust standards were discussed. Centuries that included genocides were enlarged to the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries so that the Sand Creek Genocide in Colorado could be taught. The word “Nazi” was added where appropriate.