

# Social Studies PLC eBlast

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Hello Everyone, and Happy New Year!

## ***Act 35 Update***

The 2022-23 Act 35 reporting opened in the Future Ready Comprehensive Planning Portal (FRCPP) on July 3, 2023, with a deadline of October 2, 2023. The system is still open for you to report if you have not yet done so.

Act 35 requirements began in the 2020-21 school year and requires each district, charter school, and comprehensive CTC to administer a locally developed assessment of United States history, government, and civics. The assessment must be administered at least once to students in grades 7-12 and must include the nature, purpose, principles, and structure of United States constitutional democracy, the principles, operations, and documents of United States government, and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

The data to be collected in the FRCPP system includes:

- Type of the assessment administered
- Total number of students who took the assessment
- Total number of students who attained a passing grade on the assessment
- Grade level or levels in which the assessment was administered
- Course in which the assessment was administered
- Number of students scoring 100% on the assessment

You can find more information on Act 35, including guidelines for accessing and submitting your data in the [Act 35 Civics Toolkit](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page and open the “Act 35 Reporting Guidelines” document. You may also find the “Frequently Asked Questions” document useful as well.

Note that if your charter school does not encompass grades 7-12, you are exempt from this submission. However, if your school includes at least one grade level 7-12, this legislation applies to your LEA. Submission is also required for IUs that provide civics instruction on behalf of their LEAs, as well as comprehensive CTC schools.

If you experience issues when submitting, please check that you have the proper “submit” role in the ADMIN area of FRCPP. If the Act 35 Civic Knowledge survey doesn’t appear when you log in, you are not a registered user and you must be added by your local admin user. The [FRCPP information page](#) may assist you when encountering submission issues.

## **From the [Center for Civic Education](#) - *We the People Alumni Awards Program***

The *We the People Alumni Network* is launching the inaugural *We the People Alumni Recognition Program* today. While all *We the People Alumni* are top tier, do you know of an alumnus/a who stands out? One honoree from both categories will be selected.

**Outstanding Young Alumni Award**—To recognize an alum who has distinguished themselves through service to their community, country, or society at large. For alums 18–34 years of age at the time of nomination.

**Cincinnatus Award**—Created to honor an alumnus/a who has provided extraordinary service to the world and who represents the ideals of virtuous service to benefit the common good. For alums over 35 years of age.

Submit a [nomination form](#).

As an alumni, you can [register to join the Network!](#)

## ***History Day turns 50!***

Since 1974, National History Day® (NHD) has been inspiring students to study history, learn about the past, and make connections to their own lives and times. Today, National History Day reaches over 500,000 students every year who conduct historical research to discover the past, understand the present, and be the future. Tens of thousands of teachers expand their history knowledge - and NHD's seminars, workshops, and professional development opportunities help them develop their teaching skills.

[Learn more about NHD](#) and how you and your students can participate.

## ***National History Day Teacher Summer Institute Opportunity***

[National History Day](#)® is excited to announce a new teacher institute for summer 2024. In partnership with the [Mississippi Department of Archives and History](#) and the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#), National History Day is opening applications for a Landmarks of American History teacher workshop, *Freedom Summer: 60 Years Later*.

This program will allow 70 K-12 teachers and museum educators to walk in the steps of the Freedom Summer volunteers and visit many locations in Mississippi that were pivotal to the Civil Rights Movement. Stipends are available to cover travel expenses.

Learn more and apply at [Freedom Summer: 60 Years Ago](#).

Have questions? Email [landmarks@mdah.ms.gov](mailto:landmarks@mdah.ms.gov). Applications open today and will remain open until March 4, 2024.

## ***Engaging Gen Z: Economic Lessons with MrBeast***

Jimmy Donaldson, known more popularly online as MrBeast, is one of the world's most popular YouTube content creators, with more than 210 million subscribers and 36 billion views. His viral videos are known for expensive challenges and are incredibly popular among Gen Z students. In this interactive workshop, you will learn how to incorporate lesson plans based on three different MrBeast videos that include episode summaries, economics concepts, and multiple assessment questions into your classroom. Five Econiful members will win a Feastables MrBeast chocolate prize. [Learn more and register here.](#)

## ***From the National Council for History Education***

Join us to learn more about one of the lesser known wars, often considered America's Second War for Independence, The War of 1812. Discover how the United States asserted her position as a sovereign nation against the world's strongest navy during the infant years. Uncover how this war impacted American ideas of patriotism, how it shaped trade and fueled American expansionism while devastating indigenous populations in North America. [Register for this event here.](#)

## ***Exodus from Dixie: The Great Migration as a Social Movement***

Between 1915 and 1930 over 1.5 million African Americans fled the U.S. south for northern and western cities locales. Just ten years later, another six million would begin the same trek in search of a better life. This epic migration literally changed the complexion of America. But why did it take place? Standard accounts mark the closing off of European migration during World War I and the need for industrial labor. However, by listening to the voices, hearing the songs, and viewing the artwork of actual migrants uncovers a different story. The Great Migration was not simply a response to economic forces; these migrants were "quitting the south." [Register for the Exodus from Dixie webinar here.](#)

## ***Seeking Nominations for Street Law's 2024 Classroom Champion Award***

Since 2005, *Street Law* has honored extraordinary classroom teachers through its annual Classroom Champion award. The selected few educators given this award represent the best of the best in civic and law-related education. This includes teachers like you who build civic agency and advance justice in classrooms every day.

Nominate yourself for this prestigious award and help *Street Law* showcase how you use materials to engage students in civic and law-related education.

The winner (and one guest) will receive a FREE trip to Washington, DC, to attend the *Street Law Awards Gala* on April 25, 2024. They will also join an exclusive and impressive line-up of previous honorees from around the country.

Please consider nominating yourself (or a colleague). Doing so provides a window into your classroom, allowing others to see the impact of *Street Law* materials and strategies in action.

The application deadline is **January 10, 2024**. [Nominate someone for the Classroom Champion Award.](#)

## ***From Econiful – Supporting English Language Learners in Economics***

Do you have English Language Learners in your economics classroom? Are you looking for additional strategies to support their success? Join us to learn how you might modify Econiful lessons to ease your multilingual students' mastery of economic concepts. Five Econiful members will win a complimentary copy of *The ELL Teacher's Toolbox: Hundreds of Practical Ideas to Support Your Students*. [Sign up for the Supporting English Language Learners in Economics event.](#)

## ***New from the St. Louis Federal Reserve***

### **Teach Economics: The Importance of Teaching Students to "Think Like an Economist" with Professor Justin Wolfers**

In this episode of Teach Economics, Justin Wolfers, professor of public policy and economics at the University of Michigan, talks to Scott Wolla, economic education officer at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, about how he found economics, why he loves teaching economics, and why it's important to help students "think like an economist."

This 35-minute podcast was released Dec. 5, 2023, as a part of the [Teach Economics podcast channel](#) from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

**Curriculum:** [A Sample Economics Curriculum](#)

Teaching economics for the first time? Or are you simply interested in adding more online assignments to your current syllabus? Check out this pre-made syllabus with resources mapped to a traditional economics class. Add and subtract to fit your needs!

## ***Welcome to GeoCivics***

GeoCivics' goal is to integrate geography across the social sciences to improve instruction for culturally and linguistically diverse student populations. By developing a systemic plan to design and implement professional development, digital resources, and GeoCivics lesson plans, we will further educate, support, and empower K-12 teachers.

[The GeoCivics Project](#) is funded by the United States Department of Education, operating through the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University.

## ***From the National Council for the Social Studies***

The [Call for Proposals](#) is now open for the 104th NCSS Annual Conference, which will be held in Boston, Massachusetts from Friday-Sunday, November 22-24, 2024 with the theme: **Many Voices, Many Stories, One World**. [Submit a proposal](#) or [become a proposal reviewer](#) today.

## ***Professional Development Opportunities with the National Archives***

[The National Archives](#) offers free, by request and regularly scheduled webinars about teaching with documents, primary source research, [DocsTeach.org](#), and more! Programs are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays for groups of 10 or more students. Email [distancelearning@nara.gov](mailto:distancelearning@nara.gov) to request your program today! In addition, the National Archives wants to encourage as many young people as possible to dream big, think bold, and to work for a better future. Visit [www.SlingshotChallenge.org](http://www.SlingshotChallenge.org) to learn more about the Slingshot Challenge. To learn more and register, check out our [Slingshot Challenge Resource page](#).

## ***NewsLitCamp – The Importance of Local News***

The News Literacy Project is collaborating with Scripps News journalists to offer a [virtual News Lite Camp](#) on January 26 with sessions that focus on local news and its importance during local and national elections.

Some of the slated topics include:

- The role of local reporting in national election coverage
- Opportunities for creative newsroom-to-classroom partnerships
- Local news, social media, and sorting fact from fiction online: what local stations want teachers to know.

This event is open to educators across the United States. No matter where you are or what grade level or subject area you teach—if you're a teacher, librarian, or other education professional interested in news literacy—you are welcome to attend.

## ***NEW Middle School U.S. History Curriculum from iCivics***

Join Christina Ross, Director of [Educating for American Democracy implementation](#) at iCivics, and Mary Ellen Daneels, Director of the [Illinois Civics Hub](#), on **January 17 from 3:30–4:30 p.m. CT** for a FREE webinar providing an overview of the new middle school U.S. History curriculum from iCivics that centers student voice and inquiry as the primary mode of learning.

[Harmony in Our Story: An Overview of New Resources from iCivics for Teaching American History in the Middle Grades](#) is appropriate for teachers, instructional coaches, and curriculum directors.

**When:** January 17, 2024, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. CT

**Register through the DuPage ROE at:** [Harmony in Our Story: An Overview of New Resources from iCivics for Teaching American History in the Middle Grades](#)

Thank you for subscribing to the SAS Social Studies PLC and for all you do every day for the students in Pennsylvania!

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