

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
June 16, 2021

TO: Illinois State Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Carmen I. Ayala, State Superintendent of Education 
Dr. Ernesto Matias, Education Officer 
Irma Snopek, Policy and Communications Officer 

Agenda Topic: Rules for Adoption - Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) *Illinois Learning Standards for Social Science*

Expected Outcome: Approval to submit Part 1 proposed rules with JCAR for second notice

Materials: Appendix A: Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) Proposed Rules
Appendix B: Summary and Analysis of Public Comments
Appendix C: Illinois Civic Hub Comments and Analysis

Staff Contact(s): Jennifer Kirmes, Executive Director, Teaching and Learning
Erica Thieman, Director, Curriculum and Instruction
Elizabeth Hiler, Principal Consultant, Curriculum and Instruction
Amanda Elliott, Executive Director, Legislative Affairs
Azita Kakvand, Agency Rules Coordinator, Legislative Affairs

Purpose of Agenda Item

The Teaching and Learning Center requests the Board to authorize the State Superintendent to submit the proposed rulemaking to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) for second notice.

Background Information/History

This proposed rulemaking updates Appendix D of 23 Ill. Adm. Code 1 to revise the Illinois Learning Standards for Social Science. These standards begin on page 30 of the proposed rules document (Appendix A).

In the fall of 2020, an ethnically and racially diverse working group composed of K-12 educators, postsecondary teacher educators, and content area experts convened to review the existing Social Science Learning standards. At the November 2020 ISBE Board meeting, the working group presented their findings and included the report in a subsequent ISBE Board Update.

At its March 2021 meeting, the Board approved of publishing the proposed rules in the *Illinois Register* to elicit public comment. The public comment period ended on May 25, a summary and analysis of which is attached. Edits to the proposed standards made per public comment include, but are not limited to, the following components: expansion of listed identity groups for individuals where appropriate to include "ability status," coding errors, and the addition of optional standards for religious studies.

Analysis and Implications for Policy, Budget, Legislative Action, and Communications

Policy Implications: See **Background Information/History** section above.

Budget Implications: Funding is needed to support professional learning to ensure Illinois educators will be provided with the resources and guidance necessary to implement the revised standards with fidelity.

Legislative Action: Public Act 101-0654 requires ISBE to complete this revision of the Illinois Learning Standards for Social Science.

Communications: Upon approval, rule changes will be communicated with stakeholders and published in the *Illinois Register* and on the ISBE website.

Pros and Cons of Various Actions

Pros: If the social science standards are adopted by ISBE, we will be compliant with the recently enacted Public Act 101-0654, which stipulates, “On or before July 1, 2021, the State Board of Education must adopt revised social science learning standards that are inclusive and reflective of all individuals in this country.”

Cons: If the social science standards are not adopted, we will risk non-compliance with Public Act 101-0654.

Superintendent’s Recommendation

I recommend that the following motion be adopted:

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the State Superintendent to submit the proposed rulemakings for Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) to JCAR for second notice.

Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical and non-substantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of JCAR.

Next Steps

Upon Board authorization, agency staff will submit the proposed rulemaking to JCAR for a second notice hearing and, upon issuance of a Certification of No Objection, will submit the proposed rulemaking to the Administrative Code Division for publication in the *Illinois Register*.

Date of Board Action: June 16, 2021