



March 22, 2024

To: BRSD Families
From: Rhae-Ann Holoien, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Subject: New Draft Social Studies Curriculum

Alberta Education is providing another opportunity to submit feedback for the new draft social studies curriculum. BRSD encourages its stakeholders to participate in this engagement opportunity, providing a voice in shaping Alberta's social studies curriculum. The survey will close on **March 29, 2024**.

A phased approach to the development of a draft social studies curriculum was announced by the Government of Alberta in Sept. 2023 and since the fall, feedback from over 12,800 online surveys has been collected in addition to feedback from over 300 education partners, teachers, multicultural organizations, and Indigenous and francophone communities.

Based on results, the Government's update states that, "Albertans believe developing critical-thinking skills and understanding local, Canadian, and global events and global and national history should be key elements of new social studies curriculum."

Key points and results from the Government's communication update are listed below.

Public feedback form

Alberta Education has been listening to valuable feedback from education partners and Albertans to develop a new draft social studies curriculum that reflects their priorities for student success. To date, Alberta Education has released:

- [Draft K-12 Social Studies Subject Overview](#)
- [Draft K-6 Social Studies Curriculum](#)

Albertans can provide input on key learnings within the new draft K-12 social studies curriculum through a feedback form on Alberta.ca. Albertans' feedback will be used to further refine the new 2024 draft K-6 social studies curriculum before its expected release in the spring to help school authorities and teachers prepare for optional classroom piloting during the 2024-25 school year.

Minister of Education, Demetrios Nicolaidis and the Alberta Government sends along a note of appreciation for valuable contributions, saying that "this will help ensure students learn from a curriculum that builds their critical-thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills, and empowers them to contribute positively to society."

Alberta Education recognizes the critical role that participants have played in the K-6 Social Studies curriculum development process. The next step will be public posting of the draft K-6 curriculum.

View the English version [here](#) and the French version [here](#), as well as the K-12 Social Studies curriculum overview: English version can be viewed [here](#) and the French version can be viewed [here](#).

To participate, please provide feedback on the K-12 Social Studies curriculum overview here: [English version](#) and [French version](#).

Alberta Education appreciates this opportunity to receive your feedback.

“Your input is crucial in ensuring that the curriculum we develop meets the needs of our students and reflects the values and priorities of our community,” says Alberta Education Assistant Deputy Minister, Jennifer Cassidy. “This feedback will be used to refine curriculum prior to a spring release of draft curriculum for optional classroom piloting in the 2024/25 school year.”

BRSD appreciates the support and time of our school families. Your voice makes a difference.

Sincerely,



Rhae-Ann Holoien
Superintendent of Schools