

Social Studies Needs Assessment Grades 6-12

January 2023



Chartiers Valley School District



MISSION

The mission of the Chartiers Valley School District, a community dedicated to shared leadership, is to graduate students who achieve personal success by providing an exceptional academic foundation in a safe, nurturing environment that inspires creativity and innovation while embracing diversity.

VISION

The Chartiers Valley School District Vision is to inspire excellence in instruction, learning and innovation to prepare our students to achieve personal success.

Social Studies Purpose

“The primary purpose of social studies is to help young people develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world.”

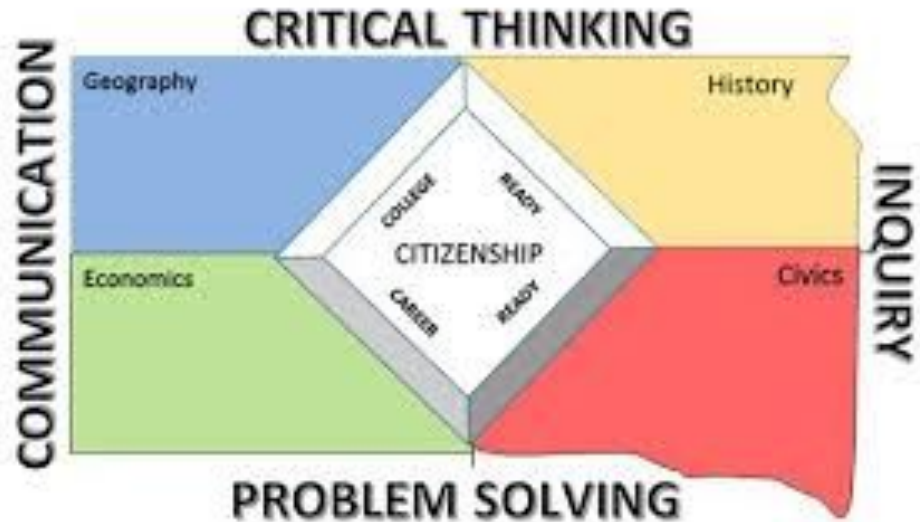


“Social studies is the integrated study of human society and its contributions, influences and impact on the world. There are many content areas which combine to create the overarching concept of social studies.”




Best Practices

- Differentiated Instruction
- Problem Solving
- Inquiry Learning
- Technology Integration
- Vocabulary building



Current Resources

Middle School - Grades 6-8

6th grade - Foundations of Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Currently using teacher developed resources.• The first semester, teachers have been piloting History Alive! by Teacher Curriculum Institute as a digital resource . 
7th grade - Global Perspectives	
8th grade - Early American History	

Current Resources

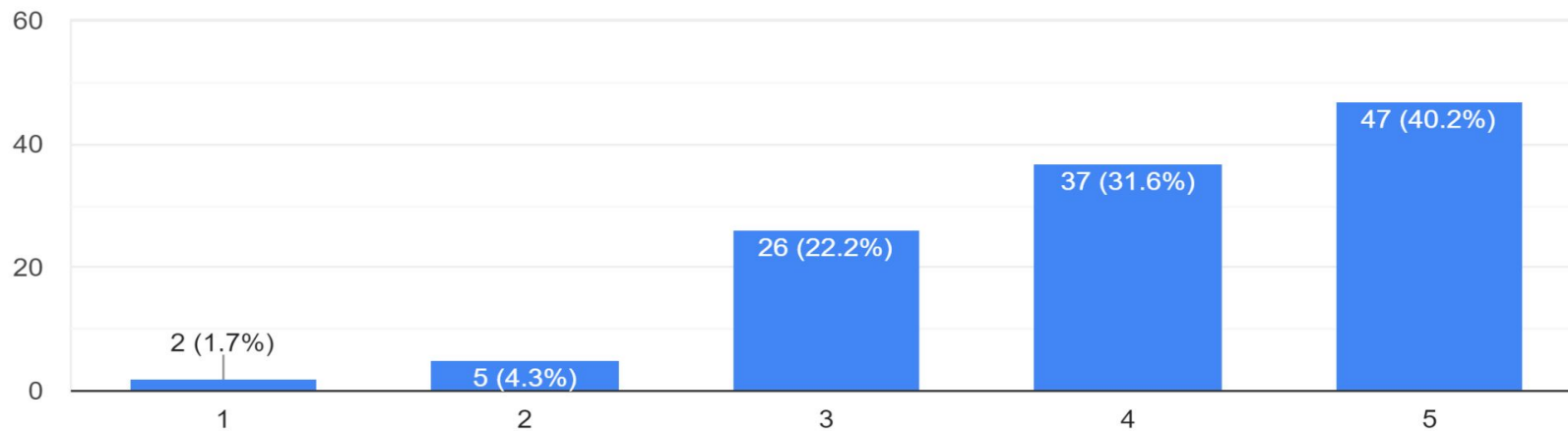
High School - Grades 9-12

9th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of the U.S.• Honors Development of the U.S.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher developed resources
10th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World Cultures• Honors World Cultures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher developed resources
11th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contemporary U.S./Global Studies• CIHS Shaping of the Modern World• AP U.S. History	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher developed resources
Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economics• Law and Government• Psychology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AP Psychology• AP Macroeconomics• AP Microeconomics• AP U.S. Government and Politics
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A few AP courses have digital resources approved by the College Board

Student Survey Summary

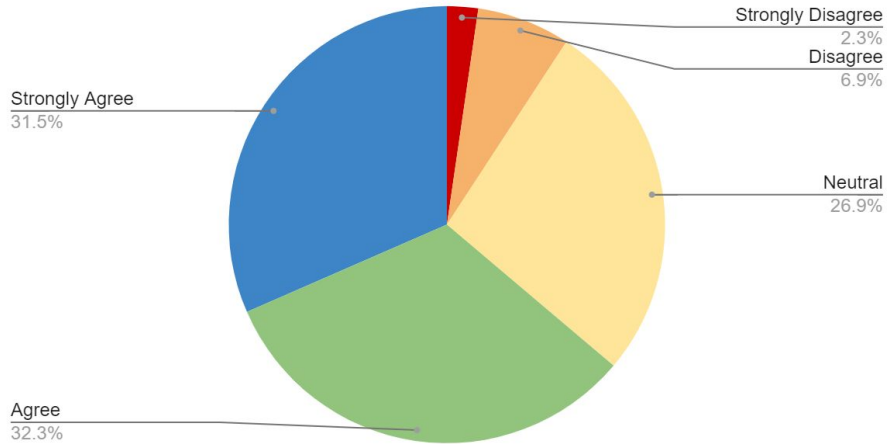
I feel like I have a good understanding of multiple perspectives and viewpoints throughout American History.

117 responses

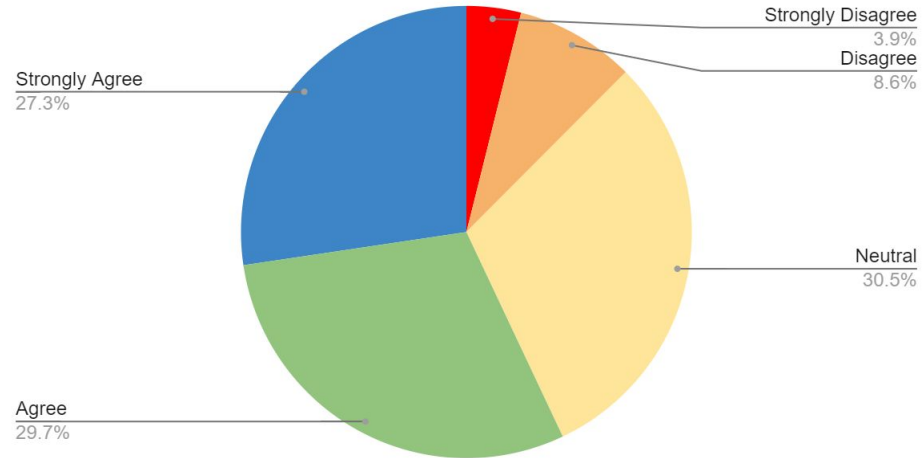


Parent Survey Summary

CVSD has Prepared My Student to be a Productive, Informed and Responsible Citizen

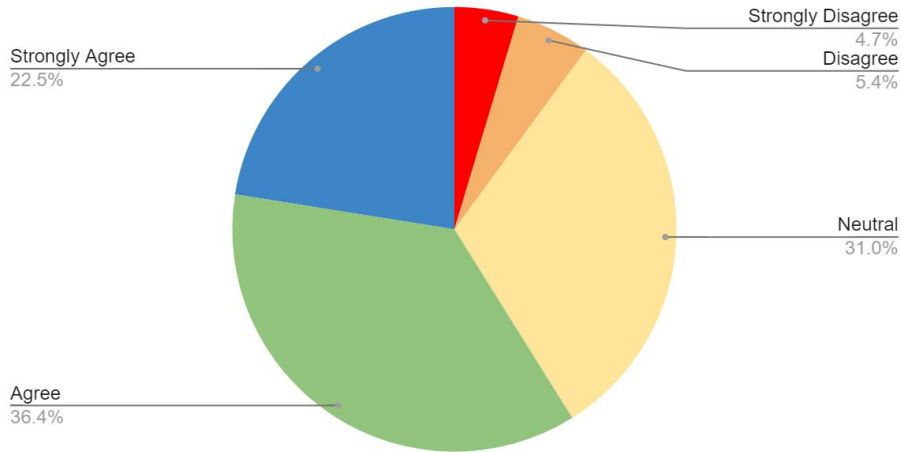


Social Studies Curriculum has Prepared My Child to be a Reflective Thinker



Parent Survey Summary

Social Studies Courses Provide My Child with a Multicultural Perspective of History



Big Takeaways

The survey data validates our instructional practices, but shows there is still room to grow.

PA Department of Education

- The Social Studies Content Standards are organized into four disciplines:
 1. **History**
 2. **Geography**
 3. **Civics/Government**
 4. **Economics**
- **Act 35** - School Districts are required to give a Civics Knowledge Assessment each year, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. We currently give the assessment in 9th grade.

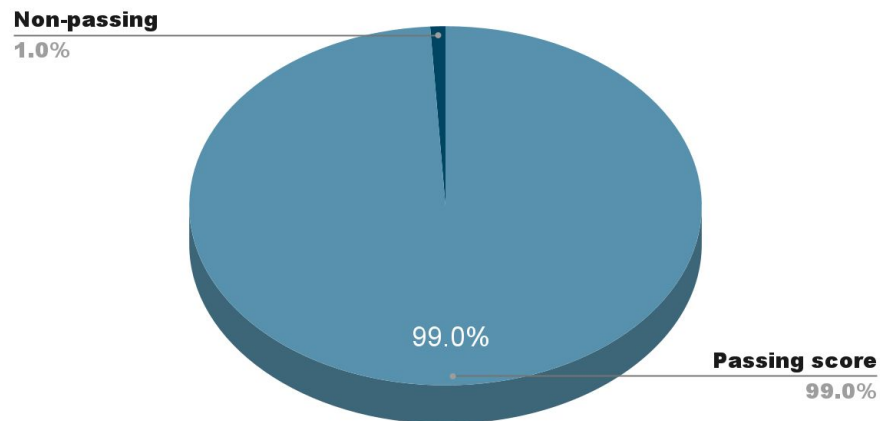
Student Achievement

- **Act 35 - PA Civics Knowledge Assessment**

2020 - 2021 School Year

- 100% of students obtained a passing score of 60% or better

2021 - 2022 School Year



Social Studies Department Strengths

- Committed and experienced faculty who implement a variety of approaches and best practices
- Teachers have created and adapted necessary resources for curriculum and instruction
- Social Studies has popular electives with HS students – 79% of seniors take a social studies elective

Social Studies Department Areas of Improvement

- Need for current and consistent resources
 - Plan to pilot resources during the second semester from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
- Need time for grade level collaboration in Middle School
- Need for increased collaboration between Middle School and High School



Program Recommendations

- Purchase new resources in grades 6-12 (PA Standards aligned)

\$ 4,950.00	TCI History Alive (6 teacher subscriptions only) \$825 per teacher - dependent on pilot of resources
\$ 30,780.00	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt World Geography student license digital 6-year (Grade 6)
\$ 30,780.00	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt World Civilizations student license digital 6-year (Grade 7)
\$ 30,780.00	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt United States History student license digital 6-year (grade 8)
\$ 29,640.00	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt American History student license digital 6-year (Grade 9)
\$ 29,640.00	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Modern World History student license digital 6-year (Grade 10)
\$ 3,040.00	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Professional Services - getting started with HMH grades 6-10 PD
\$ 159,610.00	

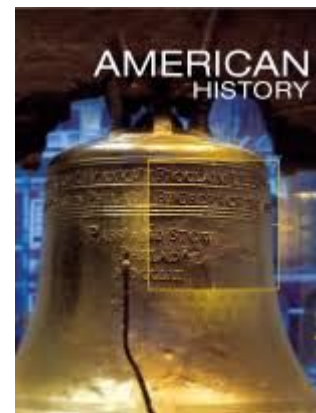
Program Recommendations

- Improve collaboration between Middle School and High School using Professional Development time
- Move Act 35 Civics Knowledge Assessment to 8th grade

Resources Under Consideration



Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.



Conclusion

- Responsible citizens are informed, active, and recognize their connection with the world.
- Perhaps more than any other discipline, social studies can provide students an opportunity to grow as independent decision-makers.

Education is the most powerful
weapon which you can use to
change the world.

— Nelson Mandela —



CVHS APUSH - Historical Halloween Trick or Treat



CHARTIERS VALLEY
SCHOOL DISTRICT | *Inspiring excellence.*

Questions?

