



Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors

Public comment is an essential part of the Michigan Social Studies Standards adoption process. It opens the door for feedback and ensures the Michigan Department of Education is representing the voices of Michigan citizens to best serve students.

As tribal people, we must have our voices heard in order to shift longstanding historical practices that have erased our histories and our issues from history of the U.S and the world. This erasure has plagued our public education and has helped contribute to the invisibility of our tribal communities and the unfortunate myth that tribal people simply disappeared after the establishment of the original colonies.

Many public comment surveys provide an opportunity to give:

Specific Recommendations: Include rationale for why a change needs to be made. Use logic (data) and empathy (feeling, story) to support the comments. Also, be sure to comment on the portions of the material that you support. Providing information about why you are in support is also helpful.

General Comment or Suggestion:

Overall, how does the material make you feel? Does it accurately represent what it is supposed to? Is this what students should learn in their social studies classes? Is anything missing? Which things work well? What things would you want to stay in the final version?

Remember, you are providing advice and supportive criticism to have the best product possible. There is a person who reads the comments who is likely NOT the one making decisions. Try to avoid name calling and instead *provide ways to improve the product*. It is up to the individual providing feedback how detailed or general they would like to be with their comments.

It is the position of CMTED to support the fifty-one (51) proposed social studies standards that are inclusive of our Tribal Nations. The current (2007) social studies standards only referenced us in twenty-four (24) standards. The proposed (2019) social studies standards are authentically and accurately written by Anishnaabek Educators to dispel stereotypes, increase visibility and to honor and respect our Tribal Nations.

While it is the position of CMTED to fully support all 51 proposed standards, we realize that reading/commenting on each one is an overwhelming task. CMTED will have the opportunity to advocate for all 51. We have prioritized standards that we feel will need the power of your voices to:

1. Support WITHOUT change: They are well-written and must NOT be excluded from the final product.
2. Change: They fail to include important history and/or contributions made by Anishinaabek. These standards need to be corrected.

****PUBLIC COMMENT IS OPEN FROM: APRIL 10, 2019-MAY 9, 2019****



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Please refer to the CMTED endorsed Anishinaabek Guidance Form when providing public comment. You may provide public comment in two (2) ways: **In Person and Online**

In Person: You will go to one (1) of the meetings listed below. Upon arrival, you will fill out a form requesting to speak. You **MUST** attach and turn in the Anishinaabek Guidance Form for these concerns to be counted/heard. Speaking alone will **NOT** guarantee that your ideas will be taken into consideration.

Upcoming Listen & Learn Meetings

Detroit April 24 6:00-8:00pm

Detroit Historical Museum
5401 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202

Saginaw April 25 6:00-8:00pm

ISD Transition PD Center
3860 Fashion Square Blvd.
Saginaw, MI 48603

Oakland April 29 6:00-8:00pm

Oakland Schools
2111 Pontiac Lake Road
Waterford, MI 48328

Kalamazoo April 30 6:00-8:00pm

Kalamazoo Central High School
2432 N. Drake Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Lansing May 2 6:00-8:00pm

Michigan Historical Center and Library
702 W. Kalamazoo
Lansing, MI 48915

Grand Rapids May 6 6:00-8:00pm

Kent Intermediate School District
2930 Knapp Road
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Gaylord May 7 6:00-8:00pm

University Center Gaylord
80 Livingston Blvd.
Gaylord, MI 49735

Sault Ste. Marie May 8 6:00-8:00pm

Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District
315 Armory Place
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Escanaba May 9 6:00-8:00pm

Delta Schoolcraft Intermediate School District
2525 3rd Avenue S.
Escanaba, MI 49829



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Online: You will be asked a series of questions. For the purposes of providing feedback using the Anishinaabe Guidance Form, please follow these steps:

1. Go to https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_64839_65510-339831--,00.html
2. Scroll to the 2nd paragraph and click: online survey

Part 1

1. Are you currently a resident of the State of Michigan?
2. Which of the following best describes you? I am a(n):

3. Click "Next"

Part 2

How much of the proposed Social Studies Standards have you read?

Would you like to comment on **specific revisions** to the social studies standards or would you prefer to provide a **more general comment or suggestion**?

CHOOSE: general comment or suggestion

4. Click "Next"

Part 3b: General Comments

35. The standards have been revised to limit seven common forms of bias: invisibility, stereotyping, imbalance/selectivity, unreality, fragmentation/isolation, linguistic bias, and cosmetic bias. Reflecting on these goals, how strongly do you agree or disagree that the revised standards adequately address concerns about bias?

36. Please use the space provided below to make any general comments or suggestions about the revised standards. It is most helpful if you include the grade level, subject area, and/or standard number, when possible.

CUT AND PASTE the Anishinaabek Guidance Form Here. Found on page 4.

5. Click "Next"

Part 4

37. Where did you first hear about revisions to the Michigan K-12 Social Studies Standards?
38. Overall, how satisfied are you with the revised 2019 Michigan K-12 Social Studies Standards?
39. Did you attend one of the Listen & Learn sessions in 2018?
40. Do you plan to attend any of the planned Listen & Learn sessions in 2019?

6. Click "Submit"



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Anishinaabek Guidance Form

Michigan Social Studies Standards Public Comment

We have compiled the bulleted list of key points below to help guide you in providing comments and feedback on the standards updates that impact whether our histories are included in the standards and how our histories are taught. Feel free to submit this language as your comment, paraphrase into your own words, or change in any way you see fit. This is intended as a guide and you should feel free to add or omit information based on your personal view and knowledge.

Changes to the standards will likely not be revisited for another 10 years.

Now is the time to change the way that Native history is taught in all Michigan public schools.

Miigwetch for being the good ancestors our children will speak of in the future!

ONLINE OPTION: CUT AND PASTE THE INFORMATION BELOW INTO QUESTION 36

I strongly support the following standards:

- 4-C3.0.2 This standard is good because it expands the study of governments and gives helpful examples for teachers to use.
- 7.1.1 This standard is good because the examples were expanded. As written, they are more well-rounded.
- C 3.2.3 This standard is good because it includes tribal governments, and it will help Michigan students to understand jurisdictional issues in Michigan more thoroughly.
- C 3.2.4 This standard is good because it will help students understand sovereignty and interactions among all levels of governments that exist in the U.S., not just some.
- 8.3.4 This standard is good because the examples are more inclusive and list even more groups of Americans who struggled for civil rights. It also includes more and better examples of important civil rights laws passed that impacted the groups listed.

I support the following standards **WITH** changes:

- 3-H3.0.10 This standard should be amended to read "Describe how the Treaty of Washington allowed for Michigan to attain statehood." Understanding cause and effect is an important goal in Social Studies. If the standard is changed it will help students understand that the treaty negotiated a massive land cession accounting for 40% of Michigan's land base, and one of the most important events that directly led to statehood.
- 5 – P3.1.1 This standard should be amended to read "Identify contemporary public issues related to the United States Constitution and Treaties with Michigan's tribal nations and their related factual, definitional and ethical questions." According to Article 6 of the Constitution, treaties are upheld as "Supreme Law of the Land." Treaties with Tribal Nations and the issues that arise from them ARE constitutional issues.
- U5.2 This set of standards should be amended to include recognition of the service of the 20,000 citizens of tribal nations served for both the Union and Confederate armies. This important fact helps better tell the history of the Civil War.