

## Americanism Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2020 6:40 PM

Shelby-Rising City School Rm. 402, 650 N. Walnut, Shelby, NE 68662-0218

Kasey Hopwood: Present  
Jeff Kuhnel: Present  
Geoffrey Ruth: Absent  
Jackie Sliva: Present  
Heath Vrbka: Present  
Chris Whitmore: Present

Motion to excuse Geoff Ruth was made by Jeff Kuhnel with a 2nd motion made by Heath Vrbka.

### 1. Call to Order

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Announce Open Meeting Act Posting and Location

### 4. Recognition of Visitors and Public Testimony

### 5. Review of LB 399 Requirements and District Compliance

### 6. Adjournment

#### Action(s):

Motion to adjourn at 6:50pm Passed with a motion by Jeff Kuhnel and a second by Chris Whitmore.

#### Voting Detail:

Kasey Hopwood: Yea

Jeff Kuhnel: Yea

Geoffrey Ruth: Absent

Jackie Sliva: Yea

Heath Vrbka: Yea

Chris Whitmore: Yea

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

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Board Secretary



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LB 399 Checklist – School Board

- Students between 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade must complete:
  - Attendance or participation between the commencement of eighth grade and completion of twelfth grade in a meeting of a public body (school board, village board, county board, state legislature) followed by completion of a presentation in which each student demonstrates/discusses the personal learning experience related to such attendance or participation. (Part of SRC Civics Curriculum)
- All social studies courses K-12 shall include and adequately stress contributions of all ethnic groups to (a) development and growth of American into a great nations (b) art, music, medicine, literature, science, politics, and government (c) the military in all of this nation's wars. (Listed in Curriculum Trak by Course)
- Below sixth grade, shall devote at least one hour per week to exercises or teaching periods for the following purposes (viewable in Curriculum Trak):
  - The discussion of noteworthy events pertaining to American history or the exceptional acts of individuals and groups of Americans.
  - Historical background, memorization, and singing of patriotic songs.
  - Development of respect for the American flag as a symbol of freedom and the sacrifices of those who secured that freedom.
  - Instruction as to proper conduct in the presentation of the American flag.
- In 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade time is set aside for the teaching of American history from the social studies curriculum. Focus is on becoming competent, patriotic, and civil citizens who possess a deep understanding of and respect for both the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Nebraska as well as prepare to preserve, protect, and defend freedom and democracy in our nation and our world. (Curriculum Trak)
- In 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade time shall be devoted to teach American history and civics as outlined in the Nebraska social studies standards. Following items in the curriculum include (Curriculum Trak):
  - The Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the Constitution of Nebraska, and the structure and function of local government in this state;



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- The benefits and advantages of representative government, the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in our government, and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals such as, but not limited to, Nazism and communism;
  - The duties of citizenship, which include active participation in the improvement of a citizen's community, state, country, and world and the value and practice of civil discourse between opposing interests; and
  - The application of knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography to address societal issues.
- Appropriate patriotic exercises (defined as recognizing and explaining the historical significance of the person or event in American History) suitable to the occasion shall be held under the direction of the Superintendent on:
- George Washington's Birthday and Abraham Lincoln's Birthday (President's Day February 17, 2020)
  - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday (January 21, 2020)
  - Native American Heritage Day and Thanksgiving (November 26, 2019)
  - Constitution Day (September 17, 2019)
  - Veterans Day (November 11, 2019)
- The School Board committee on American Civics will:
- Hold no fewer than two public meetings annually, at least one with public testimony.
  - Keep minutes of each meeting showing the time and place, members present/absent, and the substance and details of matters discussed.
  - Examine and ensure alignment of the social studies curriculum.
  - Review and approve social studies curriculum and materials.
  - Ensure the district develops and utilizes formative, interim, and summative assessment to measure student mastery of the social studies standards.