



Becoming America's Best

HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Margaret Wilson
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“... and the best is History.”

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The History Department Welcomes a New Member

Tim Betteridge recently transferred from the Standards, Assessment, and Accountability department to the History/Social Studies office in order to fill the vacant administrative assistant position.



Tim's background in technology, student assessment/ data, and event planning will be a huge asset to the team. Previously Tim worked at Ocean Beach Elementary, Linda Vista Elementary, and the Instructional Media Center.

Social Studies Workshop For Grades K-6

Our K-5 history textbook partner, Harcourt, will be hosting a “make-n-take” workshop featuring the “Bag Ladies.” This event will focus on hands-on activities that can be tied to history/social studies lessons. The workshop will be held on April 15 at the Mission Valley Marriott. Registration and appetizers will begin at 4:00 and the presentation will last from 4:30-6:30. Teachers will be paid for their time. To RSVP contact Mechelle Pedregal of Harcourt at tajta@msn.com or 619-934-5627. Contact: Lucy Laudate llaudate@sandi.net

Important Middle and High School Announcements

Beginning next year, the following changes to the Course of Study at high schools will take effect: AP Government will be a one-semester course; AP European history will satisfy world history requirements; Economics will include lessons on personal financial literacy; and Political Science will include coverage of state standards in economics. Principals and head counselors at each high school have been briefed on these developments, and numerous teachers contributed to the discussion. Contact: Kirk Ankeney kankeney@sandi.net

The California Department of Education (CDE) has announced a number of important opportunities for teachers of history/social studies in grades 6-12: First, the CDE is looking for 6th grade teachers who are interested in serving on the Assessment Review Panel (ARP) for the annual CST test in history/social science; second, the CDE is recruiting item writers for the grades 6-8, 10, and 11 annual CST assessments; third, grades 8, 10, and/or 11 teachers are sought to write lessons on history and the environment; and fourth, classroom teachers who wish to serve on the Curriculum Framework committee that will consider updates to the existing state framework are invited to join this committee. Contact: kankeney@sandi.net

Board of Trustees Votes on Textbook Adoptions

On Tuesday, March 25 the San Diego Unified School District's Board of Trustees voted to adopt the history textbooks recommended by the textbook adoption committees. The texts that were selected include: Brinkley's *American History: A Survey*, 12th Ed. (AP US History), *The Americans: Reconstruction to the 21st Century* (11th Grade US History), *A People and a Nation*, 8th Ed. (Honors US History), *The Earth and Its Peoples: A Global History*, 4th Ed. (AP World History), *Modern World History: Patterns and Interaction* (Modern World History and Geography). In addition to the textbook programs, the Board adopted wall maps for all of the courses listed above, as well as site licenses for all high schools to an online map service (Maps101 by Nystrom). Department chairs will be contacted regarding various components of the textbook programs. Thank you to the members of the adoption committees, who worked so diligently on a shortened timeline. Visit http://www.sandi.net/depts/history_social_science/ to view a complete list of committee members.

Local Professional Development in History

There are a number of opportunities for history teachers throughout the county this spring. The International Studies Education Program (ISTEP) is offering a workshop series on “Islam in the World: Middle Ages to the Modern Era” In some cases, the SDUSD History/Social Studies Department will offer financial assistance to teachers participating in ISTEP programs. You can visit the ISTEP website for more information at http://istep.sdsu.edu/professional_development.htm

Grade 8, 10, and 11 teachers interested in summer institutes can apply to the San Diego County Office of Education's Perspectives on the American Experience. This two week professional development opportunity offers a stipend. For information <http://www.sdcoe.net/lret2/hss/?loc=home> and look for the link to “Teaching American History (TAH) Grants.” Contact: Matt Hayes mhayes@sandi.net

Up Coming Events

- **Distinguished Lecture:** Cal State LA Professor Manuel Aguilar will be giving a lecture on “Lessons of Mexico: The History of Mariachi” on May 8 from 3:45-5:00 at the Old Town Program campus. mhayes@sandi.net
- **Distinguished Lecture:** SDSU Professor Emeritus Ross Dunn and SCPA World History Teacher, Roxanne Pompilio will be giving a presentation on *World History for Us All* on May 28 from 3:30-5:00 at Marston Middle School. mhayes@sandi.net

Mission Statement

To provide the curriculum, tools, resources, and professional development for history-social science teachers and students to succeed in the classroom.