Performance Assessment for Social Studies

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Performance Assessments in Social Studies

The Michigan Social Studies Standards are organized into both content and inquiry and discourse standards at each respective grade level. While the content laden standards indicate the “what”, the “Public Inquiry and Discourse” standards at each grade level are not specific on content. As such, these serve as great research and solution-based standards that can be easily woven in as a performance assessment that encompasses much of the content in a particular grade level.

MI Social Studies Standards addressed: (Available at [www.misocialstudies.org](http://www.misocialstudies.org))

**P3.1 Identifying and Analyzing Public Issues**

Clearly state a problem as a public policy issue, analyze various perspectives, and generate and evaluate possible alternative resolutions.

4 – P3.1.1 Identify public issues in the United States that influence the daily lives of its citizens.

4 – P3.1.2 Use graphic data and other sources to analyze information about a public issue in the United States and evaluate alternative resolutions.

4 – P3.1.3 Give examples of how conflicts over Democratic Values lead people to differ on resolutions to a public policy issue in the United States.

**P3.3 Persuasive Communication About a Public Issue**

Communicate a reasoned position on a public issue.

4 – P3.3.1 Compose a brief essay expressing a position on a public policy issue in the United States and justify the position with a reasoned argument.

**P4.2 Civic Participation**

Act constructively to further the public good.

4 – P4.2.1 Develop and implement an action plan and know how, when, and where to address or inform others about a public issue.

4 – P4.2.2 Participate in projects to help or inform others.

Examples of P.A.’s

1. PASST - Performance Assessments of Social Studies Thinking – <http://passtmoodle.wmisd.org>