

USD #377 Atchison County Community Schools News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Textbook Selection begins for Begins for Social Studies at ACCS

Atchison County Community Schools social studies teachers met on Wednesday, October 11 to begin the job of examining and recommending new social studies textbooks for use at all grade levels beginning in the 2007-08 school year. The ACCS social studies department, under the direction of department chairperson Cy Wallisch, selected textbooks from several different publishers to undergo a month-long examination and evaluation by elementary, middle school, and high school teachers.

The teachers will use the district's textbook evaluation rubric to evaluate and prospective textbooks in several different areas including:

- Alignment to Kansas state standards,
- Support of USD#377 curriculum
- Readability at for students at their grade level (Lexile score).
- Support of advanced and honors classes

The selection process also involves securing and checking out references from successful school districts that are using the material, and the comparison of competitive bids from publishers. A final recommendation by the social studies teachers will be examined by the district curriculum council and by district administrative team before being presented to the USD#377 Board of Education in December.

While textbook adoption is usually conducted in the spring, the ACCS social studies department has moved up the time table to complete the evaluation process before the end of 2006. Publishers offer significant discounts to school districts that are able to place orders in the fall rather than the spring.

Members of the Atchison County Community Schools Social Studies committee who are taking on this important and time-intensive task are Cy Wallisch (chairperson), Jennifer Hansen (H.S.), Megan Greenwood (H.S.), Renee Potter (M.S.), Debbie Schneider (M.S.), Debbie Forbes (M.S), Nola Crooks (E.S.), Rita Eckert (E.S.), Elaine Stuck (E.S.), and Anita Stutesman (E.S.).

USD#377 follows a textbook adoption cycle, which is part of the district's curriculum development plan. Science materials (K-12) are scheduled for review in 2007-08 for adoption in the 2008-09 school year.