Act 70 Orientation and Training Seminar

Presented by The Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies

 Date: Thursday, October 15, 2015

 Location: Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg East

Gain an understanding of the expectations associated with the implementation of Act 70 which focuses on how each school district implements instruction dealing with the Holocaust and genocide. Receive training and complimentary instructional materials that will support quality implementation of appropriate instruction that meets the requirements of the Act. The seminar is complimentary and brought to you by PCSS and several partnerships as a public service.

9:30AM General Overview of Guidelines and Associated Historical Content

11:15AM Lunch

12:15 PM – 3:30PM Elective Sessions

**Echoes and Reflections:  A  Holocaust Education Resource for Today’s Classrooms**

Participate in an interactive workshop designed to help educators teach the complex history of the Holocaust in a way that stimulates engagement and critical thinking while providing opportunities for students to see the relevance of this event to their own lives.  Explore the materials from the Echoes and Reflections Teachers Resource Guide―including primary source documents, artwork, and literary selections―and learn how you can bring a Holocaust survivor, liberator, or other witness to the Holocaust into your classroom using visual history testimony.  Each workshop participant will receive a copy of the Echoes and Reflections Teachers Resource Guide and learn how the teacher-friendly materials and variety of instructional strategies build historical content knowledge, address academic standards, and utilize 21st century technologies.

**United States Holocaust Memorial Museum**

Since it opened in 1994, the Museum has dedicated itself to preserving the memory of the Holocaust, and at the core of this mission is education. Using photographs, documents, objects, and film from the Museum’s archives, teachers will explore their rationale for teaching, strategies for implementing a study of the Holocaust in the classroom, the challenge of relevance for today’s students, and will participate in classroom activities that are adaptable to history, the social sciences, and English language arts. Each teacher will receive a DVD of teaching resources and information about professional development opportunities.

**Facing History and Ourselves: Holocaust and Human Behavior**

How is history shaped by hatred, indifference, and denial, as well as by caring, compassion, and responsibility? In this introductory workshop, we will examine the range of choices that led to the failure of democracy in Germany and ultimately to the persecution of millions of Jews and other targeted groups. Participants will be introduced to some of the complexities of human behavior, judgment, memory, and how we as individuals and members of groups can make a difference in the world today. Resources will be provided.