

Social Studies

K-12

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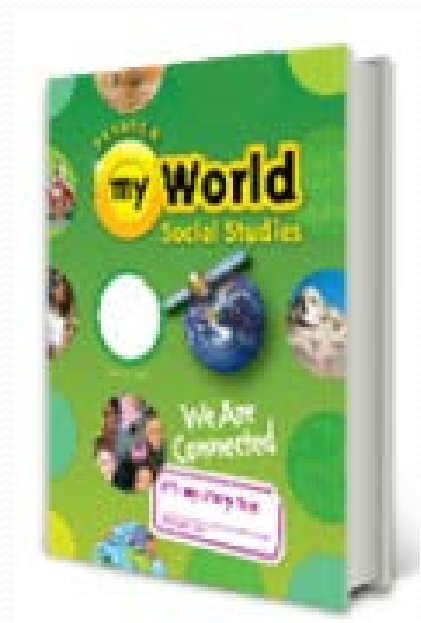
Program Evaluation

January 2015 - January 2016

- Consultation with Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Building Principals
- Collaboration with former department supervisors (E Price, M Lawrence)
- Discussions with teachers in department meetings and PLCs
- Formal and informal observations
- Review of current data
- Review of current curriculum and assessments
- Review of current resources

Current Elementary Program

- *My World Social Studies*
- Completing year three of a seven year subscription plan
 - Interactive Student Texts
 - Interactive Digital Presentations
 - Online Student Text and Resources
 - Leveled Readers



Elementary School *Strengths*

- All schools utilizing the same program
- Combined textbook and workbook
- Guided reading books and leveled readers
- *My World* compliments balanced literacy
- Emphasis on student vocabulary

Elementary School *Areas for Growth*

- Integration of English Language Arts and Social Studies to better develop reading and writing skills in the 21st Century
- Infusion of technology into Social Studies lessons
- Additional resources to enrich and enhance social studies instruction

Elementary School

Two Year Plan

Year 1: 2015-16

- Began process of investigating and acquiring leveled readers for 4th grade
- Review of curriculum for grades 5 and 6 to ensure content continuity
- Prepare for departmentalization which will allow greater depth of study, improve social studies skills, and enhance literacy across the curriculum

Elementary School

Two Year Plan

Year 2: 2016-17

- Monitor departmentalization in grades 4-5
- Review/Revise scope and sequence to better integrate ELA and Social Studies
- Further develop literature lists and online resources to enrich and extend elementary Social Studies curriculum
- Professional Development to refresh My World Online Resources to utilize the expanded technology options available to students

Current Middle School Program

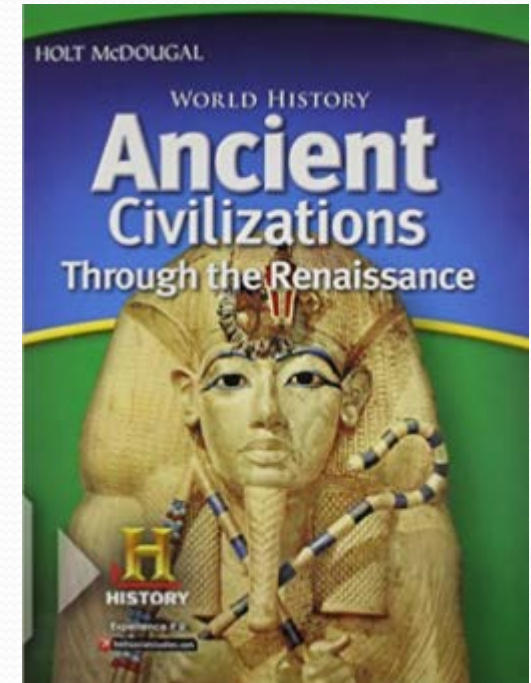
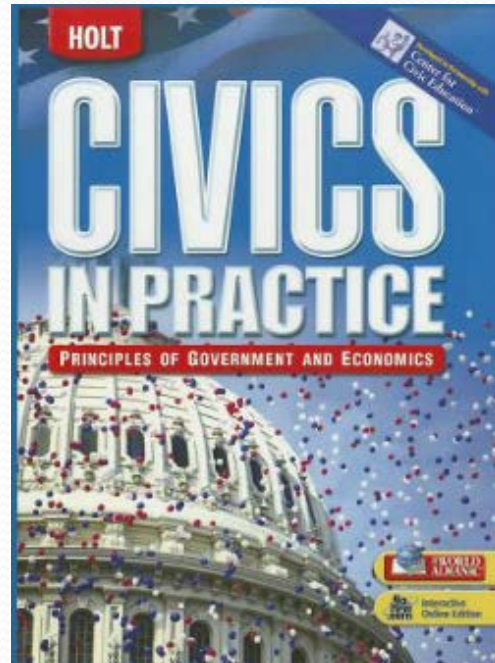
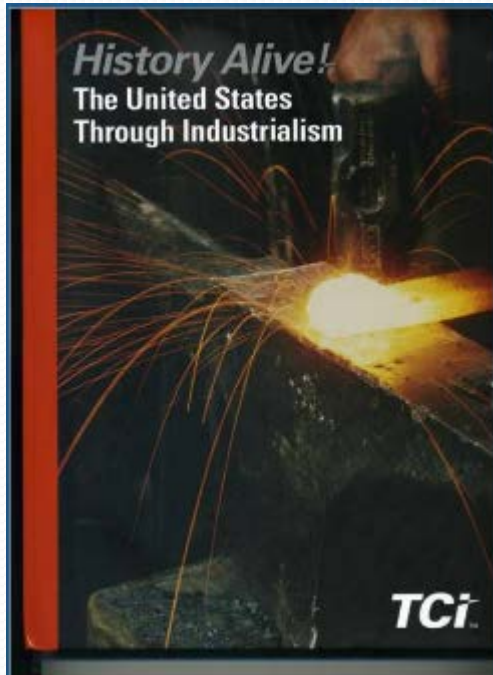
**Grade 6: US History Through
Industrialization**

**Grade 7: Civics and The American
Economy**

**Grade 8: Ancient Civilizations Through
Renaissance**

Current Middle School Program

Contain online components/resources



Middle School *Strengths*

- Infusion of technology has increased engagement and enhance learning
- Common planning and collaboration among teachers
- Greater use of document-based evidence to enhance historical thinking skills
 - Document Based Questions are introduced in 6th grade, reinforced in 7th grade, and mastered in 8th grade
 - Emphasis on textual evidence aligns with PARCC
- Aligned writing rubrics with ELA
- Emphasis on critical thinking and analysis

Middle School

Areas for Growth

- Lack of Social Studies everyday in Grade 6
- Greater emphasis on activities and assessments that incorporate the 21st century skills of: Creativity, Collaboration, Critical thinking, and Communication
- Increase activities aligned with standards that allow students to pursue content that is meaningful to their real-world experiences

Middle School

Two Year Plan

Year 1: 2015-16

- Continued articulation to ensure scope and sequence are aligned between RMS and LMS
- Implement Common Standards Based Writing Rubric aligned with ELA

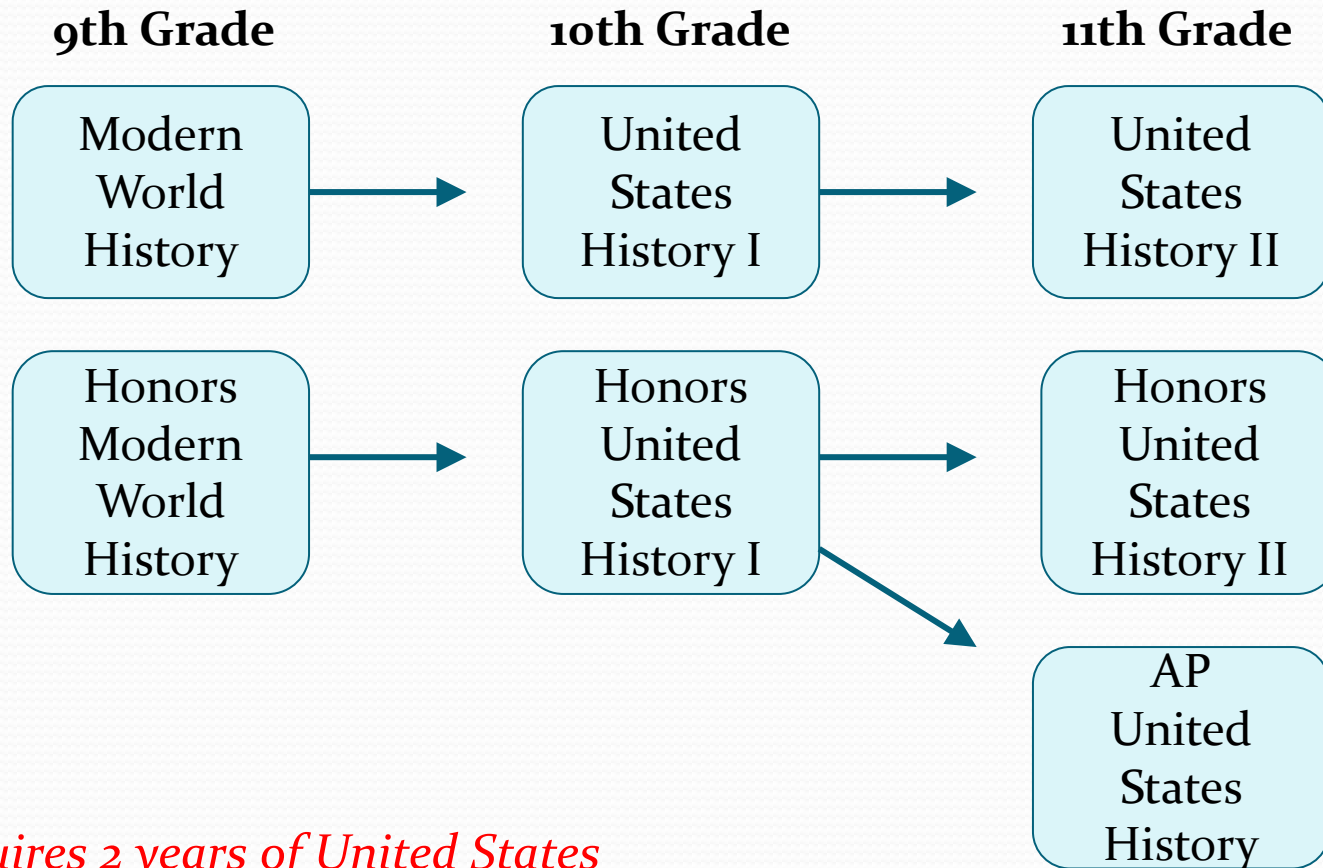
Middle School

Two Year Plan

Year 2: 2016-17

- Review existing curriculum in grades 6, 7, & 8 and incorporate activities and assessments that emphasize inquiry, writing, and further development of 21st century skills
- Create Middle School DBQ Framework to establish consistency and communication from one grade level to the next
- Further develop writing Benchmarks in grades 7

Current High School Program



- *NJ requires 2 years of United States History and 1 year of World History in HS*

High School Strengths

- Course offerings (AP & Electives)
- Small Learning Communities
 - Institute of Humanities (Grades 9-10)
 - Institute for Citizen Empowerment (Grades 10-12)
- Infusion of technology to increase engagement and enhance student learning
- Reading like a historian
 - Investigation and Inquiry
 - Analyzing historical evidence
 - (Primary /Secondary Sources)
- Development and reinforcement of analytical writing skills

High School

Advanced Placement

- AP United States History
- AP World History
- AP Government and Politics
- AP Psychology

High School *Electives*

- Law: Rights and Responsibilities
- Europe in the Modern Age
- The Individual in Society
- History of Race, Class, Gender and Ethnicity
- Cultural Anthropology
- Money, Markets and the Economy
- Modern America Through the Media
- Power and Politics in America
- Shaping Western Thought

High School

Areas for Growth

- Clear and consistent criteria for determining AP and Honors placement
- Need for more common planning time for greater collaboration among teachers
- Consistent practices in Limited English Proficient Social Studies classes

High School

Two Year Plan

Year 1: 2015-16

- Implemented Common Standards Based Writing Rubric aligned with ELA
- Develop a Professional Learning Community to improve Sheltered English Instruction in Social Studies
- Rewrite curriculum to align with NJ Model Curriculum (Greater Emphasis on 20th Century)
 - Modern World History
 - United States History I
 - United States History II

High School

Two Year Plan

Year 2: 2016-17

- Expand Professional Learning Communities to improve instructional practices, assessments, and achievement
- Continue monitoring formative and summative assessments to ensure alignment with NJ State Learning Standards and state model assessments
- Continue to evaluate new course offerings and electives

Contact Information

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