

**Policy 2510, Assuring the Quality of Education: Regulations for Education Programs**

**Comment Period: Beginning January 11, 2019 – Ending February 24, 2019**

579 distinct commenters provided a total of 766 comments.

- Community Member: 93
- Higher Educator: 31
- Other: 56
- Parent-Family: 127
- Principal: 20
- Professional Support: 39
- Service Personnel: 3
- Superintendent: 17
- Teacher: 380

<b>Action</b>	
A/S	Comment was accepted and supports the proposed policy
A/C	Comment was accepted and resulted in changes to the proposed policy
N	Comment was not accepted

<b>DATE</b>	<b>COMMENTER</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>RATIONALE</b>
<b>§126-42-1 General</b>				
2019-12-13 09:21:34	Julie Hanna Physician Assistant - psychiatry Lewisburg WV	Change the requirement from 4 to 3 credit hours for social studies	N	<b>Response 1:</b> Due to overwhelming comments, there will be no changes made to social studies. It will remain at four required credits; the proposed flex credit will be removed.
2019-12-13	Kristy Dearnell Kermit WV	I do not agree with compacting the history of the world in high school classes. It should remain the same as it has been. A country that does not	A/C	See Response 1



2019-12-13  
15:40:31

Michael Erskine  
SS Teacher  
Greenbrier East High School  
Ronceverte West

The great Roman statesman and orator Marcus Tullius Cicero once said, “To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain always a child.” Centuries later Thomas Jefferson aptly quipped, “History is the only laboratory we have in which to test the consequences of thought.”

A/C

History is a necessary discipline as we move onward into the 21st Century. Now, more than ever, in an age of uncertainty, political polarization, and social instability we need anchorage from the insights from the past. Sadly, rather than instilling in our kids the value of learning from our past we castrate it from the curriculum and then compel them to be masters of the future without any cogency or context. Such a methodology can and is having disastrous effects.

The National Center for Education Statistics has found that Social Studies has progressively been removed as a core subject of importance in the public-school curriculum. For example, during the 1993-1994 school year students spent an average of 9.5% of their total instructional time on Social Studies; by 2011-2012 that percentage dropped to 8.6% DESPITE an increase of total instructional time. Another survey, by the Center on Education Policy (2006), found that since the passage of No Child Left Behind, 71% of the nations 15,000 school districts have reduced the hours of instructional time spent on history, music and other subjects to open up more time for reading and math. Couple such statistics with historical proficiency data for a moment. For example, a 2014 report by the National Assessment of Educational Progress has shown that an abysmal 18% of American high school kids were proficient in US history. Four years later, the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation (2018) conducted a study and found that only 1 in 3 Americans can actually pass the U.S. citizenship test. Did you hear that? A test that asks Americans the most basic questions about American history and how our system of government works shows only 1 in 3 pass rates. I’m going to go out on a limb here and rhetorically speculate if there is any kind of a correlation between castrating social studies from the curriculum and the lack of civic knowledge and engagement in this country? Would there be any at all? I would argue in the affirmative!

**Response 3:** Due to overwhelming comments, social studies will remain at four required credits. Teachers from across the state worked together to create and sequence developmentally appropriate standards in grades K-12. At the last revision in 2016, US Studies Comprehensive became an option for counties to utilize. Policy 2520.4 currently allows high schools to choose the sequence of their courses.

Yet, despite all the statistical data showing growing apathy and ignorance of historical and governmental knowledge in this country, there is this continual methodical push among education boards – in this case West Virginia’s BOE – to neuter social studies as a legitimate and viable feature of 21st Century students education. Oh the argument will be “Oh no, we love history! History is important! It’s just, uhm, it’s for the sake of the children!” The arguments are hollow.

From what I can gather, the WVBOE seems to be arguing that reducing social studies credit requirements is a positive thing for students. They keep saying (a) it will open up room for other electives for students, and (b) it will eliminate redundancies in history courses. These arguments are shallow and insulting.

(a) The argument that lowering social studies credits “opens up room for other electives” rings loud and clear in my ears that “history doesn’t really matter in the long run.” Dr. Paine himself has stated that students may prefer to “take a computer science class or some other class they’re interested in for their future” instead of a fourth social studies credit (WV Gazette).

Interesting choice of words. I get the sense that Dr. Paine believes “computers=shiny relevant future” and “social studies=dusty irrelevant memories.”

Pray tell, what does Dr. Paine believe the purpose of social studies as a discipline is in the first place? Is social studies, history specifically, not an essential discipline to be groomed and inculcated in students for the benefit of THEIR FUTURE and THE FUTURE of our nation? Is not ALL learning – English, math, science, history, the arts... ect – for the purpose of crafting well-rounded, critical thinking, reflective, empathetic, ethical, civically engaged citizens for the future? If not, then what is its purpose of any discipline at all!? Dr. Paine, and the WVBOE generally, consciously or unconsciously seems to be asserting that history is insignificant to a student’s future. I couldn’t disagree more.

By way of example, I am reminded of a study conducted by the Carnegie Corporation of New York (2013) which found that “students

who receive effective education in social studies are more likely to vote, four times more likely to volunteer and work on community issues, and are generally more confident in their ability to communicate ideas with their elected representatives” (The Atlantic). Does that sound like social studies doesn’t deal with our future?

Social Studies broadly, and history specifically, IS about the human experience and that alone means it has significance for our students’ futures. It’s about understanding the development and consequences of ideas, values, customs, and how people throughout time have understood and interacted with each other. Here let me pause and quote at length the words of The National Center for History in the Schools on the importance of history in our civilization,

Knowledge of history is the precondition of political intelligence. Without history, a society shares no common memory of where it has been, what its core values are, or what decisions of the past account for present circumstances. Without history, we cannot undertake any sensible inquiry into the political, social, or moral issues in society. And without historical knowledge and inquiry, we cannot achieve the informed, discriminating citizenship essential to effective participation in the democratic processes of governance and the fulfillment for all our citizens of the nation’s democratic ideals.... Historical memory is the key to self-identity, to seeing one’s place in the stream of time, and one’s connectedness with all of humankind. We are part of an ancient chain, and the long hand of the past is upon us-for good and for ill-just as our hands will rest on our descendants for years to come. Denied knowledge of one’s roots and of one’s place in the great stream of human history, the individual is deprived of the fullest sense of self and of that sense of shared community on which one’s fullest personal development as well as responsible citizenship depends. For these purposes, history and the humanities must occupy an indispensable role in the school curriculum.... History opens to students opportunities to develop a comprehensive understanding of the world, and of the many cultures and ways of life different from their own. From a balanced and inclusive world history students may gain an appreciation both of the world’s many peoples and of their shared humanity and common problems. Students may also acquire the habit of seeing matters through

others' eyes and come to realize that they can better understand themselves as they study others... An understanding of the history of the world's many cultures can contribute to fostering the kind of mutual patience, respect, and civic courage required in our increasingly pluralistic society and our increasingly interdependent world.

I cannot say it any better. History is an indispensable good for inculcating in student's political intelligence, a common memory, shared values, civic participation, comprehensive understanding, and a sense of interdependency and empathy. When you cut it back, relativize it, push it to the peripheries of importance, then you do a disservice to students and our civilizations future.

(b) It's argued there are redundancies in the curriculum, so this justifies exterminating social studies requirements. If there are redundancies in the history courses in this state then whose fault is that? Who makes the educational and curricular decisions for the state of West Virginia in the first place? Who decided to do away with 7th Grade geography and to replace it with World History, which is technically the same content coverage as 9th grade World History?

The answer to redundancy is not reduction but reform.

I have said this several times that the flow of the history curriculum in West Virginia needs to be reformed. One suggestion would be the following: 6th, West Virginia Studies, 7th World Geography, 8th World History I (Beginnings to Renaissance), 9th World History II (Renaissance to Present), 10th US Studies I (Beginnings to WWI), 11th US Studies II (WWI to present), 12th Government and Civics. There is NO REDUNDANCY on such a model. Instead it is a progressive chronological building of content and skills across the grade levels.

Furthermore, survey studies in World History or American History do little in the way of giving students grounded historical knowledge and skills. Survey's sacrifice richness and context for the sake of brevity and themes. But this is foolishness. This is putting the cart before the horse.

Students need basics, they need content, they need context, and out of that arises second level skills in synthesizing and correlating information. In a survey style course primary documents cannot be adequately analyzed, and you simply cannot ask students to “make connections” across historical themes when they do not have adequate knowledge of the context surrounding those themes.

Would we ever affirm that our students need an “Algebra Survey” or a “Biology Survey” or a “Grammar Survey”? Then why say it should work in history? Consider by way of example, trying to get students to adequately understand the US Constitution, without understanding the historical background and philosophical roots of states’ rights, popular sovereignty, or social contract. Good luck! Or try getting students to understand race in this country without adequate historical content and context of slavery, abolitionism, and civil rights. Or on the World History level, try getting students to understand the importance and values and ideas of the world’s major religions, or the Enlightenment’s effect on modern life, or the significant effects of Greco-Roman civilization on modern government, by just covering “basic themes.” All the while mind you this is happening in a matter of four 9 weeks, which inevitably are effected by extra-curricular events, snow-days, and holidays. It doesn’t work! It is sacrificing richness and surrendering the humanness of history, for the sake of succinctness.

To be quite frank this consistently methodical slithering towards reducing Social Studies significance is just a stepping stone along the path to eliminating the field from the educational program all together. The process looks something like this:

First you relativize it (“JROTC is definitely equal in content and skills to American History! Jumping jacks without question equals knowing the Constitution! And yes, Psychology is definitely comparably to understanding the Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment in World History!”)

Then you reduce it (“We don’t need that many credits in Social Studies! HA! Who really needs to know the Founding Fathers or the Early Republic really!? Just shave that out!? Kids just need computers.”).

		<p>Then you rid it from the curriculum (“Really in this 21st Century what we need is lots and lots of Math, English, and Science. History isn’t part of this brace new worlds we’re making. History is the third wheel of STEM programs and we all know it’s not tested on the SAT. So, there yah go!”)</p> <p>This is a terrifying trend and yet it is a reality in far too many school systems.</p> <p>When a community or civilization devalues its heritage, devalues history, both good and bad, it assists in perpetuating the ignorance, indifference, bigotry and the demise of it’s our foundational values and institutions that we see presently in our society. We are marching towards an ever-growing disparity in this country of a citizenry that is uneducated in the ways of citizenship and lowering Social Studies requirements will do nothing but help increase this downward trend.</p> <p>Stop the insanity, and stop trying to pass this wretched thoughtless 2510 Policy.</p>		
2019-12-13 17:36:28	Telyna Chafin Reducing Social Studies in schools Lenore WV	<p>Why are you wanting to reduce the learning of our state, country and world history? That is how we were built and sculpted our nation. As a parent , I ask that u don’t do this.. instead how about increasing it!!! I am so thankful to have been raised knowing our history and would love for my son to learn it as well.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-13 21:46:50	Larry Ransom Beaver WV	<p>I really think this is an awesome proposal/policy, but unfortunately if it doesn’t get executed it will not be effective...as with many, and star again, many new policies go into effect with great purpose and intention, they slowly or quickly become forgotten.....as a father of 4, 3 in or done with college, none were prepped well or effectively through counseling especially in the early high school years to plan their path for college and career resulting in changes to their major and extreme culture/academic shock at the college level resulting in a difficult transition. I personally feel being ex-military that accountability/performance evaluations should be performed and used as incentives for teachers and or reprimands to monitor their effectiveness for the students, including the counseling policy here...I think it will highlight quality and expose deficiencies giving quality teachers the</p>	N	<b>Response 4:</b> Concerns are not addressed in Policy 2510.

		hope that their hard work will at least be recognized and their less driven colleagues may be exposed and helped for improvement.		
2019-12-14 13:14:32	Eric Starr Teacher Mingo County Schools Williamson WV	I am deeply concerned with the continued attacks on Social Studies by the West Virginia Board of Education the past few years. Social Studies should remain 4 mandatory credit hours, counties should be required to teach World Studies, and students should have the luxury of learning American History across the span of 2 school years. West Virginia told the WVBOE two years ago to keep 4 credit hours of Social Studies and leave it alone, it bothers me to know the WVBOE is going the path of agenda-pushing rather than listening to constituents. Everything about this proposed measure lowers the expectations in students and has the potential to rob them of a quality Social Studies education that is deeply needed in order to thrive in our current world. Social Studies matters, please value this field.	A/C	See Response 3
2019-12-14 13:46:30	Myran Starr Miner Williamson WV	(Social studies requirement) If it's not broke don't try to fix it. Leave well enough alone.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-14 13:46:31	Myran Starr Miner Williamson WV	(Social studies requirement) If it's not broke don't try to fix it. Leave well enough alone.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-14 21:44:43	Annette Dingess Comfort WV	Please keep four classes in social studies for our students. They need to know our past to help prepare them for their future as American citizens.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-15 08:26:28	M Smith Charleston WV	Do not lessen the requirements for social studies. Look at what is going on in our country right now. Students need to understand the way society, government and the world works. As a former middle school teacher I had students that couldn't name continents, didn't understand what a continent was, thought that WVU was a city, told me Barak Obama freed the slaves, didn't know there were 3 branches of government, I could go on!!!!!! If we don't educate our students about civics, history and geography we will fail to adequately prepare our students to go out in the world and be responsible citizens and give them 21st century skills for the workplace. When WV citizens make the front	A/C	See Response 1

		of National newspapers giving the Nazi salute, it tells me our students need MORE education, not less!		
2019-12-16 09:49:55	Darrell Hively Kanawha County Schools Charleston WV	I believe it would be detrimental to cut social studies credit in public schools. Students need to know history, especially now. All of U.S. History crammed into one class is too much. World History is important to learn the foundations of American democracy. It is with great sadness I found out this news and highly disappointed. All the turmoil going on in the country, this is the most important time to know the history of the United States and the world.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-16 17:59:01	Regina Starr Stay at home mom Williamson WV	Please do not remove 4 credits of social studies. Our kids need to get as much history into their learning as possible. Don't make world history optional, don't force us to teach US History in one year, and keep civics!	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-16 18:04:40	Rebecca pritt Oak hill Wv	Please do not lower social studies requirements! Our children need this knowledge!!!!	N	See Response 1
2019-12-16 18:21:17	Marlene Mcdonald Cook Mingo county schools Delbarton Wv	No changes need to be made. Leave at the 4 hrs requirement	N	Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.
2019-12-16 19:16:06	WV Parent	I feel that reducing the number of SS credits for graduation is a move in the right direction. Students have been studying SS since early elementary. They have had plenty of time to become good citizens and study the history of America and the World. One SS course is not going to make a huge difference in the life of a student considering all the SS they have been exposed to thus far.	N	See Response 1
2019-12-17 15:14:37	Jay Sisson Teacher Cabell County Schools Huntington WV	I do not support reducing the social studies requirements to graduate high school. This sort of policy lowers the bar at the expense of students. World history as a subject is heavily covered at the college level. Sacrificing this content to force US history in the 9th grade will hurt students in the long run.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-20 10:28:04	Kaitlyn Adkins Student West virginia university Morgantown WV	I think that it is absurd to lower the social studies requirment from 4 to 3. Civics is taught during a students senior year, and this course helped me figure out the route if education I wanted to take in college. I decided that I will attend law school due to this.	A/C	See Response 3

		<p>US history is taught sophomore and junior year. The benefits of teaching it in 2 years is that students get an in depth look at the history of the US, policies, and how things from the past affect us in the present.</p> <p>Getting rid of 1 social studies requirement is a disservice to students. Social studies is needed for everyday life. An example, the presidential election. Civics teaches students to learn about each candidate, take a position on controversial issues, and make an educated vote based on how your views line up with the candidates. These are skills Americans need, whether they pursue a higher education or not. I urge you to keep the social studies requirement at 4 credits for the education of our future. Thank you.</p>		
2019-12-20 19:30:30	Emily Jessee server Pies and Pints Charleston WV	<p>As a graduate of the Kanawha County school system I find it imperative to continue to make social studies and science a 4 credit requirement. Both fields of study are becoming increasingly relevant to the world we live in, especially as we enter a new decade. West Virginia is regularly ranked low in public education and as a result I do not find that weakening the education system a good response to that. Please reconsider how you are serving the students of the great mountain state, because frankly you are doing them a disservice.</p>	N	<p><b>Response 6:</b> The proposed policy addressed no changes to science.</p> <p>See Response 1</p>
2019-12-22 12:22:35	Don Scalise Professional Teacher Cabell Midland High School Huntington WV	<p>This administrative change does not improve the quality of education. I also find it strange that of all the "stakeholders" listed, I don't see social studies teachers. In fact, I see very few teachers at all. Plenty of higher level administration, but few of the individuals who are in the classrooms on a daily basis.</p>	N	<p><b>Response 5:</b> Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.</p>
2020-01-02 11:16:15	Jon Pitzer None None Poca WV	<p>U.S. Chief Justice John Roberts just recently expressed concern about the state of civics education in the United States.</p> <p>In his 2019 annual publication he notes that Americans "have come to take democracy for granted, and civic education has fallen by the wayside."</p>	A/C	<p>See Response 5</p>

		<p>Cutting social studies credits now would be harmful to American democracy.</p> <p>Instead, allow student who are in band, show choir, and sports to earn a credit for physical education, and then increase the number of embedded math and science credits in CTE so that more students can earn credits without missing important civic education.</p>		
2020-01-02 11:35:38	M Houck Principal Raleigh County Schools Beckley WV	<p>According to data from 2017-2018, 47.4% of students were not attending college. I see it as an advantage that local school districts would have the flexibility to address post-secondary plans of all students - not just those going to college. This will give the option for a 4th social studies credit OR a 4th science - depending on the plans of the student. A student could also take a computer science course or a CTE foundational course depending on future plans.</p>	N	See Response 1
2020-01-03 12:05:07	Scott Ryan Morgantown WV	<p>Reducing the number of social studies credits needed to graduate is not conducive with the goal of providing students a rigorous, high quality education. Graduation requirements should not be lowered.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-04 10:07:19	Melinda Bender Cross Lanes WV	<p>I'm not sure which box to post this comment. Cutting social studies is bad for our democracy. Ancient civilization is necessary because it emphasizes how great civilizations rose and fell. America isn't as old as Ancient Greece or Rome. Two courses in US history is important to study colonies through the expansion of America. Students need to have time to learn about the wars our families fought in plus there causes and results. If not, you are assuming they will learn it on their own. If we do not want history repeated do not reduce requirements. Please leave the requirements as is.</p>	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-04 10:07:36	Melinda Bender Cross Lanes WV	<p>I'm not sure which box to post this comment. Cutting social studies is bad for our democracy. Ancient civilization is necessary because it emphasizes how great civilizations rose and fell. America isn't as old as Ancient Greece or Rome. Two courses in US history is important to study colonies through the expansion of America. Students need to have time to learn about the wars our families fought in plus there causes and results. If not, you are assuming they will learn it on their own. If we do not want history repeated do not reduce requirements. Please leave the requirements as is.</p>	A/C	See Response 3

2020-01-05 14:50:28	Nadine Kelly Mother None Morgantown WV	Please do not proceed with reducing the social study credits requirement for high school students. For so many students, a class like world history is the only thing that takes these children outside of their already small world. A world where they may never leave their hometown, county or state. I was not a fan of Social Studies as a teen, but as an adult, I appreciate the knowledge I gained from these classes. Especially World History. Please reconsider eliminating World History.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-05 15:38:08	James E Lilly Electrical Estimator Independence West	Please don't reduce requirements for Social Studies in WV. In these troubled times students need knowledge of history and world events. Thank You.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	Once again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teach reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we are striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send it out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-07	Stephanie Fernandez Nuclear Medicine	I am in favor of the Flex Credit. I feel that another Science is more critical in preparing for college than Social Studies.	N	See Response 1

10:21:31	Technologist Bridgeport WV			
2020-01-08 14:35:37	Kelli Epling CAP George Washington High School Charleston West	This policy allows for more flexibility for our struggling students, CTE, and College courses.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-08 15:00:51	Barbara Burda teacher Randolph Co. Schools Elkins WV	To eliminate World History as a required class in high school would be a great disservice to our students. Students can possibly understand the role of the United States in the world without understanding how it fits into the world as a whole. Our core concepts of democracy, freedom and liberty come from world events and people that preceded the United States. Many of these ideas come people living under oppressive governments and these concepts were goals in which to aspire. The United States took these valued concepts and put them into practice to create a more perfect union. How can we appreciate what we have, if we don't know why it exists? Reducing World History to an elective is to reduce the number of students that learn why other systems of government and other economic systems have failed. It doesn't allow students to learn from whence their heritage comes. It fails to allow students the opportunity to see where conflicts started in the world and understand what solutions may be available. We don't live in isolation as a country. We are part of a greater world in which the US trades and interacts. Our education should be reflective of that.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-09 07:27:45	Amy Mortensen Teacher Liberty High School Clarksburg WV	The policy does not make West Virginia competitive with neighboring states when it comes to providing a well-educated work force. By decreasing educational requirements for graduation, the state is doing a huge disservice to our next generation. We need to create a work force of problem solvers and individuals that can quickly learn new skills. By decreasing our students' core requirements, we are taking away an opportunity to gain necessary, marketable skills that can be applied throughout their lives. Regardless of your career, you need to be able to communicate effectively, solve problems that arise on a daily basis, and be able to learn new things, even when they may not be an area of high interest for the individual. Furthermore, few people know what they want to do for their future career(s) at such a young age. We are adding pressure for them to make a very important decision for the rest of their	N	Response is unclear as to changes being addressed. See Response 6.

		lives. I know of many people that have changed careers during their life and as a result of not having taken diverse courses in high school, like a fourth science, have been delayed in achieving their goals with their new career. We need to provide our students a diverse education with a focus on core skills. We are not here to train workers for certain industries, but to provide our students with the skills they will need to be successful throughout their life regardless of what changes they make in their careers.		
2020-01-09 13:01:30	Kathy Jacquez C & I Coordinator Marion County Schools Fairmont West	No comment		
2020-01-09 22:55:50	Jason Armentrout Teacher Mineral County Schools Keyser WV	Social Studies should be a four year requirement. American History should be taught over two years. It can only be done adequately this way. Social Studies content is important in order to develop adequate civic responsibility for our kids so they can make the most informed, best decisions as citizens of our country.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-10 07:55:39	Matthew Carpenter Oak Hill High School Oak Hill WV	I support the approval of flex credits because I believe it will allow students that are interested in STEM careers to better prepare for their futures. Please approve this measure!	N	See Response 1
2020-01-10 08:56:37	Shanita Wine Science Teacher Martinsburg High School Martinsburg WV	I support the "Flex credit" option to allow those STEM students to focus on their preparatory coursework for college.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-10 18:50:59	Teresa M. Cogar 9th grade science teacher NCHS Hico WV	Please allow 9th grade students to take ESS as a high school graduation requirement. ESS is a valid, everyday, common sense type of science. It gives the 9th grade students the basics in scientific method, metric system, their environment with surface and ground water, meteorology, the atmosphere, earthquakes and volcanoes. Yes, I also spent a month on the periodic table, parts of the atom, physical and chemical changes, isotopes, ions, chemical reactions. Coming out of middle school, my students played video games in 8th grade. They had very little science background. ESS is a good science class for these 14 year old students. They can relate to most of the subject matter. Physical Science requires more input, interaction, and studying from the students. My 9th graders are not mature enough to engage in PS.	A/S	See Response 6.

2020-01-11 17:31:48	Ryan Brandenburg WVU Graduate Student Kearneysville/Morgantown WV	Social Studies should be taken much more serious than these changes would enact. As a Social Studies Educator, I believe that so many of our nations deep rooted issues come directly from lack of knowledge of all things Social Studies covers. By this logic, the more cuts that are made to Social Studies curriculum, the more we are investing in these issues. Not to mention how much knowledge will have to be cut to fit all the content in such a short period of time. These changes should absolutely not be made to WV education.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-11 23:09:47	Stephanie Ballato Retired Educator Hancock County Schools Weirton Wv	As a retired teacher from the state of West Virginia I am appalled at what is happening in our education system. How could you possibly think that shortening, almost eliminating in my opinion, the amount of HISTORY being taught in our schools? What is happening in America? Don't you feel that all citizens, including school-aged children, should learn everything possible about this amazing country - past and present? I can't believe that this is even being considered to begin with. Since my retirement, I've been hearing so many heart-breaking things that are happening in our schools today. Many things are being said by those attending our schools. Our children are graduating from high school knowing less, in other words being dumber than those graduating only several years back - and you want them to actually learn less about the greatest country in the world? I fear that it won't be long before we no longer hold that title. Many school students in our state are coming home unable to remember things that they were supposedly taught that day in school. Many parents have taken over the job of teacher because they are concerned about their children not knowing how to do the basics in the courses their children are taking. This ranges from the elementary schools to the high schools. It is in the elementary schools where children learn the basics and then continue to build on them. I actually don't see that happening. They don't spend enough time on one concept before they are moving on to another one. I digress. I feel the state will be making a very poor decision if they vote to approve lessening the amount of history being taught. History is our foundation. Why on earth would you not want our children to learn everything about our country and history as a whole?	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 01:04:38	Kenneth Edwards Social Studies Teacher Harrison County BOE Bridgeport WV	This is a horrible idea. I'm not sure who believes that lowering requirements for graduation leads to the creation of informed citizens that will be leading our future. I can fully say that as a high school teacher of Civics, American History, Contemporary History, and AP US	N	<b>Response 7:</b> The proposed policy does not reduce the number

History, that lowering any requirement or combining any courses into a one course broad overview is not beneficial in any way whatsoever.

To provide some examples of why this is a bad idea, allow me to pose a few questions. How is somebody supposed to vote responsibly if they don't actually take time while they are in high school to analyze political parties and what they stand for? How is someone supposed to know how they feel about a particular issue if they have not had enough education of historical aspects and contexts and are unable to see the broad scope of what is actually going on around them? How are people supposed to understand what is going on in their state, their nation, or the world in general if they don't understand the differing ideologies, political systems, economic systems, or religions going on around them. I could go on all night about why this is a bad idea.

Could there be some updates to high school Social Studies in WV? Absolutely, but taking away the requirements and combining courses is not the answer. I can personally tell you that in all of my classes, students are analyzing historical context and relating it to modern day, they are debating and forming their own opinions, they are reading documents that (let's be honest) a lot of people don't understand because they do not know how to break it down, they are writing, they are looking at documents like W-2's and learning how to deal with real life responsibilities.

If we lower requirements and combine courses, they will not have time to accomplish any of these things and then they will just be less prepared when we send them out into the world. This will only feed into the fire of today's world where people complain that our younger generation isn't prepared to be in society. I could talk for hours about how wrong this is, but I will leave you with one request. Please do not go through with this bill. Our state legislature keeps complaining that education is at the bottom of barrel nationally, well how about we put more money and resources into it and update it so these students have a greater opportunity once they leave high school. If you truly care about education and are looking to improve it, how about we show our student population that we actually care about the courses taught and not look to get rid of them.

A/C

of required credits for graduation.

See Response 1

<p>2020-01-12 01:19:39</p>	<p>Kenneth Edwards Social Studies Teacher Harrison County Board of Education Brdigeport WV</p>	<p>Correction to the previous comment I made. I meant to state policy/proposal... not bill.</p> <p>Once again, I am pleading with the State BOE to not go through will this. There is not benefit to this. Instead please look for ways to expand resources that students have access to in order to properly teach the content at hand. Please offer more workshops with examples and strategies to further teach the concepts that go along with Social Studies.</p> <p>Cutting back is not the solution.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2020-01-12 08:25:46</p>	<p>Marilou McClung Teacher Capital high school Charleston West</p>	<p>We are having difficulty having students take their education seriously and you want to dumb it down?? Please just leave us alone.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.</p> <p>The proposed policy does not reduce the number of required credits for graduation.</p>
<p>2020-01-12 09:47:44</p>	<p>Dottie Hess individual Charleston WV</p>	<p>I believe history should be an important part of our childrens education, so that history does not repeat itself. Holocaust, 911 and the three basic branches of U.S. government are just very basic issues they should be touched on, but to dummy down the population is not a very good way to prepare students for the future. Some students love history, and what will happen to those citizens - we will never install reading and exploring history for those future adults. I don know who was chosen to come up with this proposal, but perhaps you need to go back and include some social studies teachers who know the importance of learning about history so that we can be prepared for the future.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2020-01-12 10:12:49</p>	<p>Marcia Russell Higher Education Faculty and K-12 Professional Dev Consultant Camarillo Ca</p>	<p>It is shocking to me to see this proposal given the legacy of Senator Byrd and tremendous effort he put forth to ensure the teaching of American history was improved and deepened. He wrote and funded the federal Teaching American History grants which supported professional development for k-12 teachers to improve the teaching of history. I had the honor of providing professional development for three years in WV</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

		<p>in Both Charleston and Parkersburg as part of the grant awards WV received. Given our nation's current challenges with misinformation, false news, and a largely divided democracy, it is imperative that history education be strengthened and increased. You erode our democracy with this proposal. The ramifications on our nation and the people of WV are far beyond what must have been considered as of yet. If you had considers the impact on democracy this proposal wouldn't exist. It is truly shameful.</p>		
2020-01-12 10:21:35	Jennifer Collins South Charleston WV	<p>To reduce the standards for history is a mistake. Especially in light of the rampant increase of racial and cultural bias, not to mention the recent incident of the police cadets displaying the Hitler salute. I believe their actions were more out of ignorance and less out of malice as they did not understand the impact of their actions as they probably are not aware of the significance of Hilters regime. It is a mistake to reduce and/or eliminate the history standards taught in school. The fact that most of the younger politicians do not really understand the framers intentions of the Constitution of the United States of America should be a huge indication that history standards need to be increased, not decreased. The Board is doing the students of West Virginia a huge disservice and quite frankly the more the standards are lowered, the dumber our society is becoming. Any change in standards and curriculum should before the public to vote. The Board is doing a grave disservice to the people it is there to serve.</p>	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-12 14:30:48	Rev. Shawn Parkinson Reverend Martinsburg Wv	<p>This proposal just might be the most asinine thing I have heard in a long time. Reduce History to one path!? It seems almost as though you are intentionally sabotaging our childrens futures so that they are condemned to not understand the world they are going to live in. Keeping them without a proper education keeps them maleable and easily manipulated right? You are dooming these children, this must NOT stand!</p>	N	See Response 5  See Response 1
2020-01-12 15:34:55	Patricia Dillon Social Studies Teacher/Coord. Retired Mingo County Schools Dingess WV	<p>The proposed changes to the social studies requirements would not be in the best interest of our students--and ALL of you know it!! It would be disastrous--maybe not to all of us "old" people who won be around to witness the results of our future leaders being in the dark about so many important lessons learned by those who came before them! Especially in a world that becomes smaller every day--our students need all the</p>	A/C	See Response 1

		information they can get!! I could go on for pages...but YOU already know why Im right!!!		
2020-01-12 18:43:05	Anthony Smith Petersburg WV	I think this is a bad decision. Our children need an extensive education in history. If we fail to provide this to them then there would be a chance of failure by history repeating itself. I think it is bad enough that they don't teach cursive in grade school anymore leaving the chance of our younger generations failing to be able to read important documents from our founding fathers.	A/C	See Response 1  Cursive writing is required in grades two through four.
2020-01-12 20:05:17	Cortney Brock Hedgesville WV	It is a poor decision to condense courses that are so fundamental in understanding society and the American culture. History and social studies courses are just as important as a math or English course.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-12 20:19:11	Meaghan Mt. Hope Wv	I was not informed as to what place I should leave a comment, but my concern is for the matter that has been brought to my attention that has been stated that our state is has been contemplating the removal of some very important history classes! My concern is that if these students are not given proper education on the history of our state our nation and of our world then they will not be properly prepared not will they be proper citizens. These classes are extremely important to the youth of our country we have to many intelligent teachers and students in this state to allow such intelligence to go to waste. I will close by saying I hope that you will take interest into our youth and give them the best foot forward into the future by allowing them to have the best education possible because knowledge is power and you should want these young men and woman to succeed and to bring success to our state and country. Thank you!	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-12 21:21:01	Ashley Mills Public Concern Teacher Walton WV	I am very concerned with this policy. Forcing social studies teachers to limit their historical and social topics is not wise and would be mocking my History degree in addition to letting down our state's youth. Our state is filled with wonderful (and some not so wonderful, yet still important to our being, none-the-less) and rich history. Over and over again I hear West Virginians pride themselves in coming from a state with so much history, yet now we are attempting to lessen how much of it our future generation will need to learn? Making teachers choose to talk about the military aspect of World War II rather than the Holocaust or the other fronts is just taking away such a large part of world history that affected so many people. Forcing them to choose whether or not	A/C	See Response 3

		<p>they have time for important elements of history so that our youth will be able to understand and rationalize what happened in the past and how it fits into today's society is unsettling to say the least. Fitting all of the world and country and state history into one year is not enough. Our current period of time is society is already beginning to see fall out from years and years of tension. Many of these high school students may be faced with joining a war in the near future, and without understanding how and why things are happening in the present because of past affairs, they may not fully understand the need or cause of what is or will be happening. More and more citizens of West Virginia are losing hope in this state and it's educational system because of proposed policies such as this. My own family members are looking into home schooling my young relatives due to the lack of concern and care from the school systems. Having my own infant son, and being a substitute teacher in this state, I am very worried with where the future of the state's educational system will guide our young people, my child included. This is not the right decision and we (the concerned public) can only hope that you will see how horrible this proposal really is.</p>		
<p>2020-01-12 22:26:45</p>	<p>Ed George Middlebourne WV</p>	<p>More US history should be taught, not less. And instead of using standard textbooks having bias, original documents should be studied, learned, and debated. Writings such as the Constitution, Federalist Papers; authors such as John Locke are all that is needed for a basis of curriculum for many years and semesters of study.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 3 Instructional materials are a local level decision.</p>
<p>2020-01-13 08:25:05</p>	<p>Cynthia Cox Grandmorher Bluewell WV</p>	<p>I agree 100%. Those who try to forget history or fail to teach it are destined to repeat it. It is a sad day when the value of education has been reduced to "outside stake holders." Just because history makes many uncomfortable with WW2 and Vietnam or the Holocaust does not make it irrelevant facts. Many hate slavery existed and can complain freely now because it did happen and even that freedom which they complain about was made possible because history when taught teaches the mistakes to learn from and why it is important to never repeat it again. I never appreciated the value of history, social studies, and even WV history in school when learning it.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

I was a student who learned whatever was needed in that moment to pass a test.

It wasn't until I became an adult and a parent and now a grandparent that I learned and appreciate the values I gained from the facts of these classes.

It wasn't until I met many who served from WW2 and Vietnam Veterans and Desert Storm Veterans that I appreciated and respected all the Veterans saw, experienced and endured that I began to value history.

As it wasn't just a book anymore!

It was real lives affected.

It wasn't until I voted for the first time and even now and every political letter I have written or political contact I have made and even fighting to advocate for children's programs that I have learned to appreciate the efforts of history that taught and motivated me to whatever challenges I face today to overcome them.

It was those building blocks of diverse education of history classes that apply to real life that gave me the courage to rise above.

And not to accept whatever economical detriments occur because of politics that I cannot change. But to accept them and create new strategies that work for me and my family that goes against the grain to keep us sustainable against all odds.

History teaches us these things when taking all their faults to change them and not repeat them.

Even the bible is full of history and teaches the values of learning from the past.

The Old Testament is as valuable as the New Testament.

Because without the Old Testament we would never know why everything is the way it is.

How and why Jesus makes us grace possible and why we need him!

Why sin is so wrong to do.

Why sin is merely a choice. Because the more we learn of the bible the more disciplined we should become in our souls to do the right thing the first time because we learned and know better.

History in education teaches this also.

And though, many students may not appreciate nor respect the classes while in school.

You better believe even the knowledge they gain that they learned for a test will stick with them when they become an adult when it is

applied to real life.

I never respected WV history as student. Until I became a working adult. When I paid taxes. When I traveled all over this state for USPS and for the 2000 and 2010 Census and learned the back hills and hollers and citizens for myself.

I learned about economy and employer slavery from the very coal industries that built McDowell County up and how politics and lack of investments also became its demise.

I learned from many in the county who lived in coal sponsored homes and properties how little say they had when forced to move off the "free land or free homes" they had.

And how at one time, mineral rights - including coal - must compensate the landowner to sale their property back to the coal company because these were the many communities I grew up in of peoples lives that the coal history directly impacted.

Which also was an awakening as a working adult to analyze and draw my own economical strategies to help my family thrive and survive against political detriments.

History and economy go hand in hand.

And when we neglect to teach one we will falter the other and that demise will be none as we have ever seen.

People haven known poverty as they will when they don have the facts of history and when they don have the experiences of others to draw their own conclusions too that gives them hope to improve their lives. Companies would not succeed and thrive without their own historical financial and transaction documentation that teaches and define their successes, failures and when their break even point is.

History is relevant in everything!

Because history also teaches survival and when we deprive others from gaining the education to equip their life to survive than we cripple them and set them up for government dependency and failures before they even have a chance to thrive!

Thats the value of history and thats why it should not be eliminated nor decreased.

And given the political climate and uncertainty of economical sustainability after Trump leaves office - people need to cling to history more now than ever in this frigid and divided political atmosphere we live in of WV and the USA.

		<p>Because once Democrats take hold again - disassembling everything positive that Trump has tried to do will happen and when that occurs - many will be clueless.</p> <p>Even if this incompetent generation of entitlement, revenge, lazy, selfish and narcissistic people won accept reality of the deceit going on in politics they will get the lesson and test when it is too late because the very essentials of historical knowledge that could have potentially saved them will be the very deprivations that led to their demise of government control.</p> <p>I know from experience how the intellect mind works.</p> <p>I have been blessed and cursed to be employed by them and for them. And nothing intimidates a deceitful person that uses intellect to manipulate and control people with fear that someone not afraid to debate them or inquiry them.</p> <p>I have always been fearless and shameless in these regards. Because a piece of paper from college that "accreditates" someone is never as valuable to have as the experience of someone whose has lived the education in which others falter because they cannot teach what they never been thru nor done their self.</p>		
2020-01-13 08:36:27	Rebecca Bledsoe 1950 Huntington WV	<p>If history is not taught then it may be repeated and there are a lot of lessons that should have been learned from the past and never repeated. This may happen if students are not taught enough about history. I do not think studies should be reduced to just one. Please don do this, it may just harm the future of our children.</p>	A/C	<p><b>Response 8:</b> The proposed policy still required three, and optionally four, social studies credits.</p> <p>See Response 1</p>
2020-01-13 08:59:24	Michelle Romanek Wheeling WV	<p>If our children are not required to learn about past civilizations, and the mistakes and success of them, they may not predict the consequences of current policies and social norms. History lessons are already condensed to names and dates, without much examination of cause and effect. Please require MORE history rather than less.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-13	Devon Kalo Wheeling Wv	<p>The proposed amendment to consolidate history education into on course is a gross lack of understanding of our education system. Social studies classes teach students to think critically on humanity's past to see</p>	A/C	<p>See Response 8</p> <p>See Response 1</p>

09:10:43		<p>where mistakes were made and how we can improve life in the future. Consolidating history into one course will truncate the time teachers can spend on any one topic, harming our students' ability to learn and understand their past. This will NOT make them better citizens capable of working in our country because they will not be able to make decisions and Learn from the past.</p>		
2020-01-13 09:46:55	<p>Randy Auvil Principal School Alderson WV</p>	<p>Social Studies is very important to students. It is a gauge to tell us where we are and have been. We can learn from history not to repeat but modify our thinking.</p>	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-13 10:21:24	<p>Adam Cook Teacher MHS High Martinsburg WV</p>	<p>I am in favor of this;</p> <p>A part of the revisions which may be of particular interest to science educators is the Flex Credit on page 12 of the document. It is included in the listing of the 22 graduation requirements for high school. See details below.</p> <p>22 total credits required- 10 prescribes- 12 personalized</p> <p>Subject</p> <p>Graduation Requirement</p> <p>Personalized Course Options</p> <p>Flex Credit</p> <p>1 Personalized Credit</p> <p>A CTE Foundational Course (encouraged at grades 9 &amp; 10)</p> <p>A Computer Science Course</p> <p>A fourth Social Studies Course</p> <p>A fourth Science Course</p> <p>Additional Course Options</p>	N	See Response 1

		<p>AP Course</p> <p>Other CTE courses based on student need and interest</p> <p>See Computer Science Options</p> <p>See Science Course Options</p> <p>See Social Studies Course Options</p> <p>See Career &amp; Technical Education</p> <p>At this time, 3 science courses are required for graduation and 4 are required for social studies. If the Flex Credit is approved, students may still choose to take 4 social studies courses for graduation, OR they may choose to take only 3 social studies course and take a science, computer science, or a CTE course. This will make it easier for students to fit an additional STEM course into their schedules.</p>		
<p>2020-01-13 11:18:54</p>	<p>AL DANAS Retiree Former PA school board Pres. HUNTINGTON WV</p>	<p>All schools need to teach more real life experience material. Things people need as they become adults. Teach more CIVICS, teach how to apply for a job and how to do your own tax return. Bring back more home economics and shop courses. These are things people need to live on their own. Teach them how to cook so they don't try to live on fast food.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>Policy 2520.4 the <i>West Virginia College and Career Readiness Standards for Social Studies</i> has civics embedded into all K-12 social studies courses. Additionally, West Virginia state code and Policy 2510 require civics for graduation; due to overwhelming comments, social studies will remain at four required credits.</p>



2020-01-13 18:00:01	Kenneth E Jones Jr Taxpayer Berkeley Springs WV	WV is pushing to condense the teaching of high school history to one course.	N	The proposed policy does not reduce the number of required credits for graduation.
2020-01-14 08:07:51	Kim Lovinski South Charleston WV	Eliminating history credits is wrong. Our current political situation is evidence that MORE education in this area is needed.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 09:17:57	Randall Auvil Sub School Lewisburg WV	It is essential to maintain 4 years of Social Studies.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 09:57:04	Stacy Dietz Principal Bethlehem Elementary School Wheeling WV	I am very concerned that attendance is not being encouraged from an early stage; resulting in poor habits being formed. Although preschool is not mandated, the school and county attendance report includes all students in the school system, including preschoolers. This seems to be counterproductive and often leads to misrepresentation when associating a balanced score to a school or county. My suggestion is either make preschool mandatory so that we can start encouraging the routine of regular attendance, or do not count the preschool if they are not mandated to attend. Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts.	N	Enrollment in WV Pre-K program is voluntary; however, once a child is enrolled, attendance must follow W. Va. Code §18-8-1 et seq., in accordance with West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) Policy 2525. Each county must establish and implement a provision for working with families whose children are chronically absent and/or tardy that does not penalize the family for acting in the best interest of the child, but provides supports for the

				development of positive attendance habits. Each county must have procedures in place to ensure regular attendance and follow-up with families when children are frequently absent and/or tardy. Each county must have a pre-k disenrollment process in place. Pre-k attendance is not considered as part of the Balanced Scorecard.
2020-01-14 11:36:17	Carol Williams Ms. Shepherdstown wv	I object to the change proposed that would decrease the number of credits or courses for Social Studies and US history.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 11:49:59	Helen Gibbins Huntington WV	Policy # 2510 -- Reduction of social studies requirements. I strongly oppose reducing the number of social studies classes required for WV's students to graduate. Many of our students will only learn about the issues provided in social studies classes in their schools. But our Republic depends on an educated electorate, especially pertaining to our localities, states, and nation as well as international information. Reducing the requirements will make WV less attractive to families who want their children to be well educated. Please reconsider the proposal to reduce social studies requirements. Cordially, Helen Gibbins	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 11:57:48	Zach Harman Student Concord University Bluefield WV	The measure to minimize the requirements for Social Studies education is shocking. It would certainly have a negative impact on the public education system.	A/C	See Response 1

2020-01-14 13:08:20	Carol Williams Ms. Shepherdstown wv	I oppose any decrease in the requirements for Social Studies. Im repeating this because Im not sure my previous comment was in the correct box. Thanks!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 15:29:34	Renee Mahon School Counselor Taylor County Middle School Grafton WV	My purpose is to comment on Policy 2510.	N	Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.
2020-01-14 15:38:27	Gloria Martin retired - advocate for DV victims Lewisburg WV	Whatever has possessed you to shorten History/Social Studies for WV kids!! If there has ever been a time in the history of this country when we need to be educating citizens - kids included - about the history of our country and the responsibilities of citizens, it is now. You should be INCREASING the number of hours of these curricula. How can you tell where you are going if you don't know where you have been!! Democracy functions best with informed citizens. Please reconsider your proposal.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-15 10:46:17	Mary Ann Foster Principal Raleigh County-SSHS Shady Spring WV	The Raleigh County Board of Education requires 24 credits to graduate. As a county staff, we appreciate the level of flexibility in the draft Policy 2510 revision for many reasons: o Since West Virginia's College Going Rate for 2017-2018 school year was 52.6%, which leaves 47.4% of students who are not going to college, we believe the local school districts need the flexibility to address post-secondary plans of all students, not just the college going students. o The new Flex Credit will help our county accommodate the educational needs of all our students. o The transition of one social studies credit to the required flex credit course option allows flexibility to all students based on their interests and postsecondary plans, while still keeping the state minimum graduation requirements at 22 credits and Raleigh County's minimum graduation requirements of 24 credits. In our county, the Flex Credit will provide the student with the following choices: o A 4th social studies credit if his/her postsecondary plans include a social studies concentration, or o A 4th science credit if he/she is STEM minded, or	N	See Response 1

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o A computer science course if he/she is interested in a computer science career, or</li> <li>o A CTE foundational course based on his/her future plans.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The Flex Credit options both strengthens and personalizes the graduation requirements for each individual student.</li> <li>· The one size fits all approach to learning and coursework no longer meets the needs of our digital and technologically oriented students and classrooms. As educational leaders, we need to support these efforts to individualize coursework to student interest, aptitude, and postsecondary plans.</li> </ul>		
2020-01-15 12:11:01	Erin Hudnall Researcher West Virginia University Morgantown WV	I wish to point out the grave mistake the legislature is making by reducing social studies requirements for public education. As a sociologist and educator, these classes are crucial to fostering democratic values, personal autonomy, and general understandings of the political process and the important historical events that have shaped them. There is nothing more unAmerican than denying our students access to our history and empowering them with the knowledge to understand and partake in the political process. Please consider revising this policy to keep our social studies education strong. Thank you.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-15 12:13:05	Paige Gossett Mrs. Gay WV	I support the initiative to encourage all counties to provide a pathway for reentry into high school.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-15 15:55:40	Janice Faust Member We The People of Hampshire Co. Romney WV	Please do not omit a Social Studies Course from the Senior Studies	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-15 19:20:40	Katherine Michalsky Princeton WV	<p>I homeschooled my son from 9th grade, 2nd semester until graduation. I withdrew him from Raleigh County and was harassed because of my decision. I was told that if he ever wanted to enroll in public school, he would be exactly where he left, regardless of age or circumstances. The board was very nasty to us.</p> <p>We moved to Mercer County and it was a complete change. They were supportive. We were told that if he wanted to enroll in public school, he</p>	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools

		could do testing. He would not be penalized for being homeschooled. Ashley Vaughn from the Mercer County Board of Education is amazing! She is for the best interest of the student! This is exactly how it should be. Only in the best interest of the children!		
2020-01-15 19:40:50	Tim Hontz Beckley WV	I support providing a pathway for homeschool to public education re-entry in grades 9-12.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-16 10:41:05	Carol Williams Director of Special Services Lewis County Schools Weston West	With the mandate and funding provided for cameras to be installed in self-contained classrooms (HB 632), it would be helpful to have the term "self-contained" defined. If the purpose of the cameras is to protect non-verbal" students and the staff who serve them, would the therapy rooms (speech, OT, PT) also have to be under surveillance to protect these same children?	A/C	Definition added to glossary.
2020-01-16 11:11:18	Max Flomen Dr. West Virginia University Morgantown WV	Reducing social studies classes from two to one courses will seriously impact our young people and, over the long haul, undermine the civic culture of our state. An informed, historically-minded citizenry is critical to sustaining the democratic culture of the republic. Without history, do we really have a future?	A/C	See Response 8  See Response 1
2020-01-16 14:19:11	keith miller teacher hardy county schools baker ww	This policy lessens, rather than strengthens, rigor in our public schools. As a result, our students will be graduated further behind students in other states. To enact this policy as written will only weaken our education system, and make it more difficult for students to compete in fields that our state desperately needs.	N	Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.
2020-01-16 20:17:37	Richard Cobb Mr. cyclone West	This comment page is comical maybe you should check out some other comment pages I don think there should be a limit on histroy in High School young people who can tell you who or what was a minute man is should be taught American Histroy and aren NOW!!!	N	Policy 2510 sets the minimum requirement for graduation. The number of social studies courses a student takes is a local level decision.
2020-01-17 05:58:47	Carolyn Henderson Director Last Days Home School	When students complete an accredited course through a homeschool program ... credit should be given by the school they are returning to. So for example a student trying to enroll in 11 th grade after homeschooling 9 th and 10 th... should be given credit for courses taken... if testing	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools

	<p>Group Fairmont WV</p>	<p>reveals an average or above level of knowledge in the particular area of study... this would be a perfectly logical solution to the transfer of credit problem .... with no additional testing or documentation required by the school board or the parent.</p>		
<p>2020-01-17 08:17:27</p>	<p>Jeremy Eloi History Teacher Weirton Madonna High School Weirton WV</p>	<p>This proposal as a whole is a misguided attempt at arbitrarily changing the educational standards for the state. Especially when it comes to history. History is something that should be learned in all its forms and shapes. As I tell my students "If you do not learn from history, you are doomed to repeat it." By taking history out of school, even a little bit they will not be able to know the trials that we as a people have gone through and will make those same mistakes as our ancestors have. Also in everyday life we talk about how students do not know history, or do not know how government works, and that students need to know all this for when they go out into the real world. What this proposal does it makes it harder for them to do it. You want them to know all this but you are making it harder for us as teachers to do it.</p> <p>STEM is a good thing, however for far too long, history has been the forgotten son that is left in the corner to starve. But here is the fact as you in the State Board of Education and in the National Government must understand. When looking at scores of not just WV, but also countries in the real world, we are not as behind as you might think we are. When you look at other countries, you must realize that the students that are taking the tests are the best and brightest as those are the only kids in some countries that are taking the test. The other students never get to that part as they are put in other vocational tracks well before. An example of this is Japan and Korea. With this system there is also a higher suicide rate among High School age students. In the United States, and West Virginia, it is everybody that takes the test. From the brightest students to those in the special educational track and while hopefully everybody does their best, there are more students and more variety of students that take the test versus other countries.</p> <p>If you wish to make change to benefit students you should focus on attendance rates, more options for classes with different tracks, and more respect for High School teachers as grade schools get too much smothering while High School have to fend for themselves. I also support charter schools as it will create competition and force schools</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

		<p>and teachers to do better. Yet none of this can happen if you change history as it is the most important subject.</p> <p>Thank You for your time.</p>		
<p>2020-01-17 09:22:11</p>	<p>Tim Triveri History Teacher Wheeling Park High School Wheeling WV</p>	<p>I am writing to express my opposition to this policys reduction of the number of history credits to graduate from high school in West Virginia. History courses have been continuously de-emphasized in the state, as well as the nation as a whole, in order to place more emphasis on subjects that are tested on standardized tests. While standardized testing can help college-bound students be more competitive outside of the state (and provide data to demonstrate "improvement"), removing World History as a required course only serves to make our students less competitive in an increasingly global world. World Historys crucial goal is to open students minds to other peoples and cultures that are not their own. In a state that is racially homogeneous like West Virginia, it may be the only class where students are exposed to different cultures. For our minority students, it is the only class where their ancestors will be taught. History is often told from the European perspective. By cutting World History, the state Board of Education will be depriving students of the opportunity to appreciate multiple perspectives of history. The world will become increasingly confusing to our students in West Virginia. If they ever leave the state at any point, turn on the news, watch a television show, etc, they will be viewing a world in which they have no understanding of and no connection to. The way to increase student involvement in school is to connect with students on a personal level about who they are, where they come from, and why our lives are how they are. My World History students have expressed this to me numerous times. They may complain about doing work and thinking, but they always come back the next year expressing how much they appreciated World History. I will close with two quotes that I believe illustrate my points best.</p> <p>"To study foreign affairs without putting ourselves into others shoes is to deal in illusion and to prepare students for a lifelong misunderstanding of our place in the world." - Paul Gagnon, historian, 1988</p> <p>"As long as you are convinced you have never done anything, you can never do anything." - Malcolm X, civil rights activist, 1965</p>	A/C	See Response 1

		Sincerely, Tim Triveri, teacher		
2020-01-17 11:38:09	Ruth Gines	The flex credit is a good idea.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-17 12:14:22	Michael Ross Winfield WV	Im opposed to the scaling back of Social Studies Studies competency for students. Students in WV do not have a comprehension of civics, historical events that have affected our society, and a clear understanding of our State and Federal Government branches and authority. Im opposed to scaling back credits required. Im unsure if this is the area to make my overall comment, but hope its seen!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-17 12:17:03	Pamela Stover Classroom Teacher Kanawha County Board of Education St. Albans WV	I believe that individual teacher plans should be made and utilized ONLY for the purpose of informing the substitute of the daily or weekly curriculum for that particular classroom. The plans should Not have to contain across grade-level standards, specific standard learning targets, nor processes to support thoughtful instruction. Teachers should have the openness to write their lesson plans for any substitute to utilize. More time is needed to prepare/teach classes, and not so much time in lesson plan making for a substitute to follow.	A/C	Response 9: Due to overwhelming response and its existence in state code, the definition of lesson plan was removed.
2020-01-17 12:17:25	Jennifer Butler New Martinsville WV	History CAN NOT be erased!!!!!! It will always be there. Not teaching it is depriving children of American heritage. They need to be taught all parts of history so they can understand why some things happened.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-18 08:02:06	Jack Lambert Jr. Owner Jacks Gun Sales Saulsville Wv	Hystory needs taught more in schools not less! 4 not 3 credits!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-18 08:12:03	Jerry Jarman	The flex credit is good , it will give our students choices.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-18	T Smith Teacher	The requirements for lesson plans are in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9

18:21:24	WVEA WV			
2020-01-18 18:39:06	Crystal Adkins Sped Teacher AFT Rivesville Wv	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else”.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 23:27:31	Stacy Snyder Charleston WV	I support the initiative to encourage all counties to provide a pathway for reentry into high school.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-19 12:19:18	Thomas Stark Weston West	Overall, this is a good start, but there are a significant number of policy points included herein that still require districts to adhere to specific legal and policy requirements set at the state level. One size does not fit all. This policy generally does not go nearly far enough in relinquishing the vise-like control from the state level. Local control does not mean having breadcrumbs tossed to pacify the people. It means the local people and their elected officials CONTROL the local communitys schools and the education their children receive within the general standards mandated to be under state control by the constitution of WV. Does not go nearly far enough.	A/S	See Response 5
2020-01-19 15:19:43	Chastity Miller CHARLESTON WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-20 16:58:59	Aileen Curfman self Shepherdstown WV	Policy 2510 would reduce the time spent on our history by half. Students are already rushed through American history, with little time to learn about long past events and how they affect current events. These students will be the citizens who must make wise choices at the polls and in their personal lives. As Americans struggle with changes in our population, our economy, and our situation among other nations, we need more time learning about our history, not less.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-21 11:16:42	Rondia J Smith Teacher Kanawha County Teacher Cross Lanes West	Please remove the lesson plans definition out of the glossary . Thank you.	A/C	See Response 9

<p>2020-01-21 12:27:12</p>	<p>Kim Hundley Teacher Charleston WV</p>	<p>Policy 2510 concerns me as both a teacher and a parent of a high school student in Kanawha County.</p> <p>My daughter plans to go out of state for college, she needs history classes that cover our global society in order to be prepared for college, work, and life outside of West Virginia so that she may be successful. World History and Geography are essential courses for our students.</p> <p>As an English teacher I think it is important to point out that my classes correspond with and compliment the history classes. The alignment between these two core courses exists for a reason. This holistic approach gives students a better understanding of both key subjects, the information taught in both, and life skills.</p> <p>At this time in history we probably need more history content being taught, not less. Civics need to be pushed so that our students can become true citizens of our country.</p> <p>I honestly believe that lowering the history requirements will only hurt our students and be a disservice to the state of West Virginia.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2020-01-21 12:35:13</p>	<p>Samantha Elswick GE Classroom Teacher Charleston West</p>	<p>Please take into consideration remove the definition of lesson plans from Policy 2510.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 9</p>
<p>2020-01-22 11:36:49</p>	<p>William Deegans Lewisburg WV</p>	<p>I am opposed to the reduction of the required number of hours of social studies. Considering the dismal social studies test scores West Virginia students have received, the logic of requiring them to study less flies by me.</p> <p>I recently enjoyed an exhibit of American women artists at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. As we approached the exhibit. a question was posted on the wall: Can you name 5 American women artists?</p> <p>Can you?</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2020-01-22</p>	<p>Rachael Copley Teacher</p>	<p>Please remove the definition, from the glossary, of lesson plans with the added items.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 9</p>

12:28:06	Kanawha County Schools Cross Lanes WV			
2020-01-22 12:48:33	Cat Pleska Teacher Scott Depot wv	The idea of reducing important subjects such as history is patently bad and damaging policy. If you don't know how an expanded education is important, please listen to those of us in the field of teaching and raising children and we'll tell you that the plan for reduction of basic knowledge is folly. Unfair. Abusive. Yes. I said abusive. Curriculum must be expanded, not reduced.	A/C	See Response 1  Policy 2510 does not address curriculum.  Curriculum decisions are made at the local level.
2020-01-22 19:42:00	Tina Foster SpEd Teacher GCS Glennville West	Reducing the SS requirements from 4 to 3 does impact SS Teachers. However, school systems could offer the 4th year and offer non-traditional classes like political science, psychology courses, or even sociology.	A/S	
2020-01-23 02:09:49	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	Response 10: Prescribed English credits will be set at three, along with one personalized credit. The standards for the new fourth course options have been written in alignment and to the rigor of the English 12 standards.
2020-01-23 02:12:03	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-23 11:25:04	Kim Conway teacher Wayne Schools Huntington WV	More regulations that teachers need to adhere to are not helping to catch students up who have missed out on foundational education.	N	Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.
2020-01-23	Lesli Walsh Lewisburg West	There is no reason to change lesson plan requirements. How teachers are doing them serve the purpose of educating children and teachers do not	A/C	See Response 9.

12:07:29		need anything else required by them !! They have enough responsibilities currently !!		
2020-01-23 12:44:00	Howard OCull Executive Director West Virginia School Board Association Charleston WV	2.1 - minor. Instead of counties, consider "county boards." Counties, in this context, is an irregular term. Same suggestion throughout. CBEM in certain contexts (6.4.a) may be better termed, "county board" without reference to county board of education members - the county board as a whole (corporate) provides decision-making not county board of education members. Admittedly, these are style considerations.	N	New language was created to identify staff or county boards of education members.
2020-01-23 16:06:03	Dale Lee WVEA President WVEA Charleston WV	The definition of Lesson Plans does not need to be included in the Glossary of Terms in this policy. It is clearly defined in statute and what is included in the policy is not compatible with what is in code.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-24 08:02:48	Patricia Kidd Teacher Lincoln County School District Hamlin WV	Teachers already spend a great deal of time on Lesson Plans. Please do not make our job harder by making the lesson plans more arduous. This takes away from the prep time for activities and hands on lessons.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-24 10:02:36	Fred Taylor Retired Teacher WVEA Retired Teachers Spencer WV	State Education need to keep 4 years of social studies for graduation.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-24 10:58:55	Suzanne McDonald Mrs Parent Morgantown WV	Policy 2510 I support FLEX	N	See Response 1
2020-01-24 12:08:31	David Gladkosky Executive Director WV Professional Educators South Charleston WV	Teachers will appreciate the much needed flexibility given to them through this revised policy. Our members are in agreement that the high school Social Studies credits should remain the same. Thanks to the Dept. of Education, Supt. Paine, and the State Board of Education for all the great work!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-24 13:13:47	Crystal Adkins Teacher AFT Rivesville WV	Please leave ELA the way it currently. Changing it will cause to many issues because the colleges do not offer the certification to have a reading class and an English Class.  Pleas leave the lesson plan alone. Code 18 A and a policy should not be changed that goes against the code.	A/C	See Response 10 See Response 9

**§126-42-2 Purpose**

<p>2019-12-16 19:16:06</p>	<p>WV Parent</p>	<p>Reducing the credits allows the student to take a computer class, a STEM class, a class in the arts that is of interest, a special elective SS focused class. These classes can make a difference for the student. The job of WV public ed is to get students prepared for college and/or a career. Allowing students additional flexibility can contribute to this goal. As long as the student chooses a rigorous substitute, the senior aged student should be allowed some choice in their final courses!</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2019-12-21 13:19:10</p>	<p>Glen Hartsoch, Ed.D. Teacher Mingo Country Schools Williamson WV</p>	<p>I understand there is an attempt to lower the bar in Social Studies education once again. My understanding is that this is based on a false belief that content material repeats in the 10th to 12 grade social studies courses in West Virginia. The material does spiral. Much material is introduced in the lower grades and receives more in-depth attention in the upper grades. It is vital to our democracy and republic that students receive a very good understanding of the Constitution and its development, as well as our struggle for equality in this nation. This is not a partisan issue. I tend to vote Republican for the record. We need a citizenry well-informed of the nuances of our democracy for us to maintain the republic we all love. We have seen the problems caused in other states that have lowered this bar. Current standards cover these topics well. Please do not change them but continue to give us the resources we need to teach this content in an unbiased and in-depth manner.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2019-12-31 11:37:39</p>	<p>David Price Superintendent Raleigh County Schools Beckley West</p>	<p>My comments are in support of the changes to policy 2510. We believe these changes offer school districts the flexibility to address the post-secondary plans fo all students, not just college going students.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2020-01-03 12:47:27</p>	<p>Andrew Carroll English Teacher Elkins High School Elkins WV</p>	<p>What about counties that cannot provide necessary resources such as technology?  Randolph County has aging computers and other technology and no means to replace or update those items since we are at the mercy of voters in terms of the excess levy funds and at the mercy of Congress in respect of payments in lieu of taxes for lands owned by the USDA Forest Service.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.</p>

2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	I think it is very strange to claim that the purpose of this is to improve education and the "quality of learning", yet the proposal for improvement is to provide less education by reducing required credits.	A/C	The proposed policy does not reduce the number of required credits for graduation.
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-06 08:36:38	susan teacher huntington wv	quality education for all	N	Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.
2020-01-08 15:00:51	Barbara Burda teacher Randolph Co. Schools Elkins WV	To explain why policy 2510 is flawed.	N	Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.

2020-01-09 13:01:30	Kathy Jacquez C & I Coordinator Marion County Schools Fairmont West	2.4 Appropriate accountability measures... Who determines what is an appropriate accountability measure for the students and the teachers? Will this be a state mandate or a local decision?	N	Accountability measures are addressed in WVBE Policy 2322.
2020-01-13 09:06:04	Darrin Cox Dr. West Liberty University West Liberty WV	The further gutting of history education needs to be stopped at all costs. Such actions endanger our republic and seriously impairs the chances of our youth successfully becoming productive citizens.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-13 18:00:01	Kenneth E Jones Jr Taxpayer Berkeley Springs WV	Understanding history, makes us understand what is going on not only in the United States, but also in other countries. In second generations of my family serving in overseas wars, called upon by the federal government to serve. The students in high school today need to understand the sacrifices made for their freedom and liberties that they enjoy today and not take them for granted.	N	See Response 5
2020-01-14 10:10:22	William Hosaflook Superintendent Wood County Schools Wood WV	Flexibility is the key. The revisions of this policy will allow County BOEs to "think outside the box" while developing personalized and rigorous curriculums based on state and community needs. Counties will have the flexibility to seek input from businesses, stakeholders, and institutions of higher education to properly plan/develop education for the future.	N A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-14 15:29:34	Renee Mahon School Counselor Taylor County Middle School Grafton WV	A policy that reduces the amount of social studies credits is wrong. Students need to learn history, government and economics. These are crucial for people to make informed decisions. This could also cause teachers to lose their job. The definition for lesson plans should not be there either. It is unnecessary to have it there since it is clearly stated already in the statute.	A/C	See Response 1 See Response 9
2020-01-15 15:55:40	Janice Faust Member We The People of Hampshire Co. Romney WV	Our students are not being taught the real history of our Country.	N	See Response 5
2020-01-18 08:02:06	Jack Lambert Jr. Owner Jacks Gun Sales Saulsville Wv	If history isn't taught peoples will make the same mistakes as history repeats itself because people don't know the past.	N	See Response 5

2020-01-19 12:19:18	Thomas Stark Weston West	If, as the policy states, the local board, the county (assumed to mean the citizens thereof, but not clearly stated), control the curriculum used within their schools, why are local board members subjected to an "orientation" program conducted by the state boards attorneys that clearly and specifically instructs new board members that they should keep "hands off" of classroom and instructional policies and leave those matters to the "experts (apparently referring to superintendents, teachers, and principals)." This should be immediately corrected because failure to do so sends a clear message that the local boards have no practical control over what is being taught in the classrooms of our schools. That, in a word, is "OUTRAGEOUS."	N	See Response 4
2020-01-22 16:02:04	James Towle Teacher George Washington High School Charleston WV	In going with the statement in the proposal that the WVBE is "committed to establishing rigorous academic standards and providing high quality programs in WV Public Schools". I would state that if the WVBE is determined to diminish the standard Social Studies requirement from 4 credits to 3 credits, then they are therefore NOT committed aforementioned statement, and are committed to cutting corners that would hinder the intellectual development and analytical understanding of our youths.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-22 19:42:00	Tina Foster SpEd Teacher GCS Glenville West	The additional options of courses offered acclimate the college bound student to the types of courses offered in universities across the state. Thus, preparing them for a more realistic and challenging approach for what they will experience in college.	A/S	
2020-01-23 02:12:03	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-23 11:25:04	Kim Conway teacher Wayne Schools Huntington WV	Rigorous content is a wonderful idea and all students should strive for deep learning. Sadly, in WV, there is a trauma crisis fueled by the opioid crisis and many students are not even learning at the bare minimum foundation levels before moving on the next grade.	N	See Response 5
2020-01-24 10:58:55	Suzanne McDonald Mrs Parent Morgantown WV	I support FLEX scheduling for science	N	See Response 1
<b>§126-42-3 Scope</b>				

2019-12-31 11:37:39	David Price Superintendent Raleigh County Schools Beckley West	The transition of 1 social studies credit course option allows flexibility to all students based on their interest and post-secondary plans while still keeping the state minimum graduation requirements at 22. Raleigh County's minimum graduation requirement exceeds the state's minimum. (24 required in Raleigh County)	N	See Response 1
2020-01-03 12:47:27	Andrew Carroll English Teacher Elkins High School Elkins WV	What change does this policy truly make in terms of creating equal educational opportunities for all students? Does this help us create a more "thorough and efficient education system" or just exacerbate the educational inequalities that already exist in our system?	N	See Response 5
2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	I think the initiative to embed more CTE is a great thing. However, I don't want to take away from somewhere else to provide these opportunities.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	Once again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teach reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we are striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can	A/C	See Response 3

		guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!		
2020-01-07 08:30:27	Michael Tortolon HS History Teacher Parkersburg High School Parkersburg WV	I oppose the changes proposed in this draft. Should students be able to personalize their schedule and focus on a career as soon as possible? Yes. Should this come at the cost of losing core subjects? Absolutely not. At most core subjects take up half of the day for students, cutting down on core classes will only make our students less intelligent and less prepared for life after high school.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-09 13:01:30	Kathy Jacquez C & I Coordinator Marion County Schools Fairmont West	3.2.d an appropriately demanding curriculum for all students... Although I am in total agreement with this idea because our students deserve this type of curriculum, how will this be monitored?	N	Policy 2510 does not address curriculum. Curriculum decisions are made at the local level.
2020-01-10 10:51:53	Tonia Carpenter Jackson County Schools Ripley WV	I have had the privileged to coach soccer in the school system for eight years. This occurred at both the middle and high school level. There were often times when we had students with injuries. These athletes either went without the care of an Athletic Trainer Certified (ATC) or had to make arrangements with the high school ATC to see them. This is a loss of valuable time to the athlete and the team. This can also be crucial time if an athlete has a severe injury. This would also allow immediate evaluation to concussions. I can see the benefit of having an ATC and all sporting events and practices, however, counties should be required to compensate them for the additional time.	N	See Response 4
2020-01-13 09:06:04	Darrin Cox Dr. West Liberty University West Liberty WV	This would not improve quality of learning. How can you add by subtracting?	N	See Response 5
2020-01-13 18:00:01	Kenneth E Jones Jr Taxpayer Berkeley Springs WV	History should teach us where we are and how we got here.	A/S	See Response 5
2020-01-14 15:29:34	Renee Mahon School Counselor Taylor County Middle School Grafton WV	Teachers could lose their job if the class they teach is cut or reduced. The lesson plan definition needs to be removed because it is unnecessary for it to be there.	N A/C	See Response 9

2020-01-15 15:55:40	Janice Faust Member We The People of Hampshire Co. Romney WV	Lets get our children informed about real history and lets try and get West Virginia schools out of the last spot among our Nation.	A/S	Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.
2020-01-18 08:02:06	Jack Lambert Jr. Owner Jacks Gun Sales Saulsville Wv	More is better.	A/S	
2020-01-19 12:19:18	Thomas Stark Weston West	To date, accountability appears to be clearly lacking given the fact that some districts have a performance level below 50% proficiency in basic skill categories. Perhaps, what is needed is some field auditing of performance to identify weaknesses such as "social promotion," instructional bias, and poor teaching techniques.	N	See Response 4  See Response 5
2020-01-21 23:54:28	Emily Okes Teacher Jackson County Schools Evans WV	WV is already ranked as a low state for education in the United States. Reducing key core class requirements further weakens the standards we hold our students to.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-23 02:12:03	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-23 11:25:04	Kim Conway teacher Wayne Schools Huntington WV	We should improve the quality of teaching and learning, but by giving teachers MORE time to meet the social emotional needs of the students they serve instead of mandating more paperwork.	N	See Response 5
<b>§126-42-4 Early Learning Programming</b>				
2020-01-03 12:47:27	Andrew Carroll English Teacher Elkins High School Elkins WV	Are 30 minutes of physical activity truly enough for students? I am also concerned that not enough outdoor time is required. Our students spend less and less time outside and are truly disconnected from the natural beauty that is West Virginia. I believe the policy should promote all-weather outdoor play unless it is truly dangerous. Students should play outside in the rain, snow, and cold.	N	Physical activity requirements are in addition to the required time for physical education and embedded within

				the school day as determined by the principal and a group of teachers. The setting chosen for physical activity is a local level decision.
2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	No comment here.	N	
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!	A/C	See Response 3

<p>2020-01-06 08:36:38</p>	<p>susan teacher huntington wv</p>	<p>Testing in preschool for dyslexia , Adhd, and special ed. Early intervention is the key. special ed programs need to focus on reading as a core skill. Dyslexia program Middle school has co taught classrooms. we need aides in the first and second grade classrooms. We are dealing with major behavior issues and its costing kids not to learn. Then we have kids who are struggling.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>See Response 4</p>
<p>2020-01-09 13:01:30</p>	<p>Kathy Jacquez C &amp; I Coordinator Marion County Schools Fairmont West</p>	<p>There is no mention of the Health standards included in the chart 1. Are we to interpret that only physical standards for wellness are required in grades k-5?</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>Health and physical education standards are both addressed in K-5 Wellness Education standards (Policy 2520.5).</p>
<p>2020-01-09 13:05:13</p>	<p>Carla Brown Director Roane County Schools Spencer wv</p>	<p>There needs to be consistency in the ELRS reporting from PK to 2nd grade. Going from three times to once and then up to four, is not establishing effective use of ELRS data reporting.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>Reporting on the WV ELRS three times per year is required in WV Universal Pre-K to align with collaborative partner requirements. The option to utilize the Kindergarten ELRS, as well as Grades 1 and 2 ELRS, up to four times per year, is a county-level decision.</p>
<p>2020-01-19 12:01:38</p>	<p>Anna Marshall student Hgnt Wv</p>	<p>It took leaving the schools for me to discover that I had a learning disabilities. We need to test in preschool for dyslexia so these kids don fall behind in reading.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>WV Universal Pre-K utilizes The Early Learning Reporting System (ELRS) as the online platform where pre-k child assessment data is entered three times a year. It is developmentally</p>

			<p>inappropriate to test pre-k children; therefore, observational based formative assessment methods and screeners are utilized to determine children's strengths and potential weaknesses. In addition, the WVDE makes The Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) available, free of charge, to classrooms Pre-K through third grade in West Virginia. PALS is a screening, diagnostic, and progress monitoring tool that provides teacher resources and activities to strengthen instruction.</p>
<p>2020-01-19 12:19:18</p>	<p>Thomas Stark Weston West</p>	<p>Physical Education (Chart, pg.12) specifies that "alternative" curriculum must be approved by the WVDE. This conflicts with the claimed purpose to push decisions-making down to the district level and providing more flexibility.</p>	<p>N</p> <p>State code requires that the WVDE approve alternative physical education plans.</p>

2020-01-22 14:15:57	Kristabelle Collins Teacher Kenna WV	As a teacher, I disagree with this method. It is not beneficial for the students or parents. We currently do a standards based report card. This specifically tells parents the standards they have met and those they need to work on. The ELRS is very time consuming for documenting and is very subjective. I strongly recommend staying with our standards based curriculum and report cards.	N	The WV ELRS for grades one and two will be optional. Determination to use the system is made at the county level. Reports from the WV ELRS are not required to be utilized with families.
2020-01-22 14:19:59	Chad Collins Parent Kenna WV	Being a parent, I do not want a lengthy narrative report on my children. Keep the regular curriculum and report cards. This ELRS system does not effectively tell me how my child is doing academically. It doesn't tell the standards/skills they have mastered or need work on. It is a waste of time for the staff and parents will not read those long reports.	N	The WV ELRS for grades one and two will be optional. Determination to use the system is made at the county level. Reports from the WV ELRS are not required to be utilized with families.
2020-01-22 19:21:26	Tony the tiger Parent Kenova Wv	Students with add and learning disabilities need 1:1 academic time.	N	See Response 4
2020-01-23 07:33:36	Kim Herron 2nd grade teacher Kenna WV	I do not think the ELRS program is needed in 1st and 2nd grade. We are VERY pleased with our benchmarking tool due to the fact that it is so easy to read and explain to parents and students alike. Students can graph their results and tend to try harder to see their scores rise. This in itself is a valuable teaching tool. Please consider removing this change in policy 2510.	N	The WV ELRS for grades one and two will be optional. Determination to use the system is made at the county level. Reports from the WV ELRS are not required to be utilized with families.
2020-01-23	Kim Conway teacher	Early learning should be based in play-based learning not forcing children to do developmentally inappropriate academics. Kindergarten		Programming in the early and elementary learning grades is to

11:25:04	Wayne Schools Huntington WV	should NOT be the new first grade. Teaching children to dislike learning early will cost them dearly through their entire educational careers.		be provided in developmentally appropriate ways with the intent that all children become curious, lifelong learners. Local level decisions may impede the extent to which a program is developmentally appropriate.
2020-01-23 12:47:58	Karen Thomas Teacher Putnam County Schools Hurricane WV	I believe the definition of lesson planning in policy 2510 should be: Lesson Plan- serves as a daily guide for teachers and substitutes for the orderly presentation of the curriculum in accordance with WV Code 18A-2-12. Format and contents of the daily lesson plans are developed and written by the teacher.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-24 11:18:00	Elizabeth Strong Program Coordinator SMART-Center Wheeling WV	I fully support any and all efforts to prepare children for learning and for a productive life.	A/S	
2020-01-24 15:44:56	Richard Duncan Superintendent Roane County Board of Education Reedy WV	Recommended usage of the ELRS appears inconsistent. It is required three times per year in PK and at least once in K, but then recommended to be used up to four times per year in Grades 1 and 2. As an effective replacement for quarterly report cards in these grades, consideration should be given to making the required / recommended usage more consistent and supported for this purpose.	N	Reporting on the WV ELRS three times per year is required in WV Universal Pre-K to align with collaborative partner requirements. The option to utilize the Kindergarten ELRS, as well as Grades 1 and 2 ELRS, up to four times per year, is a county-level decision.

**§126-42-5 Middle School Programming**

2019-12-13 07:29:16	Michael Ludle Teacher Kanawha County Schools South Charleston WV	Expanding Career exploration in Middle is a great idea. However it needs to be woven into the current curriculum of core subjects and electives instead of being a separate course. Middle School students as a whole are not seriously thinking about career options so weaving it into the regular content will be much more effective in building the connections for students.	A/S  A/C	The proposed Policy 2510 allows for embedded career exploration into current courses. Counties may want to consider adding a few mini courses and examples of such were added.
2019-12-16 08:47:51	Chuck Fuller Counselor Woodrow Wilson High School Beckley WV	Considering the options and variety of paths a student can take to graduate with the new flex credit, the PEP policy needs to be updated so that students will complete a 4 year high school plan during 8th grade. With the different options, waiting until 10th grade could easily put a student in an unpleasant position of disqualifying options without being aware of it.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-02 08:20:38	Mary Yeager School Counselor Harrison County Schools Fairmont WV	I do not think that we should reduce the number of history credits to three. I really think its a bad idea to remove World History as a required credit due to the amount of people immigrating to the United States. It is important for our students to learn about other cultures and their history to better understand their points of view. Our students need to broaden their minds not make them more narrow.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-03 12:47:27	Andrew Carroll English Teacher Elkins High School Elkins WV	I am concerned that English and Reading courses are not both required. Students should have separate spaces for each of those students. Additionally, counties without extra resources will cut what courses they can while counties with resources will have both courses and push those students further ahead. A policy like this promotes inequality without our educational system.  Again, I question whether 30 minutes enough physical activity for students. 38.1% of adults in West Virginia are obese. We have to question what our schools are doing wrong in terms of promoting physical activity and healthy habits.	N	Course offerings are a county level decision.
2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head	From a Social Studies perspective we need to greatly revise the Middle School Social Studies experience. Grades 6, 7, and 8, do not gel at all with High School.	N	See Response 3

	Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	<p>Ideally, WV studies should be moved to 6th or 7th grade. In the alternate year from WV studies, there should be a return to Geography. I am seeing more and more 9th graders of all capabilities with a limited Geographical understanding of the world.</p> <p>Their 8th grade year should lead to the implementation of an "Ancient World" history course. This is very much in line with what the College Board is currently doing with its AP World Course. This would then coincide with 9th grade World- which would become a "Modern World" history course- say from 1200 or 1450 on. I would happily agree to help right standards for this course.</p>		
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	<p>nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!</p>	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-06	susan teacher huntington wv	Focus more or reading! Vo tech options	A/S	

08:36:38				
2020-01-06 14:08:09	Matt Shock Principal Winfield Middle Winfield WV	Relating to the information on computer science, does it mean that we are required to offer computer science, or just integrate it into the curriculum?	A/S	Computer science must be offered as a standalone course in high school and integrated throughout instruction in K-12.
2020-01-06 20:42:55	C. Bryan Daugherty Teacher & President of RCHS Faculty-Senate Ritchie County High School Ellenboro WV	Regardless if you make these changes at the high school level regarding social studies, changes are needed at the middle school level. Right now, 6th grade is U.S. history, 7th grade is world history, and 8th grade is WV History. After several AP Institutes both in WV and one in Maine plus my recent trip to DC in June for the Supreme Court Summer Institute at Georgetown Law Center (Street Law, Inc.), most teachers from other states whose curriculum has only one U.S. history, they say that it is usually 8th grade (early U.S.) and 9th grade (current U.S.). Now I am fine with it being still with 11th graders but 6th and 7th grade need to be flipped. Besides, we need to give incoming 8th graders better historical context before they take WV History.	N	See Response 3
2020-01-09 13:01:30	Kathy Jacquez C & I Coordinator Marion County Schools Fairmont West	Have CTE Foundational courses been written for grades 6-8? Will the counties need to develop their own career class materials to be embedded into the curriculum?	A/S	Foundational courses in CTE
2020-01-10 10:51:53	Tonia Carpenter Jackson County Schools Ripley WV	Our state is not culturally diverse, so we have a need to provide these experiences within the classroom. Rather than two years of world languages, maybe a multicultural course would be more beneficial to our middle school students.	A/S	
2020-01-11 20:13:14	Jessica C Ravenswood Wv	Please do not lower the rest on Social Studies!!! This is essential curriculum for our citizens and students!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 10:00:51	Jay O'Neal Social Studies Teacher Charleston WV	Please consider the order in which Social Studies is taught at the middle school level. As an 8th grade WV studies teacher, I find I am spending A LOT of time teaching students things they should have already learned. The biggest problem is that the last time students had relevant content was in FOURTH grade. Children grow a change a significant	N	See Response 3

		<p>amount between fourth and eighth grade, and its very difficult for them to remember anything about the founding of our country or the lead up to the Civil War by the time they reach 8th grade.</p> <p>As it stands right now, students in 4th grade learn about early US history (founding of country - westward expansion), in 5th they learn about the Civil war - the turn of the century, and in 6th they learn about World War One until almost the present day. In seventh, they study world history. Its no wonder that by the time they reach 8th grade, we have to spend a significant amount of time reviewing the founding of our nation, the constitution, etc with students. Much of this work is done outside of the WV Studies curriculum and textbook.</p> <p>Why not set up social studies like this? 4th/5th-- world history. 6th/7th-- US history. 8th-- WV Studies. Or even better, make 7th grade Social Studies about early US History so it leads directly to the founding of WV in 8th grade.</p>		
2020-01-13 09:49:54	Allyson M Perry Marion County Schools Fairmont WV	I disagree with requiring middle schools to develop a comprehensive career exploration experience. This is already being done at the schools, and we do not have enough funding to add a teacher.	N	No additional teachers are required to fulfill the career exploration experience. This is a county level decision.
2020-01-13 09:50:00	Richard Morris Attorney Legal Aid Fairmont WV	I disagree with requiring middle schools to develop a comprehensive career exploration experience. This is already being done at the schools, and we do not have enough funding to add a teacher.	N	No additional teachers are required to fulfill the career exploration experience. This is a county level decision.
2020-01-14 10:10:22	William Hosaflook Superintendent Wood County Schools Wood WV	Career Exploration is a must in this programmatic level. Students must be exposed to all unique career opportunities that exist in our global society.	A/S	
2020-01-14 12:20:37	Gay B Stewart Eberly Professor of STEM Education WVU Morgantown WV	CS Discoveries may fit nicely into a 2 year sequence to explore the 16 career clusters and help students discover if a CS related career may be the best target for their PEP, or how useful CS is even in other high-paying careers. We are working with one district to do this.	N	Curriculum and instruction are a county level decision.

2020-01-14 13:04:58	Jennifer Reaves Technology Integration Specialist Monongalia County Schools Morgantown WV	I am in favor of providing integrated CS programming at the middle school level. This is a critical area of need and will open the doors and provide more interest for students to take CS courses in high school, college and beyond.	A/S	
2020-01-14 15:29:34	Renee Mahon School Counselor Taylor County Middle School Grafton WV	I do like the career exploration for middle school students.	A/S	
2020-01-15 09:39:02	Joseph Arbogast Assistant Superintendent Randolph County Schools Elkins WV	Concerns regarding Middle School students selecting a career path. We do not believe that students are mature enough to make a decision of this magnitude.	N	Policy 2510 does not require middle school students to select a career path. It requires students to explore the sixteen career clusters.
2020-01-20 14:16:02	David Mohr Consultant House Education Committee Charleston WV	I particularly like the career exploration section on p.7. The left hand column seems to be a method for beginning implementation of the general program in workforce preparedness for all students in 18-2-7d enacted last session in HB2004. It suggests that LSICs may be able to assist in helping arrange some of the activities.	A/S	
2020-01-21 09:59:50	Yahon Smith Principal Raleigh County Schools, Beckley-Stratton Middle School Beckley West	Implement the Comprehensive Career Exploration experience that involves field trips (The Counties ACT/Vocational School/Work Sites). In addition, bring guest speakers to enhance student knowledge and availability of occupations across the spectrum of duties. Additionally, making available career mentors for 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students. Middle School students need the Project Based Career Activities and connective experience to negotiate their career exploration and paths with a personalized portfolio to help said endeavor.	A/S	
2020-01-21 21:04:52	Hillary Hall Music Teacher Gilbert PK8 School Gilbert WV	Band and choral music requirement needs to be specific. The policy needs to stipulate that band and choir be offered to grades 6-8 as a year round class during school hours. The class must be equal in duration to all other class periods in the day and be populated electively by students. These classes should not rotate and should be a year round class.	N	The amount of time necessary to master coursework is determined by the principal and a team of teachers.

2020-01-22 19:42:00	Tina Foster SpEd Teacher GCS Glenville West	Middle school students need Health and PE classes. Too much valuable information is gained from Health and PE class during these formative years of adolescence and puberty.	A/S	
2020-01-23 11:15:19	Hope Young Teacher SCMS South Charleston WV	Since 6th grade is included in the middle schools, please remove the class size restriction/extra pay provision. It is a very unfair practice --- 7th and 8th grade teachers in the same building are teaching much larger classes with no provision for extra pay or even the same class size cut offs.	N	Class size requirements are set by West Virginia state code.
2020-01-24 10:20:24	Heather DeLuca-Nestor Teacher Monongalia County Board of Education Morgantown WV	There used to be a program that was federally funded by grants called Jobs for West Virginia Graduates. It was a comprehensive course that developed skills such as interviewing, writing resumes, etc., explored careers and pathways and made connections outside of the school system for students to transition to the skilled workforce or college path. Students were tracked for 2 years after graduating. I agree with the idea that middle schools need to develop a comprehensive career exploration experience but who will be responsible for implementing this program and will help fund the field trips? This will take a great deal of time and effort to implement correctly. Social studies teachers already have a great deal of material they are required to cover. This will need to be another position and funding will be needed to properly implement a program that will be effective.	N  A/S	Policy 2510 does not address funding for special programs or courses.  It will be up to the county to develop and implement their plan.
2020-01-24 15:44:56	Richard Duncan Superintendent Roane County Board of Education Reedy WV	Revisions related to Career Exploration provide essential flexibility to county to develop programs that support middle school students in their development. Consideration should be given to establishing useful guidelines (a working document) for applying content standards to the options given (integrated versus standalone grade level courses).  Consideration should be given to relaxing the requirement that world language be offered in middle schools. The lack of qualified world language teachers and the relatively low success rates for students who participate in virtual offerings or with a teacher not qualified in world language does not support development of this content in high school. (More often, it is best for the student to "repeat" content at the high school level.) A recommendation when appropriate to the school and resources available would be better.	A/S  N	  It is important in a global society for students to have the ability to participate in world language courses if they so choose.

**§126-42-6 High School Programming**

<p>2019-12-12 16:59:55</p>	<p>Melanie Pinkerman Counseling Department Chair Huntington High Huntington WV</p>	<p>I disagree with the Physical Education online integrated PE component. Students that do Marching Band, Dance, and Showchoir do more physical activity than in a regular PE course. I feel it is unfair that these students must complete that part to receive their PE credit.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>The online course is required because students receive two credits (PE and the physically active course). The mini online PE course ensures that students meet all physical education code requirements.</p>
<p>2019-12-12 17:25:28</p>	<p>Alexandria McCloud Teacher Cabell County Schools Huntington WV</p>	<p>I feel the need to keep students required to taking 4 social studies classes. World History is definitely an important aspect in learning about civilizations, globalizations, diversities of various people and cultures. This helps lead to understanding global issues that impact the world along with the U.S. Therefore, having both U.S. and Contemporary Studies is needed for students to have to establish how history can repeat itself along with how we have and still deal with other countries today. I agree I'm still having other electives of Sociology, Psychology and more. I feel that it is best to keep the programming how it currently is.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2019-12-12 20:46:35</p>	<p>Sara L. Lechner teacher Harrison County Board of Education Clarksburg WV</p>	<p>This is insane and wrong. As a state, we have continued to lower standards every year in a false and misguided effort to raise graduation rates. A diploma is meaningless if it is backed up by so little. Yet, we will send kids on to college who only have basic skills, struggle, take out loans, and make things worse for WV. I also suspect this is another false effort to alleviate the teacher shortage by requiring fewer teachers. The dumbing-down of our kids is wrong! Further decreasing requirements is a huge mistake! Its also absurd to think American history can be taught in a single course. Its difficult enough as is to cover all thats needed in 2 courses. Even colleges separate it into 2 courses. Maybe the WVBE would understand any of these things if they actually bothered to listen to teachers and take what teachers say to heart. We are the experts, after all.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2019-12-13</p>	<p>Michael Ludle Teacher</p>	<p>Social Studies content should not be lowered. It needs reformatted but to eliminate an entire social studies credit from the curriculum is irresponsible. Without the studying the historical, economic, and social</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

07:29:16	Kanawha County Schools South Charleston WV	norms of the past we are doomed to repeat them. A better solution than removing an entire a credit would be to split World history into 2 classes and US into 2 classes weaving the Civics course into all 4 courses. To provide a rigorous education as the policy indicates is t he requirement then a suggested breakdown of the High School credits could be as follows. 4 Math, 4 Language Arts, 4 Science, 4 Social Studies, 1 Art, 1 Tech (Computer Science or Vocational Class), 2 Foreign Language, 1 Physical Education, 1 Health, 4 Electives for a total of 26 credits. With schools schedules having the opportunity to earn 8 credits a year in 4 years a students would have the opportunity to earn 32 credits requiring 26 would allow students to have the chance to make up if they fail one course while still graduating on time.		
2019-12-13 07:50:39	Trudy Parker Parent Bridgeport WV	As a parent of a high school student, I want my son to choose classes that will best benefit him as an adult. All credits (core or otherwise) taken his senior year should be elective depending on his adult goals. A better service to my son is to simply outline the number of credits necessary for graduation without delineating subject requirements.	N	See Response 1
2019-12-13 08:18:41	Jason Smith Teacher Cabell County Schools Huntington WV	If your aim is to truly prepare students for a global society then reducing the amount of social studies courses required for graduation and making classes such as World History an optional elective rather than a requirement is not a wise course of action. Considering North Korea's nuclear program, questions of Russian interference in our sacred democratic process, and significant foreign investment in our state it is difficult to comprehend how our legislatures are opting to reduce the required course work in our state's social studies curriculum. It is more than shortsighted, it is irresponsible. Yesterday's history creates today's conditions and also provides a road map for informed people to utilize while navigating into the future. It is your obligation to ensure our students are well-equipped and ready to deal with a global society. Altering the state's social studies curriculum in the ways that have recently been proposed will prove to be a tremendous detriment for West Virginia's youth and subsequently the future of our state.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-13 08:31:30	Conrad Blackburn Teacher Williamstown High School Williamstown WV	In the time that I have been an educator, I have seen the Social Studies take hit after hit. Initially, I worked in a place where special education teachers were told not to come into my classroom. Rather, they were to focus on the Math and Language Arts classes. As time passed, the state stopped testing for social studies on the mandated end of the year exam.	A/C	See Response 1

		<p>This gave the impression to the students, and, seemingly to me, to the administration that Social Studies was not considered as important as the other core subjects. As the years have passed, I have seen the attitudes of students, administrators, and policy makers at the state level furthering that mindset. Cutting the required social studies credits down to three will further this already prevalent idea. Social Studies is an essential part of a proper education. Students need to understand how the world came to be the way that it is today. Social Studies education promotes an understanding of history and culture that helps to spread diversity and understanding in our society. I like the idea of offering elective classes that can be taken to earn Social Studies credit. This gives the flexibility that it is claimed is the reason behind these changes. My question is, how does eliminating a credit play into that? It seems to me that this is a move to allow school systems to further cut down on Social Studies teachers. So, while I agree that flexibility is good, what cutting down the required social studies credits will do is further the idea that Social Studies is not important, while also costing Social Studies teachers their jobs. I like the idea of a variety of ways to earn social studies credit, but I do not agree with cutting down the required credits from four to three.</p>		
2019-12-13 09:29:02	Jade Emmons Cabell County Schools South Point OH	<p>Reducing graduation requirements does not benefit anyone. Simply lessening the challenges for students creates students who are not well-rounded with very little work ethic. Students will work less and will not be prepared for the workforce or higher education.</p>	N	See Response 7
2019-12-13 10:24:26	Ashley Malott Teacher AFT Charles Town WV	<p>Changing the graduation requirements from four social studies courses to three is direct reduction in the rigor that the state strives for in setting standards. Taking away World Studies as a requirement will result in students graduating from high school with no point of reference for any global issues, past or present. Students struggle with geography and international relations and taking this course requirement away will give students a solely American interpretation of history and geography. Instead of well-rounded students, the state will be graduating students who know nothing of world affairs and whose entire historical scope will be based in U.S. history only. You would be encouraging students to ignore thousands of years of history and they will turn out to be poor citizens because of it. You will be fostering xenophobia based on a lack of understanding toward other cultures, faiths, and histories.</p>	A/C	See Response 3

<p>2019-12-13 10:52:42</p>	<p>Corinne Full Teacher, parent Vienna WV</p>	<p>I find it very troubling that we are changing the English standards. We are continually told by business leaders and colleges that we aren't doing enough to help our students communicate accurately and effectively. How can we presume to increase the knowledge of our students and the rigor of our programs if we do not require English 11 or 12, but instead allow students to substitute Creative Writing, Film Studies, Mythology, or other coursework. When colleges ask why West Virginia students struggle with citations or businesses ask why students cannot construct emails effectively are we to respond by saying, "But they know the Greek gods."? In addition, our students are being assessed using the SAT, and these classes will not adequately prepare students for success on such assessments, which could further reduce the national averages for our graduates.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>See Response 10</p>
<p>2019-12-13 10:59:11</p>	<p>Lisa Dennler Oak Hill WV</p>	<p>Why would we want to make children not take classes that can only help them in life? Why would we want to make things "easier" on them? Our society has gotten too lazy. Most children in today's society don't have a support system at home and we want to take away a good, decent education that can only help them in life!! These are the children that are going to be leading us one day when we are old and can no longer do it. Do you really want them not to have knowledge? I work in the medical field and I can tell you that I would not want someone to take "shortcuts" by deleting something from... say a surgery. Granted, surgery is a little different than history. But, still, history as well as any subject is there to teach, so the children can learn from our forefathers' mistakes. And you want to take it away. May God truly help our poor children who get cheated out of a GOOD, SOLID, WELL-ROUNDED Education!!</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>See Response 5</p>
<p>2019-12-13 17:51:03</p>	<p>Timothy B Snead Teacher Mercer County Schools Princeton West</p>	<p>I do not think it is a good idea to combine United States and Contemporary Studies into a single United States History Course. Our kids today need to learn MORE about our history, not less. There is no way to cover all the material we need to cover in one comprehensive course. A couple of years ago, you all basically came up with this same idea. The public was overwhelmingly against this proposal, so why are you trying to reintroduce it once again. Our students need MORE credits to graduate, not fewer, if we expect them to compete in our global economy! Also, I feel that World Studies should be required for ALL students, not just those in the college preparatory path. Since we live in a global society, ALL of West Virginia's students need to learn about the</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 3</p>

		<p>culture and history of other countries. Our students need to be able to compete with students from other states and other countries. Reducing the number of credits is not the way to do this! If anything, we need to INCREASE the number of credits our students need to graduate from every high school in West Virginia! Thanks you for your consideration!</p>		
<p>2019-12-13 22:13:35</p>	<p>Robert Watson Wayne Wv</p>	<p>The children need to learn all the history they possibly can. Or as adults we will have them repeating errors made in our past. Do not diminish the importance of history in school. It's your civic duty.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
<p>2019-12-14 08:09:45</p>	<p>Wendy Keeney Beckley WV</p>	<p>Students need a more rounded education! We cannot continually focus on Math and Reading/Language Arts. They need Social Studies/History and the Arts to provide them with The necessary tools to become productive members of society. WV needs to stop 'dumbing down' the curriculum!</p>	A/C	See Response 1
<p>2019-12-14 21:44:43</p>	<p>Annette Dingess Comfort WV</p>	<p>High school students need to know more about our country and our world. Let us add not subtract classes.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
<p>2019-12-15 08:39:17</p>	<p>Jeffrey M. Owens teacher Greenbrier East High School Lewisburg WV</p>	<p>I am vehemently opposed to decreasing the required high school social studies credits. I have taught social studies at the high school level for 12 years, after spending over 20 years in the field of business management. In those 20 years, I saw the importance of employees having a solid understanding of world and United States History, along with government and politics.</p> <p>In my current role as a teacher of Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics, Dual-Credit American Government, Advanced Placement Psychology and General Psychology, I see the importance of the various social studies classes.</p> <p>I cannot understand why the WVDE continues to propose or approve decreases in what is required of our high school students. By continuing to decrease what is required of our students, we are sending a signal that our expectations are decreasing. As a result, I see students accepting less responsibility, less accountability and less motivation.</p> <p>I know a similar policy change was proposed a couple of years ago and</p>	A/C	See Response 1

		<p>it was met with vigorous opposition. I find it difficult to understand why this would be proposed so soon after that opposition and ultimate tabling of the proposal.</p> <p>I hope all members and stakeholders will understand the negative impact of cutting social studies credits, as well as decreasing high school credits in general. I also hope all board members will reconsider this proposal and vote no.</p> <p>Thanks.</p>		
2019-12-15 08:44:01	Anne Owens Lewisburg West	<p>I write to voice my opposition to the proposed decreasing of social studies credits. I have worked in the WV Supreme Court system for 24 years as a circuit court reporter. Each year I see more and more cases brought into our system. And each year I see defendants (and their families) held less and less accountable.</p> <p>Please don't continue this trend by decreasing the social studies credits. As many of the defendants in the system are high school age, the school system is important in helping to set a positive example for them. Please hold our students to a higher level of rigor and accountability, rather than decreasing that level.</p> <p>Again, I am strongly opposed to the decreasing of social studies credits.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-15 14:33:31	Margie Senter Teacher Greenbrier County Schools Lewisburg WEST	<p>Students need to keep the 4 credits of social studies in high school.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-15 16:54:52	JD Lister Teacher BHS Bridgeport WV	<p>I have grave concerns over the changes to the social studies curriculum as well as allowing weighted grades for dual credit. First of all, we need our students to be more well rounded in social studies and my cutting world as a requirement, we are going to massively put these students behind in college. Most colleges require a world and a US credit in most programs. We have already done them a massive disservice by not requiring 20th/21st like we used to. I also think having civics open for juniors is going to hurt how many seniors are actually in the school.</p>	A/C	<p>See Response 3</p> <p><b>Response 11:</b> The weighting of AP, AC, IB, and dual credit courses is in alignment with current accountability</p>

		<p>Looking at the requirements, many seniors will only need to be in school for an English and math credit their senior year. This may boost graduation rates but it certainly doesn't help prepare them.</p> <p>Secondly, weighting the dual credit programs is a massive error. This will only hurt AP and IB programs, which guarantee rigor. Sadly, our dual credit courses do not have the same level of rigor and many times are not up to even the standard of a regular high school class. The universities fill these positions with adjuncts, usually retired ones, who do the job for extra pay or as a favor. Please do not do damage to our amazing AP programs around the state.</p> <p>We must stop lowering requirements! We have to push our students to be the best, not push them out the door.</p>	A/C	<p>measures. The county dual credit policy allows them to identify acceptable dual credit courses. The weighting of dual credit will become effective with the 2020-2021 9th grade cohort. The weighting of other advanced courses is a county-level decision. To ensure equity, language has been added concerning the weighting of grades for students transferring from one county to another.</p>
<p>2019-12-16 08:02:03</p>	<p>Dr. John McCormick Teacher Princeton Senior High School Athens WV</p>	<p>Diminishing social studies standards demonstrates a total disregard for the importance of what we do in the social studies field. In an era of incredibly complicated political questions you are suggesting that we limit students exposure to social studies content that provides important context and nuance to the American story, and thus contributes to the degradation of our democracy. How can citizens be expected to cope with things like the impeachment hearings or arguments over individual rights when they do not fully understand the context in which they are being debated?</p> <p>Americas history from 1491 to present is not something that should be covered in a single semester. AP students in American history do this because they are driven and strive towards exceptionalism, but are also successful because in most cases they take U.S. I prior to repeating much of that material in the AP course. We cannot expect the average student to demonstrate that level of commitment to a course, nor should we rush them through complicated and important material in order to aid</p>	A/C	<p>See Response 3</p>

them in graduating to meet some arbitrary graduation requirement set by bureaucrats interested more in appearances than education.

A properly paced two-course track in American history, followed by civics, should be viewed as the best vehicle for the delivery of our important standards. By separating the courses in this way we are allowing students to dig deeper into the American story, and learn the content at a pace that allows for greater reflection, consideration, and analysis. A single term of U.S. history would force teachers to cut large swaths of history from the curriculum, or otherwise teach much of the material in such a nominal fashion that there's no real understanding. How can one teach the era from 1491 to Present with adequate depth to recalcitrant learners in a single semester? The answer, from a practical standpoint, is that it can really be done at the high school level. The local colleges in my area even split their U.S. history courses into two units!

A few years ago a Mercer County Board member addressed us and told us that we should be digging deep rather than "teaching an inch deep and a mile wide." I tend to agree. However, what you are proposing is that we all dig an inch deep, and that's good enough for our students.

I will tell you, as an expert in my field, that this is the wrong choice for my students and for West Virginians.

Furthermore, we live in a time in which the teaching of world history is of the utmost importance. Proposals to cut that course from the standards once again demonstrate a complete lack of understanding for the importance of what we do. How can one discuss the American founding without a background in the Renaissance, Scientific Revolution, and Enlightenment? How can we expect our citizens to co-exist with their fellow man if we do not teach them about the Protestant Reformation, the long and rich history of Islam and the contribution of Middle Eastern peoples to our history, or the dangers of intolerance based on rabid nationalism and religious dogma?

The decision to cut standards is not the best way to provide a quality education to our students. It may boost graduation rates, but it will not better our citizens.

2019-12-16 08:47:51	Chuck Fuller Counselor Woodrow Wilson High School Beckley WV	See previous comment about PEP.  6.2.c Should this section read SAT School Day test for the benchmark rather than WVGSA?	N	The SAT School Day is part of the WV General Summative Assessment (WVGSA).
2019-12-16 09:41:26	William C White Retired Teacher Jane Lew WV	I strongly oppose the decrease of required Social Studies credits in High School from 4 credits to 3. Considering the current lack of knowledge of the typical citizen of the State of WV and the US on how the government works, reducing the required credits makes no sense at all. We seem to be failing to instruct the students on basic citizenship requirements.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-16 10:54:07	Brittney Barlett English Teacher Upshur County Schools Weston WV	Reducing the number of required high school credits leads to undereducated students and indicates to the general public that high school education is less important. Reducing the required credits by 8% seems to signal that students need to learn 8% less than they did before. We are already struggling with finding qualified workers, college-ready students, and world-ready graduates. Lowering the required number of credits will only accelerate that issue.	A/C	See Response 7
2019-12-16 10:56:05	Kathryn (Kathy) Snyder Teacher Capital Charleston WV	Requiring fewer history classes will compromise student learning. In this competitive world, deleting World History will economically limit students of WV in the current global conditions.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-16 12:09:58	Thomas Sleete Consultant-US History College Board Troy MI	Your state, for years, has been a leader in advancing A.P. courses and supporting its teachers. Now you want to have teachers be able to opt out of training if their scores are high enough. This, of course, ignores the changes that occur frequently in the classes, the fact that a teacher might have a very small class of five with four passing the exam, the ability of teachers to seek and receive support and advice from professionals in the field and, worst of all, will lead to some teachers cherry picking students to take the exam rather than pursuing equity and access for all students. This is not what the state should pursue. Rather, they should encourage all teachers and students to pursue rigorous classes and instruction. AP is not just about the exam, it is about preparing students and citizens to think deeply and learn skills for success beyond high school. They learn how to think and write, not what to think. Please reconsider this proposal.	N	Teachers still have the opportunity to participate in the AP Summer Institute. This change gives highly successful AP teachers an option to explore other summer professional learning without requesting a waiver to AP training.

<p>2019-12-16 12:11:27</p>	<p>Amanda Curnutte teacher Spring Valley High School HUNTINGTON WV</p>	<p>I am a social studies teacher in my 9th year at Spring Valley High School in Huntington. Based on my experiences as a teacher, I can say it is absolutely impossible to combine all American history (both courses) into 1 course. There is no possible way to adequately teach that amount of information in one course. If this policy passes, students will get only the most superficial understanding of American history. In addition to this issue, eliminating World History from the required courses for graduation will completely ignore our students need for the understanding of the foundations of Western culture &amp; literature to help them in their language arts/English classes.</p> <p>The need for cultural understanding and inclusion is greater today than ever before in this global economy and multi-ethnic society. Eliminating world history in 9th grade will also mean that students will have no instruction about the other major world religions &amp; cultures.</p> <p>I can imagine how reducing the amount of credits in the core subjects that students need to graduate will help improve the rigor of their education. We require less and less of these students with every course we eliminate for graduation requirements. Fewer requirements in core classes mean fewer applications of the critical skills necessary for student success in math &amp; English- the tested subjects that are so important to measure student growth &amp; accountability for the public school system. My students use historical content to practice &amp; develop those skills that will help them excel in math &amp; English. Critical thinking and document analysis are essential practice for the reading comprehension demands on the SAT &amp; ACT for college readiness. If the true purpose of the public education system is to help educate and prepare our students to be successful in whatever occupation or challenge they pursue after high school, then cutting core classes for graduation requirements would produce the exact opposite of our purpose. We are trying to produce successful &amp; informed citizens- removing the foundation of western civilization &amp; an understanding of the other major religions &amp; cultures of the world would not help us achieve our goals, but would keep us from giving our students a well rounded &amp; complete education.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 3</p>
<p>2019-12-16 12:11:45</p>	<p>Phoebe McGuire Teacher Public High School Lewisburg WV</p>	<p>There are more ways to learn in todays society, but we know less, basically about everything. Therefore, this is not the answer by cutting the requirements. We should increase the requirements. Everything in Life is tied to History. History teaches people how to survive in a</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

		changing world. History is a cycle and we can learn from the past to improve our future. Society has so many issues today that we do not want to address. Most of the issues are related to History.		
2019-12-16 12:55:56	Thomas Sleete Consultant-US History College Board Troy MI	I am astounded that WV is considering lowering social studies requirements for graduation. One need only listen to what passes for civil discourse in the country, or the staggering lack of historical knowledge exhibited by national politicians and “celebrities”, to know that now is definitely not the time to pull back from educating students on our government, history, and etc.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-16 13:33:24	Bryna Jewell School Counselor Tug Valley High School Williamson WV	I do not agree with the reduction in the number of social studies credits. I see World Studies as a necessary requirement for todays students. I think that it would be detrimental to the students education to fail to teach them world history. World History helps prepare students for college studies, international experiences, and civic life. It helps them make sense of the current world they live in. As educators, we should want to create well-rounded, informed students. I think reducing the social studies requirements would be a disservice to our students.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-16 14:18:33	Mindy Smith Lewisburg West	Students truly need four credits of social studies. Each year I have foreign exchange students in my English classes & they usually know more than American students about American history & global events. Please do not cut the required number of credits for this important core subject.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-16 18:07:56	Pamela Booth Teacher Tug Valley High School Williamson WV	Leave Social Studies credits needed for graduation 4. Do not mess with it. It is very necessary for all adults on all walks of life!	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-16 18:28:13	Roy Penix Teacher Tug Valley High Williamson WV	Keep 4 social studies as a requirement for graduation.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-16 20:11:03	Rebecca Darnell Social Studies Teacher Danville WV	As a high school civics teacher it is imperative that we continue to educate our future adults in the field of history. Only when we have knowledgeable young adults that are filling the positions within the businesses and our Capitol building making decisions can we grow as a state economically. Using the old phrase, “We learn history so we don’t repeat our mistakes” are more true today than the have ever been. We	A/C	See Response 1

		<p>must do everything in our power to ensure our students are prepared for the future and eliminating ANY history credits would be counterproductive.</p>		
<p>2019-12-17 08:10:53</p>	<p>Kimi Estep S CHARLESTON West</p>	<p>According to the National Council for Social Studies (NCSS), the primary purpose of social studies is to help young people make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world. Embedded with the state standards for social studies are student goals to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understand the facts, concepts, principles, and perspectives that shape social studies</li> <li>• apply learning to complex situations and contexts</li> <li>• think critically about important issues and communicate their findings</li> <li>• engage in the processes of problem solving and discipline-based inquiry</li> </ul> <p>The study of Social Science prepares students to grow up as active, responsible, and reflective members of society. It also teaches them to address societal and global concerns using literature, technology and other identifiable community resources.</p> <p>By continuing to lower standards, decrease graduation requirements, and lessen rigor in the classrooms, we are denying our students the opportunity for a high quality curriculum which is the primary focus of Policy 2510. If the requirements are changed from four to three social studies credits, we are damaging our current and future students.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
<p>2019-12-17 08:50:07</p>	<p>Marissa Dillon Educator Huntington High School Huntington WV</p>	<p>After reviewing the flex program for English in high schools, i am commenting on the proposal to change the requirements for 11th and 12th grade students. It sounds strong on paper, but would not work in practice. Mostly because it would require hiring more teachers, which the state of West Virginia has already told teachers they do not have the budget to hire more teachers. There is a shortage. Therefore, educators will still be overworked and underpaid. I already have three different classes that I must prepare, including Advanced Placement English. This requires many hours of grading essays and reading. I work 60 - 80 hours a week, which my paycheck does not cover. If this flex program were to be implemented, I would probably have four. I understand offering students choices with the schedule and classes, but this state just built their own standards seven years ago; will we not have to create new ones for these courses? Or, rather, will there not be standards at all? Creative Writing is currently an elective, that students are free to take, offering it</p>	A/C	See Response 10

		as a core class for graduation is not optimal. Also, the college drop out rate is at 50% because high schools do not prepare students for college, this would only worsen with these flex courses. I understand that college is not for everyone, but perhaps there should be a limit to the flex courses - Career path English courses (technical reading and writing and Critical Thinking English) and College path English courses (AP, Dual Credit, and a college writing and reading course). Just because a student chooses a career path, does not mean that they do not need the essential critical thinking skills in the future. Current society lacks the critical thinking necessary to communicate (look at any social media comment board), which is why society is currently so polarized. Please rethink these flex credits and seek input from educators.		
2019-12-17 11:51:50	Sonya Shockey teacher Hedgesville High School Inwood WV	AS a world history teacher of 20 years, I am greatly opposed to the potential changes in social studies graduation requirements. I say this not to protect my job, but because of what world history provides students before they graduate. Ancient world history provides our students with the building blocks of civilization across the globe and gives students a better idea of where we came from. For instance, do you know why there are 60 minutes in an hour? My students do! Furthermore, students need to know world history so they can place US history in its appropriate context. I have heard it argued that world history is not be removed from the curriculum. I disagree. By making this an elective, students will not automatically be required to take this class. We will create a generation of students who do not know their place in the world have a very US-centric point of view. But we live in very GLOBAL society. Removing world history as a graduation requirement will in the long run harm our students and rush them through graduation and dump them out into a world unprepared. Please review this policy with these thoughts in mind.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-17 13:39:50	Melody Brown Hedgesville West	Please do not eliminate World History as a requirement for graduation in West Virginia. Many of our students education & experiences are impacted by poverty, unemployment and drug abuse. World History Class is the only place that they will learn about parts of the world that many of them will never, ever see or experience. Please do not eliminate World History as a requirement for graduation.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-17	BC Butts teacher	At a time when Nationalism is on the rise,when students must compete globally, it is ill advised to reduce any social studies content. Lack of	A/C	See Response 1



		<p>focusing on composition or literature. I am a parent as well as a teacher and currently have two children enrolled at WVU in addition to my youngest who is a 10th grader at Elkins High. I have seen first hand how important those courses are for success in post secondary education. I understand that these minimum requirements will not be the path for most students who plan to pursue a four year degree. However, I have known a number of students throughout my career who as a ninth grader might not intended to go to college, but after experiencing success in high school and getting encouragement from teachers, they come to realize that a earning a degree is achievable. Unfortunately, once a student heads down one path, it will be difficult to change their mind and earn those credits that will still be required for college admission and essential to success in college. I have similar concerns for the proposed changes to the social studies courses. I have heard from my colleagues that it would be nearly impossible to adequately address the vast content in the proposed US Comprehensive course. Eliminating the requirement for World Studies has us all scratching our heads. It brings to mind a saying about failing to learn from the mistakes of the past and being doomed to repeat them. Cliche? Perhaps, but concerning none the less. Instead of lowering the bar for our students to help them graduate, why don we focus on building up supports to help all students be successful?</p>		
2019-12-18 08:52:31	<p>Mitch Nida Principal Berkeley Springs WV</p>	<p>I just wanted to comment that I am in support of the proposed changes/adjustments to the High School level.</p>	N	See Response 1
2019-12-18 11:33:47	<p>Cristina McCabe Ms. Monongalia County Schools Morgantown West</p>	<p>It is imperative that we do not change the social studies requirements for high school students! The social studies have so many far reaching effects in all other areas of study. It is the great unifier and makes relevancy so much more attainable for all content areas. If you want students to have choice then allow that within the social studies. A comprehensive American class is one of the worst ideas I have ever heard of. Ask any student that has taken AP U.S. History how much hard work and rigor that class takes. Why would we take the same amount of content and force an on-level class of students and the teacher to try to maintain that pace? If this is implemented students would get a watered-down highlight reel of American history facts and miss out on one of the key components of social studies, critical thinking. Social</p>	A/C	See Response 1

		<p>studies curriculum inherently promotes analysis, creativity, evaluation, application, and understanding. The social studies, when taught correctly, have the ability to teach and enhance skills needed in the 21st century and beyond. I am all for offering more types of social studies curriculum to give students choice, but the way this policy is attempting it is asinine.</p> <p>I cannot help but wonder with the changes proposed in high school programing is this an inventive way to make sure our graduation rate continues to climb by making school easier for students. What does a high school diploma mean now? Does it mean that you faced challenges, worked hard and your education was diverse enough that when you left secondary school you knew what you want to do and what you do not want to do? Or is this a way to make our state statistics look like they are improving by giving “flexibility” to administration to make sure a student can graduate? If you want to change policy change the part of the school evaluation that rates us by how many students that complete high school in four years, PERIOD, not in years; some need more time. Some need less, give them paths to finish earlier if it is their desire. Do not touch the social studies. In the rapidly changing world that we live in today the skill and standards taught in these classes are at a vital importance for our future generations.</p>		
<p>2019-12-18 16:54:56</p>	<p>Shelly Updegrave Counselor Ravenswood High School Ravenswood WV</p>	<p>While I agree/like the idea of tech English it will be hard to provide enough sections of that English along with all the others needed/required into the master schedule of a small high school. Also, I fear that many college-bound students, with the permission of their parents, will try and opt to take the "easier" tech English instead of the more challenging English that will prepare them for college. Even with requirements/recommendations, what the parent wants the student gets.</p> <p>Taking Algebra at the same time as Algebra Support (two periods a day the freshmen year) sounds like a wonderful idea, but . . . . Having students who most likely hate math taking two periods of math a day sounds like placement in Hades for both the student and the instructors. Secondly, in a small school with very few sections of each class, these students may end up being together in the same classes for the remainder of the day. May not be the best learning environment. I would venture to guess that these classes may have more than their share of behavioral issues when compared to the classes filled with the high achievers.</p>	<p>A/C</p> <p>N</p>	<p>See Response 10</p> <p>These two math courses are comprised of the same standards. They are intended to be taught in conjunction with one another.</p> <p>See Response 1</p>

		<p>World History - I feel should be a required sophomore history class. We live in a global economy and it is important that students are aware of our history with other countries as well as their locations, capitals, etc. Again, a sophomore history class not a freshman history.</p> <p>PEP Plans - It is a wonderful idea to have parental signatures on PEP plans as well as all things related to their child's education. The problem is we can never get anything back. Usually this entails making an initial copy because the original will be lost. Then reminding (or hounding) them to return the signed PEP. So two or three copies later, maybe just maybe, we might get back 25% of the signed PEPs returned. Calgon take me away. . . .</p>		
2019-12-19 11:32:30	James Graff Hurricane WV	<p>It appears that initiating the flex program for English in high schools, particularly for 11th &amp; 12th graders, because it would require funding &amp; hiring additional teachers. The State of WV previously stated that there is no budget for hiring educators. This flex initiative would cause additional hardship on existing teachers by imposing even more duties. Additionally, the flex initiative would further limit students in college preparatory courses that would diminish their probability of success. Finally, it is imperative to seek input from our teachers.</p>	A/C	See Response 10
2019-12-19 17:24:09	Logan Riffey Mr. N/A Berkeley Springs WV	<p>Social studies curriculum is a paramount piece of foundational education. With the world becoming more available at the tap of a screen, we have seen the need for multicultural understanding at an all time high. High school social studies courses provide that multicultural understanding and allows students to consider those other than themselves in a historical and societal setting. The required number of social studies credits to graduate should not drop from four to three. For such a thing to occur would be to betray the not only the nation, but also the world. Outside of West Virginia, everyone is looking in--judging. We need to show them that our Appalachian society is not backward, perhaps as stereotypes have spread. Providing lots of social studies to our future generation is imperative. In addition to maintaining the number of social studies credits to graduate, the designation of world history as an elective rather than a required course is distasteful. World history is an integral understanding that is the foundation of the multicultural education. To learn what the world has gone through in its years of recorded history provides context to billions of people across</p>	A/C	See Response 1

		the globe. It is important to learn history in order to not repeat it. For our West Virginian school children, reducing the amount of social studies education and removing world history from the list of required courses will only disservice them. To educate our children means providing for the future of our state.		
2019-12-20 11:08:48	Bret Powner Parkersburg WV	Courses in both US History and World History should be required to provide the proper context and perspective for both courses.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-20 13:33:24	Erick Burgess Princeton Senior High School Princeton WV	Social studies courses are vital in creating students who are civic-minded, outstanding citizens. Cutting the requirements for social studies hurt, not only students, but our communities.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-20 16:02:32	Daniel Aaron Carr History Teacher Putnam County Schools Buffalo WV	It is foolish to reduce Social Studies requirements. Students need to learn history, government, and American values. If anything we should add more Social Studies. It is the liberal arts that teach students how to think and communicate. You can not use Google to learn how to be a good citizen.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-21 12:11:30	Jordan Manning Oceana WV	Limiting students Social Studies learning is a disservice to them. If our mission is to prepare them for a global society, and then teaching them less about the global society we live in is sending mixed messages. We learn so much from social studies coursework- civics, psychology, current events, past events, our heritage, and so on- this builds a framework of our global society. Limited classes will also cut teaching positions, that is a disgrace. It sends a message that those classes and teachers are not important. Keep it the way it is!	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-22 19:53:40	Ian Hillman Assistant Principal BerkeleyCounty Schools Martinsburg WV	Easing the 4th social studies credit to allow room for exploration and student freedom is an excellent choice. Even as a former social studies teacher, I am in agreement with this. I think it was solid decision making to still permit a 4th social studies class to count towards graduation, but allow that flexibility to students that are choosing post-secondary plans that don't heavily involve social studies.	N	See Response 1
2019-12-27 09:50:31	Blaine Hess Superintendent Jackson County Schools Ripley WV	I strongly support the implementation of 10 prescribed and 12 personalized credits for graduation from high school. This approach properly acknowledges the realization that the academic needs of students differ based on their education and career goals.	N	See Response 1

		The flexibility afforded to students in the revisions to policy 2510 are on the mark. I support the flexibility of using the fourth social studies credit for an area more appropriate for student need.		
2019-12-31 11:37:39	David Price Superintendent Raleigh County Schools Beckley West	The flex credit provides a student with choices: This option will allow students to choose based on their post-secondary plans weather it be a social studies concentration, Science for the STEM minded, or Computer science course if plans are computer science career and finally CTE foundational course. This option will allow OUR HS students the option of a CTE course even with College bound post secondary plans. This is not available at this time due to requirements.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-01 08:24:45	David C Pugh, Jr Citizen Concerned Citizen SHEPHERDSTOWN WV	I am vehemently opposed to reducing the number of Social Studies credits for graduation. I had already decided to comment before I read the Gazette story about the Nazi salute debacle. I was going to say that Thomas Jefferson believed that Democracy and ignorance can coexist, especially in this era of the need for citizens to determine fact from fiction on the internet. However, when the report investigating the recent deplorable Nazi salute episode said that the "silver lining" in it all was IGNORANCE, I was astonished! When is ignorance a positive? It is frightening that a WV government report would condone ignorance about events that are catastrophically driven, WWII and the Holocaust. Again, I believe that the WV Department of Education is condoning ignorance by proposing to reduce the number Social Studies credits for graduation thus making it likely that students will not take World History and compressing US History into a 1 year impossible mission. NO, NO, No!	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-02 11:16:15	Jon Pitzer None None Poca WV	See "General" commemts.	N	
2020-01-02 11:51:57	Mary Mullins Counselor Lincoln County High School Hamlin WV	I have concerns about the proposed changes to graduation requirements. I am not in favor of changing social studies/history course requirements. In order have an effective and informed citizenry and understand the responsibilities and rights of citizenship; students must be taught and understand the concepts of government. That is a task that should be done thoroughly. An understanding of US History is vital to the strength of our nation.	A/C	See Response 1 See Response 3 See Response 7

I do not believe it is necessary to sacrifice a history course in order to provide students with additional opportunities to explore other course options. Most students who have a 7-period instructional day have an opportunity to earn 28 credits. With the state requirement of 22 credits for graduation, there are 6 course electives that students have available to fulfill individual education plans. Actually, only 18 credits are state prescribed courses, so students have 4 additional opportunities to take courses that meet their individual career plans. Students have an opportunity for a "flex" course within the current graduation policy. I am concerned that a much needed and valuable US History course is being targeted in order to appease a vocal CTE initiative which is working to promote their individual agenda and not necessarily the overall educational needs of the entire student population. Please do not see this as a negative message regarding CTE programs because it is not. I completed a CTE program in high school and use those skills daily, however, I also use my reasoning and analytical skills (taught in history courses) daily with regards to staying informed on current political/government events, decision making in life and in the workplace. History classes teach valuable skills also. History courses are engaging and thought provoking; it is more than teacher recitation of dates/places. History courses also teach skills that students use in other disciplines such as English. With student state English/Reading scores being below national averages, why would a course that supports those skills be removed from graduation requirements? Will a computer science course contribute more to the state test scores, which we are ultimately judged by? Years ago, we were told that students needed to have computer skills before the high school level. Could computer science courses not be offered to middle school students to better prepare them for all courses at the high school level? I also have a concern regarding whether part of this decision to change graduation requirements is due to teacher shortages and thus making an additional social studies or science course optional will alleviate the shortage of certified teachers. As you are aware, some CTE instructors do not have teaching degrees but have left industry to work within the school system. Again, I am not opposed to CTE courses at all. They are necessary to fulfill our obligation to educate/prepare all students for life after high school whether for the job market or post-secondary education.

A/C

N

		<p>I am in support of maintaining the history course graduation requirements as they currently are. I do not see the necessity of the proposed changes.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>		
2020-01-02 13:31:44	<p>Claire Webb Educator Jefferson County Schools Shenandoah Junction WV</p>	<p>In light of the current embarrassing scandal within our department of corrections, it is clear that West Virginia should NOT reduce the required number of social studies credits to graduate. The display of ignorance was incredible and a stain on our state. We already struggle to overcome deeply rooted stereotypes and prejudices, and this situation will do nothing but perpetuate the idea that West Virginians are uneducated and racist. Can you imagine the further commentary and scorn if we still then decide to proceed with cutting the history education requirements? Please make the right decision and leave the course of study as it is in its current state. This effort has failed before, and it should be evident by now that it is not a desired course of action.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-02 16:32:23	<p>Abby Bryant Teacher Cabell County Schools Huntington Wv</p>	<p>As an educator with a bachelors degree in Earth and Space Science, I am pleased that West Virginia has decided to adopt the Next Generation Science standards and make ESS a requirement for high school students. However, to fully implement NGSS at the high school level, students should also be required to take Physical Science along with ESS and Life Science (the three disciplines addressed in the NGSS). It is my hope that the WV Board of Education would consider adding the addition science requirement of Physical Science to ensure our students receive the best possible education they can in preparation for life after high school. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.</p>	AS	
2020-01-02 18:27:41	<p>Matthew J Cirilli Teacher Wheeling WV</p>	<p>The modern world is becoming increasingly global, and world history is integral for students to develop a global mindset for the 21st century. 21st century skills cannot be taught in isolation of the United States and our own American experience.</p> <p>Knowledge of world history goes hand-in-hand with the study of other subjects. It will be impossible for students to understand a historical novel, Animal Farm for example, without first studying the Russian Revolution.</p> <p>This change will severely reduce the enrollment for AP World History</p>	A/C	<p>See Response 1</p> <p><b>Response 12:</b> Teachers from across the state worked together to create and sequence developmentally appropriate science standards in grades K-12. Students taking</p>

which is a course that helps our students get a major advantage heading into college.

Students will be unprepared to attend colleges that provide a liberal arts curriculum, as they will not be knowledgeable regarding major historical events, beliefs of major world religions, and different cultures.

It will be more difficult for West Virginian students to get accepted into competitive colleges, as they will be lacking knowledge that is taught in the school systems of other states.

Literacy regarding maps and geographic knowledge will be severely reduced without the impetus to study world history.

Studying US history in isolation to the rest of the world provides an incomplete and inaccurate perspective regarding major historical events. Likewise, it ignores the vast majority of human history that occurred prior to the establishment of the American colonies.

Multi-ethnic awareness and the importance of the contributions of different cultures to world development, especially African and Asian achievements, will be crippled by these changes.

Students will have less opportunities to learn empathy and tolerance toward other peoples and belief systems.

Students will lose the chance to experience far away places that they may not have the means or opportunities to visit.

It will be more difficult for students to interact with, and appreciate the cultures of, our exchange students. As it is, I have had exchange students present about their homelands in my world history classes. These interactions are very fruitful, but without world history, exchange students will see that we do not value experience beyond our own borders.

Without first studying world history, students will not understand the cause and effect relationship between many historical events. For

N

earth and space science, biology, and the recommended physical science, or chemistry and physics, will have a rigorous science education in the three major strands of science. High school starts with earth and space science because this course is not as mathematically challenging as physical science; students will be better prepared for the math in physical science(s) in the eleventh grade.

World Languages is recommended for all students.

		<p>example, one cannot understand the American Revolution without first studying the philosophy of the Enlightenment philosophers (which are first introduced in the World History class).</p> <p>We risk forgetting about, and thereby repeating, the many mistakes that have occurred in world history.</p> <p>Without studying world history, students will not understand where they or their families came from. Knowing world history is part of everyones self-identity.</p> <p>Removing the World History course as a requirement sends a message that events beyond the borders of the United States do not affect us. This could not do our students more of a disservice, as global problems will be serious challenges throughout their lives. This is not just a class that is at stake: it is a worldview that says that it is important to be knowledgeable and understanding regarding all of humanity.</p>		
2020-01-02 19:35:55	<p>Brian McNeel Teacher Cabell Midland High School Ona WV</p>	<p>My concern is with the 9th grade science thats currently offered which is the Earth and Space Science (9th grade). I would recommend going back to Physical Science to be offered as the required 9th grade class and Earth and Space Science to be offered as a Recommended College and Career Readiness Course. The reason for this is because this class will help prepare students for the WV State Standardized Test (SAT). The content standards will help with math skills that Earth &amp; Space Science do not cover.</p>	N	See Response 12
2020-01-02 20:23:47	<p>Jennifer Conkle Statewide Apprenticeship Coordinator River Valley Childhood Development Huntington WV</p>	<p>I am not in favor of proposed changes in the state history curriculum. The proposal to eliminate the current two US history courses for the alternative of one comprehensive US course does not provide students the ample opportunity to develop an understanding of the governmental, social and cultural foundations of this country. The proposed student choice of a history or science course seems counterproductive. Many STEM jobs require the higher level thinking skills and knowledge taught in science courses. The current history and science course curriculum does not prevent students from experiencing CTE foundation courses, computer science or other elective courses. As a parent, my children had the opportunity to select numerous electives within their daily schedules.</p> <p>Students can gain work skills through completion of a CTE program but</p>	A/C	See Response 3

		in my experience students do not always obtain the needed credentials from CTE participation. Often individuals need additional training to obtain appropriate credentials and employment.		
2020-01-02 20:36:03	Cecil Mullins West Hamlin WV	Students have many elective classes within their schedules which allows them to explore careers or areas of interest. Weakening core course selection does not produce students with better employment skills.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-03 11:15:02	JoAnn Tweeddale Spanish Teacher Raleigh County Schools Bradley WV	I am urging WV State Department of Education to reconsider taking World History out of the mandatory curriculum for High School students. Our job in our state and in our country is to prepare our students for the 21st century. Preparing our students to be productive and positive citizens and for the careers they will pursue includes preparing them for interactions with others who are unlike they are, others that will come from all over the world. As a Spanish teacher I rely on my students having some background knowledge to assist them in learning about the Spanish language and culture again to help prepare them for the future. If we take World History out of the mandatory curriculum, students will not receive the necessary understanding of what makes our country and people, as well as different countries and the people who are a part of them who they are today. It would be a disservice to our students to not equip them with basic knowledge about the world and its history. Our US history is a part of World History and vice versa. I am also a parent of a child in this state and one of my concerns has always been about the education system. This decrease in mandatory standards, of not requiring World History, or even lowering credit hours to graduate, decreases the rigor of our education system, thus devaluing it. Our students and children deserve better. Please reconsider this policy to remove World History as a mandatory High School course. Thank your for your time, Sincerely, JoAnn Tweeddale	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-03 11:42:34	Lori Knight Principal Liberty (Raleigh) High School Glen Daniel WV	Raleigh County Schools requires 24 credits to graduate, the flexibility in the revisions to Policy 2510 will provide opportunities to address ALL students post-secondary plans, not just students planning to attend college. The flex credit especially will provide our students with choices of classes to personalize graduation requirements for the individual student based on interest, post-secondary plans or CTE interests.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-03	Andrew Carroll English Teacher	I think the assumption that "Students should consult their chosen post-secondary educational/training institution when choosing course options	A/C	See Response 10

12:47:27 Elkins High School  
Elkins WV

and electives" put too high a burden on students. All students who finish high school in West Virginia should come out ready and prepared for any opportunity. We should ensure that--it shouldn't be put on the students.

Requiring 22 credit hours to graduate doesn't make sense to me. Students on a block schedule who complete 32 courses could potentially fail an entire year of school and have enough credits to graduate. Additionally, putting it on county boards of education to set higher standards creates inequalities in our educational system. The state board should mandate high standards from the top down.

English: While more flexibility is a nice idea, in practice this erodes the abilities of schools to ensure that students have an equitable education and that they are prepared for college and the workforce. There is no way that English 9 and 10 can teach students all the skills and cultural currency they need to succeed in the world. Two years is too short a time to survey all the great literature the world has to offer and teach students how to read, write, listen, and speak critically. More than anything the state needs to help poorer counties support more electives and options. This flexibility is misplaced and will not improve educational quality.

Science. I fundamentally don't understand why four math and English courses are required, but only three sciences are. Students should be required to have science every year. I also question why Physical Science is not taught in 9th grade as a foundation for Biology, Chemistry, and other sciences. Earth and Space Science seems more appreciated for middle schoolers.

Social Studies. I oppose this change wholeheartedly. As a certified English and Social Studies teacher, I cannot understand how we can reduce the total number of social studies courses and expect improved student outcomes. One year is not enough time to cover American History and all students should be required to have a basic understanding of World History. Not requiring that much of students puts West Virginia in a position to fulfill terrible stereotypes that teachers fight against every day. It comes down to the question of "what kind of students do we want to create?". If we want to create thoughtful students

While we work with Higher Education Policy Commission to ensure students are prepared with the appropriate courses for in-state college programs, this language is necessary for students who chose to attend private and out-of-state institutions of higher education.

SAT School Day is a component of the West Virginia General Summative Assessment (WVGSA).

World Languages is recommended for all students.

		<p>who are ready to lead WV into the future we have to ask more of them and we have to make sure they have a rigorous education that exposes them to more than the United States. Additionally not requiring World History is antithetical to the diversity and multiculturalism that students need to be exposed to. Our students need a global perspective to compete in todays economy. I also feel that without the state mandate county boards of education will cut social studies positions.</p> <p>Does the WV GSA language need updating? What is the GSA now? The SAT?</p> <p>The Arts. I believe that many school districts--particularly poor districts--are not meeting this requirement to offer four sequential courses in the arts. I believe the state should help support this so that students have equitable educational opportunities.</p> <p>Flex Credit. I believe that the flex credit options should be required for all students.</p> <p>World Languages. The State Board of Education should require all students to complete two years of a world language.</p>		
<p>2020-01-03 15:18:00</p>	<p>Lisa Terry English/Language Arts Independence High School Coal City WV</p>	<p>The elements of a thorough and efficient system of education is elaborated upon in 3.2.d, stating that "an appropriately demanding curriculum for all students, with emphasis on the program of study that are aligned with rigorous standards, learning skills, and technology tools..." I do not see how a semester-long elective such as Creative Writing can be equivalent to a year-long core curriculum class such as English 11 or English 12. It would seem that we would be failing to provide an appropriately demanding curriculum.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>See Response 10</p>
<p>2020-01-05 12:25:09</p>	<p>Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV</p>	<p>This is where I am in strong disagreement with the current policy, as written.</p> <p>I cannot state in stronger terms that I think eliminating World History as a requirement from our curriculum is a terrible move and will send us backwards in many educational rankings. West Virginia can find tremendous value in teaching World History to its students. As a state that is not tremendously diverse, and with many students who never venture far from WVs borders, it is imperative that we continue to teach</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 3</p>

		<p>what is outside of our world and how that explains how we got where we are now.</p> <p>There is much research as to why World History is important;  <a href="https://whfua.history.ucla.edu/shared/thinking.php">https://whfua.history.ucla.edu/shared/thinking.php</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-world-history/ap-world-history-beginnings/what-is-world-history/a/what-is-world-history">https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-world-history/ap-world-history-beginnings/what-is-world-history/a/what-is-world-history</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.thewha.org/about/what-is-world-history/">https://www.thewha.org/about/what-is-world-history/</a></p> <p>There is also no reasonable reason to ask for a US Comprehensive class. Many people at the state department will say that WV is only one of two states who don't teach a "comprehensive" US History class. This is a very misleading stat. For example, Maryland offers a "Comprehensive" course, but it is US history after the civil war. They just label it as comprehensive. Lumping 500 years of US History in to one course is a poor way to teach our history. It happens in AP US History, but that is typically a very different type of history student than the average WV Student.</p> <p>At the end of the day, we need to ask ourselves why we are wanting to REDUCE Social Studies requirements. Social Studies courses are not the reason students do not graduate on time. Social Studies courses are not a problem in WV.</p> <p>If the goal of public education is to develop an informed citizenry, why would we try to limit the educational opportunities in the Social Studies field to do this?</p>		
<p>2020-01-05 13:09:36</p>	<p>Mary Humphreys Lewisburg WV</p>	<p>I am speaking to the reduction of the social studies graduation requirement from four credits to three credits. I am opposed to the reduction of social studies credits, and I am also opposed to substituting ROTC for a social studies credit. Students will be required to take one comprehensive American history class and one civics course and one elective. What is the reasoning for not requiring World History especially given the times we live in? We are no longer isolated from the world and the impact world actions have on America. We live in an interdependent world. Students need to be educated in world affairs in</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

		<p>order to make logical and rational decisions as well as having a greater understanding of world affair and the impact on their lives. The primary purpose of social studies is to give students a basis for making rational decisions in a diverse world. Not studying World History would be a deterrent to this purpose. An obvious example of this would be the recent Nazi salute at the officer training. Social studies has always been the class which students learn civic engagement and lessening the the credits for social studies sends an implied message to our students. Social studies does not only teach history. It teaches tolerance, literature, technology, community involvement, respect and so much more. Secondly, I do not ascribe to the notion that ROTC can be substituted for a social studies credit. While ROTC instructors do a fine job, adding social studies standards to an overworked staff would be detrimental to both instructor and student. Social studies should be taught by qualified instructors with a certification in social studies. I see this as an attempt to cut social studies positions and push Dual Credit. Although I appreciate that this policy would allow counties flexibility most counties will follow the lead of this policy and reduce social studies credit from four to three as it will become a cost savings measure.</p>		
2020-01-05 13:30:56	William Plymale Social Studies Teacher Upshur County Schools Buckhannon WV	<p>I take issue to a further reduction of graduation requirements, and the proposed changes to social studies and physical education requirements. We are currently one of the most obese states in the United States yet we want to add flexibility to the one year PE requirement we currently have. If anything students need more time in physical education and health classes in our state. I also feel that in today's political climate we would be doing our students a disservice in reducing social studies requirements. Our students are future voters, soldiers, and politicians and they need as much exposure world events, our Nations history, civics, and economics as possible. In conclusion, I feel the reduction of graduation credits devalues our students and further erodes the work ethic we are trying to instill.</p>	N A/C	<p>The proposed policy does not reduce the number of required credits for graduation.</p> <p>There were no changes made to the physical education requirements.</p> <p>See Response 1</p>
2020-01-05 13:35:57	Colby Johnson Mr. Charleston WV	<p>The idea that dismantling core requirements for social studies in high school is simply put, preposterous. Social studies allows students to learn about not only their own culture and how it was developed, but the culture of those who are not similar to them. While this is one of the main purposes of this field of education, one main aspect we always hear</p>	A/C	<p>See Response 1</p>

		are “if you aren’t aware of history, we are bound to repeat it.” Without informing high schoolers of all forms of history, not just US History, we allow them to become a well-rounded student who can appreciate and value other cultures, while also teaching them the failures of the past and how to avoid those as well.		
2020-01-05 15:05:56	Christy Whetsell Morgantown Wv	I find it amazing that there would be any consideration of decreasing the social studies credit required for students from 4 to 3. I have a recent graduate, as well as another set to graduate this year, and as the adage goes, if we do not learn from the past, we are bound to repeat those mistakes. Allowing decreased requirements from their understanding of the world and its history, only means that we are going to grow further as a divided society. Education allows understanding to develop, with hope, grows a spark in the young to make a better world. So no, I vehemently decry allowing our younger children to miss this educational opportunity.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-05 16:01:17	Tara Veazey Charleston WV	Students need to have 4 years of social studies including world history. A world history class in middle school is not the same as having world history in high school. Please re-evaluate this and make the right choice for students. As this is written there are many loopholes (too many substitutions) and students may not be getting all of the high school credits they need in order to get into college. Currently we have students in high school that are already not learning about World War II because they have elected to take psychology and sociology instead of 11th grade history - we need to rectify this problem not continue to add to it.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	Once again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teach reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we are striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum	A/C	See Response 3

		as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!		
2020-01-06 08:17:35	Canady Science Teacher Huntington High Huntington WV	EarthSpace science should NOT be the prescribed science for 9th grade. It is too broad and abstract and doesn't align with course expectations for college applicants. It is especially harmful to students who depend on developing the foundational skills in physical science to succeed in upper level chemistry and physics courses required for careers in medicine, engineering and other STEM careers that our state and country are struggling to fill.	N	See Response 12
2020-01-06 08:23:16	Eric Father Huntington WV	Change 9th grade science back to physical science. Earth science is hurting our students.	N	See Response 12
2020-01-06 08:34:48	Ellen Johnson teacher Huntington High School Huntington WV	Social studies should be 4 credits ensuring that we have students and citizens that are aware of the past and the world around them. Science should be 4 credits including Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Earth Science (or Physical Science). Science electives should also be available. Our goal is to make our students and future citizens more informed of how the world works. This is the only way to properly prepare them for college and independent thinking. Our state has many obstacles to overcome. Making the curriculum easier is not the answer.	A/C A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-06 08:38:11	William Teacher Cabell County Huntington WV	Social Studies credits should remain at 4 credits. Students truly need this. The entry level class for 9th graders in science should be Physical Science. Earth and Space science is important but it does not prepare students for the true STEM pathway. If they attempt chemistry or physics they do not have the basics skills to succeed. Earth and Space is covered in physical science.	A/C N	See Response 1 See Response 12

<p>2020-01-06 08:39:25</p>	<p>Carmen Dial Teacher Cabell Co Schools Huntington WV</p>	<p>These changes in high school programming will offer students flexibility however it will also diminish the value of a high school diploma. In particular, the areas of social studies and science. Students should be required to take four of each of these classes in high school. These areas in particular are critical to a foundational knowledge of any contributing member of society.</p>	<p>A/C N</p>	<p>See Response 1  See Response 6</p>
<p>2020-01-06 20:57:09</p>	<p>C. Bryan Daugherty Teacher &amp; President of RCHS Faculty-Senate Ritchie County High School Ellenboro WV</p>	<p>I appreciate and applaud the move to give students more choices. But my recommendation was during the "listening tour" as it is now to simply give students a choice on what to take in place of World History as freshmen. Additionally, it should be a course that involves studying diversity like geography, world history, or teacher designed course like the civil war, civil rights &amp; womens suffrage, or my international studies class at Ritchie County High School.</p>	<p>A/S</p>	
<p>2020-01-06 21:27:42</p>	<p>C. Bryan Daugherty Teacher &amp; President of RCHS Faculty-Senate Ritchie County High School Ellenboro WV</p>	<p>I am strongly opposed to reducing the social studies requirements to only three. But if that is a foregone conclusion (which I am sure most if not all of these proposed changes are), can we at least compromise on not combining both early U.S. history and modern U.S. history. All of my fellow history and government teachers nationwide all hate that they have combined the two in their states. Even the college board has advised and suggested that schools simply teach their AP U.S. history course into two consecutive years or semesters prior to the AP Exam. This ensure students as well as the teachers do not get overwhelmed with the amount of material. I am more of a quality over quantity guy. Mandate Civics, have students choose one of the two U.S. histories, and then one other again in regarding diversity like geography, world history, and teacher-designed courses like my international studies or perhaps civil war, civil rights and womens suffrage, etc.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 3</p>
<p>2020-01-06 21:32:51</p>	<p>C. Bryan Daugherty Teacher &amp; President of RCHS Faculty-Senate Ritchie County High School Ellenboro WV</p>	<p>While I am a social studies teacher, I got as far as Calculus II at West Virginia Wesleyan before I realized it would be better to teach what I am passionate about instead of what came easy to me. If you are serious about giving students more choices, then you should also lower the required math credits to three as well (for an additional flex). The math teachers at my school tell me that the students who take Trigonometry are the ones who do well on the SAT. Beyond that, how many math classes do WV high school students need for college (most will only need college algebra)? All those not going to college, why do they need</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>This proposed policy leaves the decision to take math every year up to counties.</p>

		to take a fourth math in their senior year? Besides, are we not suffering a shortage of math teachers. And before all the STEM people freak out, the kids preparing for those fields, they are already taking 5, 6, or more courses. I had a student at RCHS that graduated recently had 8 courses in mathematics.		
2020-01-06 21:36:18	C. Bryan Daugherty Teacher & President of RCHS Faculty-Senate Ritchie County High School Ellenboro WV	If we are reducing the number of social studies credits, why are we still combining civics with personal finance? I have attended various conferences including Finance University and I still do not feel comfortable or qualified to teach personal finance. And from nearly 10 years of trying best, I know for certain that we are doing a disservice to our graduating students when we combine both. They need both courses separately. Instead of requiring students to take a fourth math credit, why do we not require personal finance separately. Far more of our students will gain literally priceless knowledge and skill from a personal finance taught by a math teacher or business teacher than from trigonometry. Am I wrong?	N	Social studies standards are staying the same. While personal finance standards are embedded in the civics course, those standards are based more on becoming productive citizens than mathematical computations.
2020-01-06 21:39:46	Andrea Hasley Teacher Berkeley County Schools MARTINSBURG WV	The Arts should be considered as a "flex" option in that section of high school requirements. Students often take multiple arts classes such as music theory or art history. Allowing an additional arts "flex" credit would be especially helpful to the students who are pursuing careers in the arts.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-06 22:41:55	Katie Schramm Choir director and fine arts department chair Martinsburg High School Martinsburg WV	The Flex credit option should also include Fine Arts credits, as students wanting to pursue the arts as a profession need more than just a four year progression class to be prepared for their future career. Some examples would be music theory for acceptance as a college music major and photography for an art major.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-07 06:10:41	James Atchison Weston WV	FYI ... Supreme Court Chief Justice John ... Democracy Isn't Free, It Must be Learned ... "In his annual year-end report on the federal courts, Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts lamented that the country has come to "take democracy for granted" since the founding as civic education has "fallen by the wayside" and pointed to greater knowledge of government workings as an antidote to certain misinformation." "In our age, when social media can instantly spread rumor and false information on a grand scale the public's need to understand our government, and the protections it provides, is ever more vital," Justice	A/S	Response is unclear as to changes being addressed.

		Roberts wrote.  <a href="https://thehill.com/homenews/news/476403-justice-roberts-touts-civic-education-as-antidote-to-social-media-fueled">https://thehill.com/homenews/news/476403-justice-roberts-touts-civic-education-as-antidote-to-social-media-fueled</a>		
2020-01-07 08:30:27	Michael Tortolon HS History Teacher Parkersburg High School Parkersburg WV	Civics and US History are essential to understand our nation and our jobs as citizens of the United States, but without the context of how our nation came about makes it incomplete. Students need world history to be better prepared for their future. In a world that is getting smaller with the advances of technology we are doing them a disservice if we are not teaching them about nations and peoples outside of our own. Students who are not exposed to different ideas and cultures will have a much higher chance of holding bigoted view points. Why are we wanting to create worse citizens?	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-08 10:56:27	Jill Balsler Teacher LCHS Weston WV	Could you clarify the requirements for students to attend 4 full years of high school as mentioned in the current Policy 2510 under 5.5.H ?	A/C	A change was made to clarify four full years of high school and the attendance exemption.
2020-01-08 13:36:41	Kelly Allen Teacher Putnam County Schools Hurricane WV	Keep US history in two sections, keep World Studies as an requirement. Civics could be absorbed into the US History Courses.  I would like to address the reduction of social studies credits for graduation. First, teaching US history in one semester would be a great disservice to students. In a time where patriotism and identity is declining, glancing over topics of US History would further hinder the introspective approach of who we are and what we stand for.  Second, World Studies - In a time where technology is making the world instantaneous available, students need a rich understanding and acceptable of different cultures and beliefs. History is inescapable. All people and peoples are living history. We live in societies with complex cultures that have not built on the spur of the moment but through the development of history. It is vital for students to understand the stepping stones of development of modern civilizations.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-08	McKenzie Allen Hurricane WV	Reduction of social studies credits is absolutely absurd and a disgrace. As a US citizen, it is highly important to understand this countrys past.	A/C	See Response 3

14:02:29		US history NEEDS to be taught as TWO COURSES. Learning the entire countrys history in one simple course is near impossible. In addition, the learning of WORLD HISTORY IS REQUIRED. Not only are we citizens of the US, but we are citizens of the world. This course does not simply teach the past, but it teaches students where countries are, how they came about, and the cultures inside them. Understanding different cultures is a vital aspect in being able to understand and accept others. Being in the US, our population was created by the bringing together different cultures. It is a disservice to the students remove this opportunity of learning. As the saying goes, those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it. This meaning, those WHO DO NOT GET THE CHANCE TO EVEN LEARN THE HISTORY ARE DOOMED TO REPEAT IT. Reduction of social studies credits harms those who really matter, the people who are our future, THE STUDENTS.		
2020-01-08 14:17:26	Clay Ellis Gilbert WV	First off this is so unnecessary and can hurt the students. This must be taught in two different sections. Students Should also have a mandatory world history class. Students have to know about this country and we cannot possibly expect them to learn this in one class.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-08 14:35:37	Kelli Epling CAP George Washington High School Charleston West	This is an excellent change for high school programming. This allows for more personalized learning opportunities.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-09 07:27:45	Amy Mortensen Teacher Liberty High School Clarksburg WV	This is a watering down of education. As a high school teacher, I feel that this program is doing a huge disservice to our students. Rather than raising our expectations and ensuring our students are prepared for being a responsible, contributing member of our society, we are creating a generation lacking necessary skills to be competitive in our society. As our Chief Supreme Court Justice if calling for increased study of civics, we are decreasing our social sciences requirements. As we are calling for more people to go into STEM fields, we are reducing science requirements. If I owned a business and was considering locating it here in West Virginia, this policy would make me think twice because I would worry about finding a workforce that can adapt and change quickly in our global society. It is not 1950, when you can graduate from high school, find a good paying job in the coal mines that will allow you	A/C	See Response 1  <b>Response 13:</b> Additional science, computer science, and CTE courses do not lower the rigor of course requirements.

		to retire from that same company years later. Data shows that people are changing careers more frequently. We are seeing a huge change in retail and other industries right now. The state of West Virginia needs to ensure that we have a competitive work force with the basic skills learned in core subjects - English, math, science, and social sciences. Increasing the number of credits needed to graduate back to the previous levels and requiring four years of ALL four cores is what we need to be doing as responsible educators.		
2020-01-09 13:01:30	Kathy Jacquez C & I Coordinator Marion County Schools Fairmont West	With the emphasis on STEM career awareness, it is ridiculous to not encourage students to take as much science and math as possible in high school. The fact that students may take 1 less required social studies class will greatly facilitate taking the STEM classes. In addition, by requiring one less social studies class for graduation, social studies departments will be able to offer elective classes like psychology and sociology to name just two.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-09 13:25:33	Diana Boston Parent Vienna WV	I believe that the flexibility in course offerings for Science and Social Studies will benefit high school students. My son is a junior and will not benefit from this, but I wish it had been in place so he could.  I would like to see more flexibility in Physical Education at the high school level. For example marching band students spend hours marching and conditioning, but it does not count as PE credit and JROTC does. Please consider making other courses count as part of the statewide policy instead of leaving it up to the local systems.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-09 14:59:55	Seth Floyd Teacher Cabell Midland High School Ona WV	I believe that dropping the required credits for graduation to 22 is a disservice to the students of WV. Students need to keep a rigorous curriculum over their years in High School. As a science teacher I would suggest that Physical Science be the prescribed course for 9th graders, going away from Earth and Space Science. The reasons is that we are preparing these students for the State Assessment, the SAT, and most of the science embedded material that is on the SAT is physical science related. This would also get the number of students that take a Chemistry and a Physics course to increase and increasing rigor of the science curriculum.	N	See Response 7
2020-01-09	Jennifer Gills-Scott Teacher	Im commenting in support of the Flex Credit option for students. The Flex Credit will make it easier for STEM oriented students to incorporate an additional Science or Computer Science course into their	A/S	See Response 1

17:45:40	Oak Hill High School Fayetteville WV	schedule. It will also still allow the option to choose a fourth Social Studies course, as was previously required. This would be of great benefit to the students of West Virginia.		
2020-01-10 07:28:16	Chris White Teacher Jefferson High School Shenandoah Junction WV	I am against the measure to reduce the number of social studies credit hours needed for high school students. In the history of our society, a more educated society with the knowledge of what came before and what is currently happening in their world creates better opportunities for them to succeed in the modern climate. By reducing an hour off of the currently required 4 credit hours, in addition to the decision previously to remove Social Studies from state-wide testing, this would send a message that social studies and its affiliated contents are not important. In order to have a better educated, more independent-thinking future adult, the current status of 4 credit hours for social studies must be maintained. We are in the business of helping to mold the future generations and help all students achieve their full potential. Social Studies is vital to this effort. After all, those who do not study history are doomed to repeat past mistakes. I hope the WV Board of Education heeds that last sentence as it decided whether to further curtail expectations for the social studies curriculum.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-10 08:29:34	John Putnam Chemistry Teacher Gilmer County High School Glennville WV	2510: My opinion is that flex scheduling would be beneficial to personalized learning plans for high school students--if offering the option for 3 social studies/4 science credits or 4 social studies/3 science credits. If the Flex Credit is approved, students may still choose to take 4 social studies courses four graduation, OR they may choose to take only 3 social studies course and take a science, computer science, or a CTE course. This will make it easier for students to fit an additional STEM course into their schedules.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-10 08:54:17	Leann Sayre Fairmont WV	More and more emphasis is now being placed on STEM career awareness. With that agenda in place, we need to encourage our students to take as much science and math classes as possible in high school. A high school requirement of just three social studies class will greatly facilitate taking more STEM classes. Social studies departments will also have more time in their schedules to offer elective classes for the students that are interested and passionate in that field of study.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-10	Denise Gipson Teacher Charles Town Middle	Yes for the Flex credit.	N	See Response 1

09:03:1 2	School Charles Town WV			
2020- 01-10 10:51:5 3	Tonia Carpenter Jackson County Schools Ripley WV	English credits to two would be a mistake. I also feel that students need to understand their history, and how their government works, so cutting social studies down to three credits would also be a mistake. Our job as teachers is to create contributing citizens to society. I feel that the humanities is the best way to do this. Without the humanities we lose civility.	A/C	See Responses 1 and 10
2020- 01-10 11:51:4 3	n/a	Once again, we see WV lowering the graduation standards of high school students, just to proclaim how high our graduation rates are. These suggestions are just to inflate graduation rates and lower the bar. However, our diplomas from our WV will mean even less than they do now. As we sit as one of the worst states in the entire nation, we should be looking for ways to raise the standards for our students. These changes will lead to children who are not prepared for the real world. We will lose qualified staff that have a vested interest in students because of this measure just due to the fact that once again we are lowering the amount of classes needed. Instead of creating ways to lower the bar, lets create policies that put us on par with states around us. Remember, as our population declines, families that wish to move to any location, will always look at schools first. No one would want to have their child educated in this lackluster system.	N	The proposed policy does not reduce the number of required credits for graduation.
2020- 01-10 15:12:2 0	Peter Starnes Science Teacher Cabell Midland High School Ona WV	I would like to have an option for one of the prescribed science credits be physical science instead of earth and space science. We are finding every school year that students coming out of earth and space science and biology are not ready to take chemistry, physics, or have adequate math skills for other science based course. This is especially true for college bound students who need 4 science credits, which will usually be chemistry and physics. In addition to this, students should always be encourage to practice math in other areas outside of math class. Science is a great place to put math concepts into action. Having physical science as an optional prescribed credit would allow students to further their math skills in a practical.	N	See Response 12
2020- 01-10 19:02:5 2	WV Teacher Teacher N/A Fayetteville WV	I would prefer teaching Physical Science to 9th graders over Earth & Space Science. Switching the standards left students who were planning to take chemistry and physics under prepared. AP classes are losing numbers for this reason. Kids who are not good at math choose not to	N	See Response 12

		<p>take physical science as an elective. In addition to this, physical science has basic algebra. The majority of students come into 9th grade lacking the basic skill of how to solve and rearrange equations. While this is a math problem not a science problem, science teachers are able to support math teachers and help pick up the slack. (This is a positive.)</p> <p>Also, I would like to comment on the Flex credit. As a teacher and a mother of a child in public school, I appreciate the option to allow STEM students to focus on their preparatory coursework for college. Not every student needs to take a 4th social studies. Theoretically, giving students more buy-in to creating their schedules would encourage them to perform higher.</p>	A/S	
2020-01-10 21:15:54	Clark Proctor Wv	<p>Flex credit will allow students who enjoy sciences and take more than the required 3 courses to use their credits toward the graduation requirements. Some students take 6 or 7 science courses and would be able to fit more easily into their schedule if the 4th social studies were not required. I also believe that more 9th grade student are able to pass Earth and Space Science than Physical Science. I taught physical science for 15 years and most 9th graders struggle with the chemistry and physics mathematics. Earth science is a subject that is more relative to them. 9th grade is a difficult adjustment already because they now have to pass their classes. Some students have never passed a science class and now as a high school student they must. Adding the math of chemistry and physics only makes it more difficult for those who struggle.</p>	N	See Response 1
2020-01-11 10:18:14	Emily Helton Education Outreach Specialist Katherine Johnson NASA ERC Fairmont WV	<p>It is in students best interest to allow the "Flex credit" option, where instead of taking 4 social studies credits, they can decide to take three and an additional STEM/CTE course. At this point in their educational career, students should be allowed to make choices that align with their goals.</p> <p>I strongly believe that Earth &amp; Space Science should remain the required 9th grade class. This content is engaging, and the entire middle school sequence of curriculum is designed with this in mind. Students can be successful with the material in this class even if they do not think of themselves as "science" or "math" people.</p>	N	See Response 1

		Ive heard people stating that students aren as well prepared for chemistry as they should be and so to remedy this, the 9th grade course should be physical science. Physical science requires more math than many 9th grade students have had. Also, 8th grade has a huge emphasis on chemistry, and if there are issues with students not being prepared, then we need to do better training and supporting 8th grade science teachers.	A/S	
2020-01-11 12:48:46	Ardis Herrold Appointed Director NESTA Tucson AZ	I strongly advocate keeping Earth Space science as the ninth grade course. This science is more relevant for both practical knowledge and scientific literacy, helping our citizens make informed decisions about the environment, natural resources and climate change. It is a good high school transition course for those students who are below grade level in math, and engages students with a relevant course of study. This and life science are the 2 science courses all students should have.	A/S	
2020-01-11 19:03:19	Tammy Business Own Professional taxpayer Kennna Wv	Please our state is very uninformed as it is our students need to learn history to protect the future. Leave the requirements as they are it not hurting students to learn history and in the long run it may stop history from repeating itself!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-11 19:50:57	Eileen Poling Retired teacher WVEA-R Parsons WV	Only requiring one social studies course is sending education back many years and depriving our kids of needed learning.	N	See Response 8
2020-01-11 20:08:04	Gina Knowles Sandy Ut	I do not live in your state, but was saddened to hear about your proposed compression of history classes needed for graduation. It is vital that our students be taught about our past—local, state, nation and world—and are instructed in civics. In a society where representatives are voted on by the people and some decision come directly to the voters, it is especially important for them to understand the world around them. They need to understand why their active engagement is important. They need to see what things were tried in the past and how it affected outcomes, both good and bad. Each person’s character is made up by their past experience. It’s the same with neighborhoods, states, nations, and the world at large. The character of where we live is made up from that place’s background or history. Students need time to discuss, consider, and contemplate primary source documents to understand these things. A quick gloss over doesn’t cut it. Your students deserve better.	A/C	See Response 1

2020-01-11 21:18:11	Lynn Foley Petersburg WV	No to cutting social studies credits. These are very important classes. The lessons learned in history apply to all of us whether we attend college or not. I consider these classes to be equalizers-information we all should know. I can't imagine why this is even being considered. At age seventy I still remember and use the information I learned in civics, history, and social studies. Isn't the SB of Ed supposed to support the education	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-11 21:53:09	Susan Alkire Retired teacher & technology integration specialist Hampshire County Schools Romney WV	In a world that keeps shrinking due to technology, people need to know more, not less, about history and geography. In a country where so much political misinformation abounds, future citizens need to be more informed about government, not less. They certainly won't learn these things on their own or from the news. Students need more social studies, not less. They need economics and sociology studies as well.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 06:05:47	Gibbs Kinderman Union WV	Do NOT reduce HS social studies requirements. In this rapidly changing, ever more connected world, kids need to know more about our history and that of other countries, not less!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 07:58:40	Anthony May US Air Force Logan WV	Reducing the history/social studies requirements may create more time in a student's schedule for career-based courses but it is directly detrimental to the student's ability to critically think through political or social issues. This can lead to an under-informed population that cannot properly contextualize information in our current social and political environment. I highly recommend against this proposal.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 08:02:50	Ciro Grassi CAPON BRIDGE WV	There is no good reason to lower the standards for Social Studies in this state. Adults here are already too ignorant about the world outside their own towns and yet you want to also limit the knowledge of the students. This is preposterous.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 09:23:55	Nancy Hanlon Parent Huntington WV	Leave the social studies requirements as they currently are. Students need a broad exposure to social studies such as world history, American history, civics & so on! Requiring less credits will create more ignorance! Also, please consult teachers & those "in the trenches" ...even students...when considering such decisions!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 09:34:50	Suzanne Williams-McAuliffe Martinsburg WV	Reducing the high school requirement to only one course in history seems like a deliberate attempt to "dumb down" our children and the electorate. It's madness and a clear attempt to push past Mississippi in the race to the bottom in education. Studying history is the only way to	A/C	See Response 8

		<p>ensure we learn from it and don't repeat our mistakes. But an uneducated electorate is easy to fool and lead like sheep - maybe that's what politicians and state government want.</p>		
<p>2020-01-12 09:45:24</p>	<p>Thomas P Epling Mr. CASS WV</p>	<p>Jan Barth, Ed.D. Assistant State Superintendent Division of Teaching and Learning West Virginia Department of Education Capitol Building 6, Room 215 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0330 E-Mail Address: jan.barth@k12.wv.us Telephone No.: 304.558.8098</p> <p>Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth:</p> <p>I am a retired high school science teacher, and am very concerned with the direction education takes in West Virginia.</p> <p>I read, with interest, an article in today's Charleston Gazette Mail, that indicated the Department of Education is considering a High School Programming policy (126-42-6) to shorten the requirements for Social Studies, that would decrease the amount of time for students to learn about world history and government policy. I wish to express my strong opposition to this proposal. If anything, our schools should be increasing these requirements. We live in a time of political turmoil that threatens to destroy our democracy, increase our isolation from world cooperation and return us to the authoritarian regimes that we fought to defeat in World War II. Denying students information about our past and about the evolution of our political institutions does a disservice to us all.</p> <p>I recommend increasing requirements to spend more time on the subjects of history, politics, and government. In addition I recommend using multi-disciplinary instruction to address these subjects. There is a great deal of good literature that exposes the wrongs inherent in authoritarian regimes that would give students a good background in civics and government. These could be taught in English and literature classes along with government classes. Our citizenry will fail to provide the leadership and strength we need without this education.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

		<p>I urge you to do everything in your power not do diminish our students' educational opportunities, and instead expand them.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Thomas P. Epling 298 Shay Lane Cass, WV 24927 (304)456-4387 eplings@icloud.com</p>		
2020-01-12 09:57:29	Eric Williams beaver WV	Social Studies/History classes are vital to education. If kids are not taught about what has happened in the past, the failures and mistakes will be repeated in the future.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 10:00:51	Jay O'Neal Social Studies Teacher Charleston WV	<p>Please DO NOT lower the Social Studies requirements for graduation. Trying to teach all of US history in ONE course is just not possible. In an era of "fake news," students need to learn how to be critical thinkers. In order to be critical thinkers, they need TIME. They need to go in depth on certain topics and examine the cause and effects-- this is impossible to do if US History is rushed through.</p> <p>Please do not reduce the Social Studies requirements to 3 overall, please kept it at 4. We need to be graduating critical thinkers, and Social Studies is THE class to help do that. It would be a grave mistake to lower the requirements-- especially right now!</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 11:33:51	Kim Parent Wv	So many changes have been made to the school system. And these changes were supposed to be for the better. I can't see where they have helped. Every one is pushing technology. Taking tests to compare everyone to each other. If everyone were meant to be alike it would be a boring world. To take something worth learning out is a huge mistake. If that's the case gym class should not be mandatory. This is something not needed at a high school level. Unless the child wants to take it. That would leave a slot open for something worth learning.	N	See Responses 4 and 5
2020-01-12	Thomas Johnson public citizen	I OPPOSE THE PROPOSAL TO ALLOW COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEMS TO REDUCE SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS FOR	A/C	See Response 1

11:38:1 2	none. Pence Springs WV	HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. IT IS MY OPINION THAT TO DO SO WOULD RUN COUNTER TO THE NEED TO ENSURE THAT OUR SCHOOLS ARE PRODUCING INFORMED CITIZENS WHICH ARE NECESSARY FOR THE PROPER FUNCTIONING OF OUR DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY.		
2020-01-12 11:38:4 9	Jennifer Berdine Teacher Ohio County Schools Wheeling WV	Please keep the current requirements for social studies education the same. I graduated summa cum laude from Temple University with a degree in social studies education and I understand the importance of teaching students about the past in order to make them good citizens today. Thank you!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 12:12:4 2	Michelle Martin PreK Director Berkeley County Schools Martinsburg WV	I fear that by limiting the teaching of history, government functions and social studies instruction in general that the upcoming generations of school citizens will be further relaint on social media, Wikipedia and streaming media to educate them on what has occurred in history, influence independent thought and in general cause history to be erased and/or altered to suit the current political thinking.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-12 12:39:1 0	Shannon Henderson Teacher PCS Winfield WV	I personally think that students should be required to take a half credit or full credit each year of social studies. This is imperative to our country remaining a democracy and for students to enter the world with an understanding of cultures that are different than ours. Knowledge in this area helps people to be participatory in our government and changing world with more than just an opinion but an educated world view informed opinion. Decreasing social studies requirements for graduation puts our government - ranging from local to national - at risk of stagnancy.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 12:53:0 4	Chris Skinner Dr. Concerned citizen Buckhannon WV	The decision to give counties the option to cut social studies to a one-class option is dangerous and foolish. All school subjects are of equal importance. Our students need to have a firm understanding of history in order to become productive citizens. Regardless of the post-secondary goals of our students, we should be providing them with the knowledge and skills necessary to form their own views on important issues. Social studies is critical to this. The one-course proposal would remove absolutely essential topics from the curriculum or dramatically shorten time spent on key historical moments. For example, topics like the Holocaust, the Vietnam War, and the War on Terror necessitate extensive exploration. We owe our students a complete education, which includes a full, robust social studies program. West Virginia cannot	A/C	See Response 1

		<p>afford these shortcuts. Our state needs young individuals to become and stay engaged. Honestly, this move appears to be a targeted attempt to remove several topics that do not support the wishes of various shareholders in our state, shareholders who do not have the best interest of West Virginians in mind. Further, as a product of the WV school system, I felt our social studies curriculum was critical to my academic development. I am now a college professor, holding a PhD in Nutrition. However, the social studies education I received instilled a passion in me for being an engaged and informed citizen. I had educators on both sides of the political aisle, who sought to provide their students with all the information necessary to form their own views. I could go on about how important a well-rounded social studies education is, but my point has been made. In short, this is stupid and a terrible idea. Don't do this to our students. Don't do this to our state.</p>		
<p>2020-01-12 13:04:41</p>	<p>Robin L. Godfrey self Charleston WV</p>	<p>Dr. Barth: Re the proposal to allow reduction in social studies instruction (see Sunday Gaz-Mail), I think this is a terrible idea. Less instruction = less involvement in our public life = lower voters turnout. Which I suspect, somewhere in this whole thing, is a long-term objective. My middle son went to Iraq for 13 months 2004-2005 to help bring them the right to vote. Meanwhile, we e working to diminish voting in this country.</p> <p>Im totally opposed to this reduction that would allow less social studies instructions---clearly we need MORE--- and I think its symptomatic of why our state looks like a regressive backwater. Our young people are well aware of this: they e leaving.</p> <p>FYI, I sent three boys through our public schools (all Capital High grads). Ive practiced law in Chas. for over 40 years. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
<p>2020-01-12 13:51:45</p>	<p>Janet Raether Cross Lanes WV</p>	<p>We need more History/Civics in our schools - not less! When asked basic Civic/History questions, the majority of West Virginians, cannot give a correct answer. If we do not study History, then we are doomed to repeat the same mistakes. We cannot expect to attract business/corporations if we keep dumbing down our curriculum.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
<p>2020-01-12 13:59:19</p>	<p>Ray Lynch Princeton WV</p>	<p>Social studies requirements, particularly US history, should not be reduced. In fact, our US history studies should be expanded. Today's culture demonstrates an enormous lack of knowledge about the history of the US.</p>	A/C	See Response 1



3) Eliminating world history as a required credit significantly hurts students. World history is essential for a well-rounded education. It provides students with a deeper understanding of other world cultures, allows them to understand differing perspectives in history, enables them to better comprehend current events and world affairs, and provides students with crucial critical thinking skills. The absence of this class would be a great loss to the development of our students as productive members of society.

4) History education is important. Developing a proper background in history and social studies allows students to become better and more productive citizens in our community. Reducing the amount of history courses does not allow for an adequate background to be developed. Not having this background hinders our progress as a society. It opens students up to prejudices, misunderstandings, and a weaker grasp on the world around us. History is something we should learn from and use to improve the future. How can our students work to create a better tomorrow if they haven't been taught the mistakes of the past in the first place?

5) We just changed graduation requirements a few years ago. Is it possible to just keep the current requirements? They seem to be working well for most school districts. In education it is vital to have consistency. Changing requirements every 2-3 years is not consistency, confuses parents, students, and educators, and does not allow for growth.

These changes also create issues for educational professionals in the state:

1) This would likely lead to many counties being forced to reduce the number of social studies teachers that are employed. This seems to be clear in terms of the number of classes that would be cut by only requiring three credits and making the third credit any social studies course. The math would equal out to positions being reduced.

2) Many teachers are upset by this proposed policy change. I fear this could potentially lead to a further exodus of educated professionals from West Virginia to surrounding states. Highly qualified teachers want to

		<p>see higher standards in West Virginia, not lower.</p> <p>3) This creates a potential scheduling and employment nightmare for school systems. The number of staff required to teach history classes will fluctuate every single school year based on specific course enrollment numbers. This will create job insecurity, and make WV increasingly unattractive to teach in.</p> <p>Overall, we should raise standards, not lower them. My proposal would be to make it required to have four English credits, four history credits (with world history, US history, and civics being required courses), four science credits, and four math credits to graduate. This could be done and still provide students with choice (have the fourth credit for each core subject be the student's choice). This would prepare our students for college and make our state more competitive. At the very least, please consider just keeping the existing requirements.</p>		
2020-01-12 14:30:21	Sue Ann Heatherly Senior Education Officer Green Bank Observatory Green Bank West	I write to voice my support for retaining Earth and Space Science as the required science class for all ninth grade students. This course, much like the practice of science, is truly integrated, containing elements of physics, chemistry, biology, astronomy, geology and meteorology. As such it is an excellent freshmen level high school level course, with real world application that students can relate to.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-12 15:11:08	Mary E O'Farrell self Charleston WV	High school students need a broader education in social studies in today's world, not a more narrowly-focused curriculum, in order to understand better what is going on between our country and other nations with whom we don't see eye to eye. Unnecessary wars have been fought between countries which didn't understand their own history or the history of another nation with whom they were in conflict. Greater knowledge of history, and of different kinds of government can help to avoid the tragedy of unnecessary and useless wars, and of the waste, destruction (human and environmental), and unrestrained greed which they unleash. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this very important matter!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12	Joanne Parke-Davison Glennville WV	Do not reduce any requirements for social studies whether it be for history or any other social studies class. Students today need more history knowledge, so as not to repeat it, than they do other classes.	A/C	See Response 1

15:14:4 1		Without this knowledge, they can be taken advantage of by politicians or other bad actors.		
2020-01-12 15:15:1 6	Laura Gilpin Parent, former teacher N/A Martinsburg WV	No changes to social studies credits. Students need to learn as much as possible about history and US studies to be well-informed and knowledgeable citizens. Do not eliminate any credits. Keep the current four credit social studies requirements.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 15:33:3 2	Robert S. Baker None Retired Beckley WV	We need more US and World History for our West Virginia students, not less. The reduction in history requirements is a terrible idea that will create even more culturally illiterate adults.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 16:16:1 8	David Kessler Hurricane wv	Do not reduce the social studies requirements. If anything, increase the requirements. It seems in WV, when the cumulative student scores are low in a subject, the trend is to dumb down the requirements in that subject area.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 16:18:2 9	Virginia C. Kessler Hurricane WV	As a former educator I urge you to NOT reduce the requirements in Social Studies.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 17:03:4 1	Gary Elmore Windcrest TX	The reduction of Social Studies proposal will certainly give WV the opportunity to live down to the inappropriate moniker of "hillbilly." This appears to be yet one more attempt at "dumbing down" America.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 17:21:0 0	Jane Marks Charleston WV	No, no and no to the decrease in social studies credits required to graduate. Our students are sorely lacking in knowledge of past events and thought processes that affect our present and our future. My own children received less history and social studies than I would have liked when they were in secondary school. I was able to supplement their education by family discussions, requiring they read about certain events and visiting historical sites. Recent events in the news right here in WV prove that our current graduates are several lacking in historical knowledge. How many WV secondary teachers were consulted on this proposal?	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 17:40:4 4	Katelyn M. Campbell Graduate Teaching Assistant University of North	Dear Dr. Barth,  I am a current PhD student in the Department of American Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Pre-K through 12	A/C	See Response 1

Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Elkview WV

graduate of Kanawha County Schools (Elk Elementary Center, Elkview Middle School, Horace Mann Middle School, George Washington High School). I am writing to oppose any decrease to requirements for Social Studies education in West Virginia. As a high school student, I made it my mission to take as many math and hard science classes as I could. I also greatly enjoyed my social studies classes. Little did I know that I would go on to become a professional historian in training before age 25.

As a teacher, historian, and former aspiring scientist, I see the need for time, space, and resources devoted to social studies education as increasingly vital for high school students as they make sense of the world around them and develop as citizens. I regularly teach undergraduates at UNC who find my classroom to be a space where they can ask larger ethical questions about the science and math projects they may be doing for their major, as well as providing space for critical thinking about their place in the world. As they learn more material in my class, I've witnessed students both change and solidify their opinions about a wide range of topics -- the result of their learning is a better ability to make a case for the way they view the world.

I have yet to meet a WV teacher who supports the proposed decrease in requirements for social studies education, and am confused as to what the Board is seeking to accomplish with this proposed policy change.

Students have the right to learn their history and to be provided the opportunity to consult or contest the facts to formulate their own view of the world. Social studies provides a space for that work that is unique to the discipline and has not been regularly integrated into STEM discourses. It would be a travesty for any West Virginia student to be deprived of the ability to receive a full, well-rounded social studies education.

Sincerely,  
Katelyn M. Campbell  
Ph.D. student, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Department  
of American Studies

<p>2020-01-12 17:55:01</p>	<p>Debra Grall Wheeing West</p>	<p>I think it is great that you want to provide flexibility at the local level, but only requiring one history course, based on what is going on in our world today is inadequate. Our students today have not had a great background in civics and history as it is. Additionally, social studies provides students with extra opportunities to improve their reading and vocabulary as well as writing skills. I want my children to have a complete education when it comes to the history or the world and our country. Social studies teaches students critical thinking skills that are greatly needed in our society today. I do not think that splitting American History into two courses is the answer.</p> <p>I am also concerned that in our state, which is so lacking in students who are reading at a adequate level, that we are making it easier for them to graduate. We should be increasing the level of achievement required. We need to ensure that our graduates are prepared for the world that they will find themselves in.</p> <p>Additionally, I would only approve of reducing the social studies requirement if you would be increasing the Math and ELA requirements. Knowing that so many of our state students are failing to reach the standards to meet grade level in these two subjects and we as a state do not require more than 2 math classes to graduate. I am glad that my children will be going to a school system that places the bar much higher than the state overall here in Ohio County. However, looking at the overall test scores for our state, it saddens me that we keep lowering the bar, instead of finding ways for students to achieve that bar and then go higher.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 8</p>
<p>2020-01-12 18:03:43</p>	<p>Nicholas Chapman Kearneysville WV</p>	<p>Consolidated Contemporary Studies and US History classes are not a sensible idea for the leaders of this state to consider. A recent graduate of high school pursuing college education, I know the importance of going in depth in history. Combining over 400 years of history into one course would require educators to even further rush instruction. Two courses taught by fantastic teachers allows for a deeper study of the time periods, causes and historical significance. Do not eliminate the fourth credit requirement without considering the ramifications of this action.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 3</p>
<p>2020-01-12 21:15:47</p>	<p>Ellie Teacher Kanawha County Schools Charleston WV</p>	<p>Limiting our kids' history credits would only do harm. I still remember what I learned from my high school history classes even though I complained about them and felt like I wasn't learning "anything". That was false. World history specifically ensures that our students are exposed to knowledge of the nations we interact with today As United</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

		States citizens. Taking this requirement away only leads to a less informed, less educated, and a more Eurocentric generation of citizens living in West Virginia. We need to hold our students to an acceptable standard. We need to push these students. Please don't pass this.		
2020-01-13 08:16:06	Rachel DeHainaut Point Pleasant WV	Pleased to see the flexibility for students to make choices across all content areas. Im concerned that world history becomes an optional course and students are not taught (unless choosing AP courses) a 20th / 21st century global history.	A/S A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-13 08:20:36	Mary Johnson Charleston wv	Do not reduce the quality of Social Studies training for students. There is recent evidence that ignorance of historical events has led to poor choices with life-long consequences. In todays world, when events can unfold quickly, it is more important that young people have a good understanding of U.S. history and world history.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-13 08:21:50	Sarah Clapham TACS Greenbrier East High School Lewisburg WV	Please do NOT reduce the number of social studies credits required to graduate from high school. Students need more time to process and understand the world they live in and the democracy they will participate in. I agree that condensing the history and social context of our country into one course and limiting the overall requirement for 4 full credit in social studies could put our very democracy at risk. These courses are absolutely critical and should not be condensed or watered down!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-13 08:34:15	Dina Buly Greenbrier East High Lewisburg West	I do not believe decreasing social studies credits is a good idea. Students today do not know enough about the world or their own country. They need to know more geography as well as history. Combining US history into one class would mean cramming a lot of information that is normally taught over 2 years into 1 year. I am not sure how thorough that class would be. If we want students to know more about the world and their own country, social studies should not be decreased.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-13 09:06:04	Darrin Cox Dr. West Liberty University West Liberty WV	Do not reduce Social Studies requirements any further. There are already too few.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-13 09:29:38	Terrence Beam Superintendent Pocahontas County Schools Buckeye WV	Reducing required credits for social studies is, in my opinion, not a good idea. Especially in this day and time of all of the issues occurring in our nation and world, a more comprehensive approach to social studies should be considered, not a lesser one.	A/C	See Response 1

2020-01-13 09:56:05	Jo Perez Alderson WV	It is important to educate informed voters and citizens. History and especially civics, is needed for any basic high school education. Psychology and sociology should be electives but history and civics should be required for graduation.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-13 10:30:54	Kimberly Kehrer Director of Special Programs Pleasants County Schools St. Marys WV	In regard to math programming at the high school, there must be options for math credit that ensure our students are not only college ready, but also career ready. A large number of our students are leaving high school to enter the workforce or trade school without the appropriate skills for these options. Business math, financial math, and math skills for independent living are VITAL. These skills are necessary for career readiness and the requirements for Algebra I, II and Geometry are not sufficient for this preparation. Especially for students with disabilities on a standard diploma, the requirement for higher level math is diminishing their preparation in skills that they truly need as they struggle to obtain credits in these higher math courses. Modifications and accommodations to the standards in these courses may enable students to obtain the credit, but they do nothing to provide the vital instruction they need in math for THEIR lives. Please consider students who are preparing to be career ready through high school and not just those who are preparing to go to college.	A/S	This policy supports all the math options.
2020-01-13 11:13:20	Richard Urban Co-founder Urban Life Training Harpers Ferry WV	Policy 2510 is a very bad idea. And we aren't we testing the social studies competence of our students? History is where and how we can learn context for our lives. Without knowing our history we are likely to repeat its sad content of wars, conflicts, etc. Who came up with this idea? Our students need a more rigorous curriculum, not a less rigorous one with much content missing.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-13 12:16:01	Rhonda Wood Teacher Cabell County Schools Huntington WV	It has been brought to my attention a group of my colleagues feel physical science should be brought back as the required ninth grade course. I respectfully disagree. I possess an undergraduate degree in secondary education with a certification in general science 5-12 and Chemistry, and a master's degree in Chemistry Education. I am currently in the curriculum and instruction doctoral program at Marshall University. Having said that, my passion was and continues to be with Chemistry. However, I must ask, what makes more sense for a student to be required to learn- Earth, Environmental, and Space Science, which contains real world relevant topics in which students can engage and take ownership of, or learning about moles, vectors and such. I agree	AS	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.

		<p>physical science is important, but not more important than ESS. In fact, ESS contains elements of physical science by nature, but I fail to see Chemistry and Physics being connected to ESS by many educators. Ask yourself which a student is most engaged and enjoys. Is it balancing equations or learning about plate tectonics and how Earth quakes, volcanoes, tsunamis are formed? Should students be aware more of environmental impacts of fossil fuels and carbon dioxide or determining the molar mass of a subject. The argument that they are not prepared for Chemistry is an argument based on something it is not crucial for them to know. The priority should be what ALL students need to know. We should not prioritize what SOME students need to know. Physical Science can be taken in 11th grade to prepare seniors for Chemistry, but if ESS is not required in 9th grade it will be forgotten as in times past. Especially in the West Virginia, knowledge of energy and environmental issues is crucial to the future economy and prosperity of the great state. We owe it to our students and the future of science education and the future of our Earth to provide them with a proper and deeper understanding of the tangible world in which they live. Do not disregard ESS.</p>		
2020-01-13 13:33:02	Maynard Wilson Grandfather	<p>Earth and space science will help students better understand climate change.</p> <p>The flex credit will make it easier for students to take more STEM classes.</p>	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-13 14:22:10	Andrew Jones Student Ripley High School LeRoy West	<p>As a student at Ripley High, I have to thoroughly disapprove of this change. I have worked hard to earn my credit in World History. People complain about how students these days are becoming illiterate from the use of technology, but then they decide to propose the removal of two English credits. People want to go into engineering schools, but then required math credits are removed.</p>	A/C	See Responses 1 and 10
2020-01-13 14:23:41	Mary Kay Cascarelli Grand mother Stonewood	<p>Keep earth and space science as a required subject.</p>	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-13	Gladys Green Nutter Fort	<p>Students need to take earth science classes and have an understanding of climate change.</p>	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.

14:26:44		The flex credit will make it easier for students to take more science classes.		
2020-01-13 14:49:44	Allie Bonazzo Teacher Braxton County High School Sutton WV	2020--Another year where the state of West Virginia attacks social studies education. Being in the political turmoil the world is in now, the students of WV need MORE social studies, not less! Placing less importance on World History is ASININE. World History can barely be taught in one year alone, if at all. If you truly want students to understand the world they live in, THEY MUST BE TAUGHT WORLD HISTORY! This is where they learn about other religions and cultures so they can UNDERSTAND them instead of be IGNORANT about them! PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS, THIS IS AN ATTACK ON EDUCATION!	N	See Response 1
2020-01-13 15:06:06	Jeni Qualls	Students need to take the Earth and space science class for graduation so they can learn about climate change at Earth systems.  I am in favor of the flex credit.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-13 15:06:39	Jeni Qualls	Students need to take the Earth and space science class for graduation so they can learn about climate change at Earth systems.  I am in favor of the flex credit.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-13 15:07:47	William Becker Martinsburg WV	our High School program should provide an in depth study of American History over the course of a few years. Not a 1 year program that doesn't allow the students to gain an understanding of their heritage.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-13 15:08:09	Dan Sizemore Charleston WV	I support the required earth and space science course for graduation and the flex credit.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-13 15:10:46	Adam Hamrick Teacher Evolution High School Clarksburg WV	What makes more sense for a student to be required to learn Earth, Environmental, and Space Science- which contains real world relevant topics in which students can engage and take ownership of, or learning about moles, vectors and such. I agree physical science is important, but not more important than ESS. In fact ESS contains elements of physical science by nature, but I fail to see Chemistry and Physics being connected to ESS by many educators. Ask yourself which a student is most engaged and enjoys. Is it balancing equations or learning about	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.

		<p>plate tectonics and how Earth quakes, volcanoes, tsunamis are formed? Should students be aware more of environmental impacts of fossil fuels and carbon dioxide or determining the molar mass of a subject. The argument that they are not prepared for Chemistry is an argument based on something it is not crucial for them to know. The priority should be what ALL students need to know. We should not prioritize what SOME students need to know. Physical Science can be taken in 11th grade to prepare seniors for Chemistry, but if ESS is not required in 9th grade it will be forgotten as in times past. We owe it to our students and the future of science education and the future of our Earth to provide them with a proper and deeper understanding of the tangible world in which they live. Do not disregard ESS.</p>		
<p>2020-01-13 15:23:49</p>	<p>Christina Iman Teacher Ripley High School Ripley WV</p>	<p>Not requiring students to take four years of English would not help the literacy and writing abilities of the students we are graduating. As sophomores, our students are still writing at a very low level. It isn't until the last two years their writing starts to develop beyond the very rigid rules of middle school writing.</p> <p>In addition, this doesn't provide the flexibility it's supposed to be. As teachers, we would end up increasing our class loads as we'd have to offer more "personalized credits." We already try to adjust our classes to the interest and needs of our students while still fulfilling the CSOs laid out for us.</p> <p>The scheduling involved with more electives is difficult for our students and counselors alike. The accountability year for high schools is the junior year, so it really makes no sense that students would not be enrolled in an English class for that year.</p> <p>I would love to talk more extensively with anyone regarding this issue.</p>	A/C	See Response 10
<p>2020-01-13 15:36:05</p>	<p>E.S. Wasiluk Martinsburg WV</p>	<p>Please keep Earth and space science in ninth grade and the sequence of studies as Earth and space science in ninth grade, biology in tenth grade and physical science in 11th grade as a sequence for students not planning on doing college bound science</p>	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
<p>2020-01-13</p>	<p>Carrie Howell Hurricane WV</p>	<p>I am concerned about the proposal to eliminate the two-course history option. I believe it is critical for students to understand US and world</p>	A/C	See Response 3

17:44:1 7		history in order to be informed citizens. I ask you to reconsider eliminating this option.		
2020-01-13 21:20:1 6	Susan Jorgensen Charleston WV	Students need a Social Studies education. More and more we hear of students unable to critically reason through social media posts or unaware of the background of national international events. One year of Social Studies is a joke. It should be required for a minimum of three if not four years in high school.	A/C	See Response 8
2020-01-14 07:13:1 2	Carolyn Wagner Teacher WWHS Beckley WV	Do not cut Social Studies credits. Students should be required to take World History. There are many things in World History that are general knowledge (world religions, Ancient Civilizations like Rome, Mesopotamia and China) that students will not be exposed to. Students may not be able to compete with their peers at liberal arts universities with no world history curriculum. Students will not understand the diversity of the world they live in without a general knowledge of World History. All people need a general knowledge of world history. Cutting this will be a disservice to the students.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 08:40:1 0	Melissa D Sheets mother Jackson County Schools Ripley West	As a mother of four children in public school I am devastated to think that anyone would consider cutting any language arts requirements from the high school curriculum. West Virginia is already considered by most to be dropping the ball when it comes to education. I continually read and hear how high school graduates are lacking in writing and speaking skills when they enter college or the workplace. I worry that if we deviate from the national norms into “county approved courses” that our students will be even less prepared to compete with those from other states. I want my children to have the benefit of four years of instruction in all core areas. We have already subtracted a year of history; I dread to think of the results of cutting two years of language arts. Please reconsider and rescind this idea.	A/C	See Responses 1 and 10
2020-01-14 08:53:3 0	Melinda Walton Director Tyler County Schools Middlebourne WV	In regard to math programming at the high school, there must be options for math credit that ensure our students are not only college ready, but also career ready. A large number of our students are leaving high school to enter the workforce or trade school without the appropriate skills for these options. Business math, financial math, and math skills for independent living are VITAL. These skills are necessary for career readiness and the requirements for Algebra I, II and Geometry are not sufficient for this preparation. Especially for students with disabilities on a standard diploma, the requirement for higher level math is diminishing	A/S	This policy supports all the math options.

		<p>their preparation in skills that they truly need as they struggle to obtain credits in these higher math courses. Modifications and accommodations to the standards in these courses may enable students to obtain the credit, but they do nothing to provide the vital instruction they need in math for THEIR lives. Please consider students who are preparing to be career ready through high school and not just those who are preparing to go to college.</p>		
<p>2020-01-14 09:55:55</p>	<p>Jacqueline A. Perry Professor of Accounting and Teacher Education Emer retired Beckley WV</p>	<p>History, is an important subject for student to learn to prepare them for the future. History a way for students to know what works and what doesn work. Because so much of history is glossed over as it is, students are not learning about what doesn work. There are so many young people who just parrot what someone else says, rather than thinking for themselves or remembering what history has already taught us. The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation says it best: "That the future may learn from the past." I see so many students embracing socialism today. If they had the opportunity to really learn about the history of countries socialistic governments, they would not be so hasty to parrot those ideas. Taking history, art, and music out of the curriculum makes learning science and math so much harder. Having sole concentration in science and math does not make a student "smarter" it actually hinders students from thinking creatively. History will also provide students with knowledge about what has already been tried, and whether it worked or didn work. Well rounded students are better able to prepare for the future, than students who are not taught history, art, or music. Reducing the number of hours required for history is not in the best interests of the student. Students will end up getting the same materials crammed into less time, giving them and overview, but not teaching them history. History is important, otherwise we are doomed to repeat the tragedies of the past. We need to embrace our history, be proud of the adversities we have overcome - not hide them, tear them down, or gloss over them, and celebrate the accomplishments.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
<p>2020-01-14 10:10:22</p>	<p>William Hosaflook Superintendent Wood County Schools Wood WV</p>	<p>Flexibility, Flexibility, Flexibility!! The changes made are solid. This will allow our students education to become even more personalized concentrating on interests rather than requirements. I truly believe the current version of 2510 was established for pre-college students; never taking into consideration the "backbone" professions of our state, which have become a major need over the last few years. High School is a perfect place to create our states workforce from within. The revised</p>	A/S	See Response 1

		version allows students to pursue college readiness courses, CTE certificates, and the immediate workforce---- meeting all students needs.		
2020-01-14 10:18:53	Freda Bradley History faculty WVUP and WVNCC Sandyville WV	To decrease history courses is unconscionable. I teach college history and these kids cannot remember anything from high school NOW. They can spout buzzwords like mad. They can tell me what they mean or the reason behind them, however. They have no knowledge of the WHY of much of anything and certainly can recall basic facts. I hear all the time, "Why didn we learn this in high school?" My comment is to write the BoE and ask. I do THREE WEEKS on Southeast Asia and THREE WEEKS on the Middle East from pre-Carter to the divisions we see today. None of my students under 25 has any idea that the Middle East didn look like this in the 70s much less how it came to be as it is. SO, before you decide to pull this plug, ask yourselves.....As Ms. Barnette said, IS this really the mark of a responsible citizen? IS this what we need to produce or do we need people who understand the global universe and its impacts by studying history both here and there. For me, I think this is both shortsighted and just plain foolhardy. Why you are even considering this is beyond me. WRONG WRONG WRONG!! We need to produce more knowledge not less of it---God knows they have little enough as it is.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-14 10:36:01	Richard Jones President-Elect National Earth Science Teachers Association Kapolei HI	Earth Science is an essential part of any curriculum. To be frank, we live on the Earth, many of us make our living from the resources in the Earth, we breath the air that surrounds the Earth, and we drink the water that flows on the surface or lies below the Earth. Removing Earth Science from the High School Curriculum robs students of understanding the planet they call home. While Physical Science is equally important, the ideal curriculum would have required courses in Earth Science, Biological Science and Physical Science, the essentials to a well rounded citizen of the 21st Century. Remember we have One Earth, Our Future!	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-14 10:42:53	Saunyell Atkinson Teacher Ripley High School Ripley WV	As a high school English teacher, I must advise heavily against not requiring English 11 and 12 for all students. Our state is considered, by the rest of the country, to be increasingly illiterate. Decreasing the number of English credits a student needs will only continue to deepen their false impression. Our students need these classes for so many reasons. We use the SAT for our state assessment and that data is collected in the 11th grade. If we don't require the students to have	A/C	See Response 10

		<p>English that year, they are going to be less prepared for that test. This will have negative effects on our scores, but most importantly, it will negatively impact their personal scores. Those scores can open so many doors! Good scores help students gain entrance into college and consideration for financial assistance and scholarships. It is also very obvious that as technology continues to change, our youth have an increasingly difficult time communicating face-to-face. Colleges want to see more speaking and writing skills before prospective students apply, this is counterintuitive to preparing our students for college and technical bound higher educational tracks. English class is where students have more possibilities to speak to each other and have deep, meaningful discussions about literature, art, and life. Flexible scheduling happens at our school all of the time. Students can be involved in so many different electives. (Band, Choir, Theater, Agriculture, Art, Photography, Journalism, Film Studies, Public Speaking, Mythology, Horticulture, Floriculture, Welding, etc.) Our students have plenty of choices and a lot of time to fit them into their schedule.</p>		
2020-01-14 10:49:11	<p>Regan Quinn President Linceo Research Charleston WV</p>	<p>Strongly opposed to reducing the requirements for social studies education. Understanding the forces behind major historical developments in the US is essential to a creating citizens who understand and value their own democracy, are aware of shared democratic values and what has challenged them, are familiar with what social and economic policies have worked to produce social harmony in the past and why. This will enable WV educated persons to craft intelligent responsible and virtuous strategies for the future.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 12:20:37	<p>Gay B Stewart Eberly Professor of STEM Education WVU Morgantown WV</p>	<p>The flex credit, an extra science or computer science is an excellent component for getting our students career or college ready. Thank you!</p>	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-14 12:26:26	<p>Donald Pauley Scott Depot WV</p>	<p>I see where the board wants to take social studies credits from four (4) to three (3). I am 100% opposed to this. In todays world, it has become increasingly important to understand the context under which our world and country have been formed. It is important to understand how our government works and how one can go about changing it or helping it (civics). We as a people need to understand our history while applying it to our own lives. So many people just repeat what they hear on CNN or</p>	A/C	See Response 1

		<p>FOX NEWS with zero ability to speak intelligently about the source material. I understand wanting to give our schools more freedom with their source material but I do not see why we do this with social studies. I use civics and history almost every day; I cannot remember the last time I needed the Pythagorean theorem. Ill leave you with this, those who do not learn from history will soon repeat it.</p>		
2020-01-14 12:55:27	<p>Erik Gardner Teacher Raleigh County Schools Beckley WV</p>	<p>Social Studies is an essential course for students in all grade levels. Every other subject can be taught along with history to form connections and deepen student understanding. West Virginia should continue to require students to earn four social studies credits in order to graduate. Do what is right, not what is easy.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 12:57:46	<p>Sarah Smith Social Studies Teacher Ohio County Education Association/Ohio County Schools Employee Wheeling WV</p>	<p>World history is an essential part of the core curriculum for West Virginia high schools. World history provides an invaluable basis and context for all the other histories by showing human progress over time, how ideas and philosophies about government develop, and what the results are when those philosophies are put into practice. If world history is eliminated from the required core classes our students would lack an accurate understanding of their place in the world and in time. They would also lack cultural understanding, knowledge of how far governments and empires have progressed, and they would not have a comprehensive understanding of America’s place in history or in the world.</p> <p>By building up students’ knowledge about the various religions and cultures that exist teachers hope to provide empathy, a sensitivity, or at the very least a common ground on which students can stand and hold their own when meeting and working with people of various backgrounds. West Virginia has in recent years been attempting to become attractive to international companies that would provide jobs throughout our state. If our students, who become our workforce, do not have a common ground to stand on or a general knowledge of the cultures that exist outside of America, we are assigning them to a less preferable place in the globalized world. We are placing disadvantages directly in their way, that could have easily been removed with the education world history provides. World history allows students to exhibit a familiarity with current issues that will allow them to hold their own in an interconnected, international work force.</p> <p>It is not enough to focus solely on the STEM classes. All the core classes are important and vital in this effort to impact on our students with the</p>	A/C	See Response 1

knowledge they need to be successful as people and as citizens. All. Without world history students will not know much of Napoleon, Copernicus, Marie Curie, or Isaac Newton. They might think that Julius Caesar was just a character in a Shakespeare play. Other disciplines cover the theories of Newton and Copernicus, but do they provide the context in which their discoveries were made? Do they demonstrate how revolutionary these theories were? Do they show the extreme dangers that the two scientists put themselves in by espousing ideas that were contrary to powerful church beliefs? Do other disciplines adequately illustrate how rare it was for Marie Curie to become a prominent scientist? Curie's story is one that we can still sympathize with, as women are still underrepresented and underestimated in the STEM fields today. Curie's story also reflects women's diminished role in every field – including history. We see this sentiment replicated in the story of Katherine Johnson, Mary Jackson and Dorothy Vaughan who are female African American mathematicians responsible for creating the trajectory that allowed astronauts to land on the moon in 1969. This story only recently came to light, but it changes the history of the moon landing by providing depth. If we as a society do not reflect on the past we are allowing for incomplete versions of history and every other field to persist. We are excluding the achievements, the arduous work put in by people who knew they most likely would not be recognized in their own time.

Devaluing history is doing a disservice to our students and to all the other subjects they take in school because it would narrow their thinking. West Virginia is constantly making the news for a variety of negative things and one of the overarching themes seems to be that we are considered backward or behind on the times. We cannot rise above this if we give our students a substandard education that focuses on an American only perspective of history. We do not limit the sciences, the English classes, or the math classes in this way. We have success in each and every subject because people from all over the world contribute to the inventions, creations, and knowledge of each subject. If we want to change the narrative, change our students and our state for the better, we must provide them with a thorough and comprehensive education. We cannot simply be focused on graduation rates, because if we have a 100% graduation rate but 85% of those students do not have an accurate understanding of their place in the world or in world history – what are

N

The proposed changes to policy 2510 by stakeholders were to ensure a strong educational background while providing options to meet the needs of each and every student.

		<p>we accomplishing? We want our students to know how to work well with others, we want them to empathetic, we want them to have a common ground of knowledge to stand upon so that they can see the present through the struggles of the past. We want them to make well informed decisions in business, politics, in every important decision they make. We want them to be able to compete in a national and even an international stage if they so desire, but they need equal footing in order to do so. This equal footing cannot be established through students learning just one subject. Students must have mandatory core classes in world and American history, art, music, English, as well as a variety of math and science classes to get a comprehensive, established foundation that will serve them throughout their lives after graduation.</p>		
<p>2020-01-14 13:04:58</p>	<p>Jennifer Reaves Technology Integration Specialist Monongalia County Schools Morgantown WV</p>	<p>I am in favor of high school students having the opportunity to earn credit for taking computer science courses. This will allow more students to get into the CS pipeline in college and career/technical colleges to move WV Forward with Coding and CS. I am completely in favor of more opportunities like this one that could be given to our WV Students.</p>	A/S	See Response 1
<p>2020-01-14 13:08:20</p>	<p>Carol Williams Ms. Shepherdstown wv</p>	<p>I oppose any decrease in the requirements for Social Studies. Im repeating this because Im not sure my previous comment was in the correct box. Thanks!</p>	A/C	See Response 1
<p>2020-01-14 13:09:00</p>	<p>Sarah Smith Social Studies Teacher Ohio County Education Association/Ohio County Schools Employee Wheeling WV</p>	<p>Condensing American history into one year long course is unwise. This puts unnecessary stress on the teachers who would struggle to cover any subject in depth. Teachers would be required to cover content from the pre-Revolutionary War era to the present day, and if this were to happen in a span of one year the material would be condensed and lacking perspective. The subjects covered in American history of are immense importance, but tying this subject to a reckless schedule would prevent students from truly understanding the great ideas, influences, policies, and atrocities that have made our country what it is today. West Virginia students already test lower in terms of their knowledge of American history and civic duty - this would be a further disservice to them. We want our students to know the duties and responsibilities that come with being a citizen of West Virginia as well at the United States. This cannot happen without knowing where we started and what we have overcome to get to this point in our history - and also how far we still need to go.</p>	A/C	See Response 3

		<p>Students would not have an accurate understanding of their role in society or in the world. Students would lack perspective on racial issues, the disparity between the rich and poor, the long history of labor wars and union activism in the United States and in West Virginia. History is not something old or useless, it has very clear consequences and effects on the present day. Our students need to be able to recognize that. We should not be making it easier for students to graduate - their are expected standards they should reach (if they are able) and this is done in the hopes of preparing them for college, their careers, and their lives. We are hurting students and the future of our state if we are not teaching history to the extent it deserves.</p>		
2020-01-14 14:42:02	D. Brown N/A N/A Cameron WV	<p>Learning history is extremely important in order for our children to prepare and mold their futures. It is clear that politicians in this state would like to keep our children ignorant so that they will continue to vote against their own interests when they become adults. It's absolutely gut-wrenching that we are even considering teaching our students LESS history.</p>	N	See Response 1
2020-01-14 14:47:56	Mary L. Charleston WV	<p>Re: Policy 2510 To the WV Board of Education:</p> <p>Who on earth do you represent? You are no friends to West Virginia. We need more US and world history, with real discussion and independent research. We also need a course about money -- personal management, taxes, state &amp; US budgets, campaign finance, who owns what, investment, hedge funds, private equity, globalization. When so many crimes are committed, we are illiterate.</p> <p>You keep students in school by challenging them with real information. not dumbing down our state. Shame on you!</p>	N	See Response 5
2020-01-14 14:57:03	Mary L. Charleston WV	<p>Re: Policy 2510 To the WV Board of Education:</p> <p>Who on earth do you represent? You are no friends to West Virginia. We need more US and world history, with real discussion and independent research. We also need a course about money -- personal management, taxes, state &amp; US budgets, campaign finance, who owns what, investment, hedge funds, private equity, globalization. When so</p>	N	See Response 5

		<p>many crimes are committed, we are illiterate.</p> <p>You keep students in school by challenging them with real information, not dumbing down our state. Shame on you!</p>		
2020-01-14 15:29:34	Renee Mahon School Counselor Taylor County Middle School Grafton WV	I do not think credits for social studies should be reduced. This will be detrimental to our students and could cause teachers to lose their jobs.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 17:16:36	Robert Wilson Attorney Retired Charleston WV	Need more history and civics classes	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-14 17:49:37	Rebecca Baker Teacher Greenbrier East High school Lewisburg Wv	We are at a time when Americans need more history and social studies education not less! The social studies requirements have already been watered down by allowing JROTC and psychology to count as a social studies credits. Do not further reduce these requirements. Our system of government depends on a well educated populace. In order for people to make decisions in the voting booth they must understand US and world history. Reducing these requirements would be a travesty!	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-14 20:34:41	Dana Smith District Representative National Earth Science Teachers Association Blackduck Minne	Please consider keeping a dedicated Earth Science course as a requirement in high school, as well as increase the number of science credits required to graduate. Now more than ever, ALL students need a solid foundation in the science of the natural world around them, and the effects humans have on its systems.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-15 09:39:02	Joseph Arbogast Assistant Superintendent Randolph County Schools Elkins WV	<p>We must give our children the best preparation for a worthwhile and productive life. Cutting any requirements, especially Social Studies classes, does just the opposite. A knowledge of how the government works (which as we know is complicated), is necessary to understand current and future national and international issues that affect us here in WV. Having a global and historical knowledge of world affairs makes it possible to make more informed decisions as well as understand the politics of other countries and how we interact with them.</p> <p>Electives are important as well. Career and Technical programs, such as agriculture can actually encourage students to stay in school. These prepare our children to go directly into the workforce or continue their education at postsecondary institutions such as colleges and universities.</p>		

Just recently, global interaction depended in a large part on our agriculture products, many produced in WV. Don't weaken our influence by allowing our students to leave our public school system without knowledge of this important national resource. Other electives like art, music and theater will have a lifelong impact. Please do not allow our children to fall further behind. We know there are problems with the WV education system. Cutting the amount of credits needed will only put us lower in comparison with other states. We must make education a priority instead of cutting it.

Currently, in West Virginia, a class in the same world language is offered in grade 7 and 8 and offering a world language class in grade 6 is encouraged.

Currently, two credits of the same world language are recommended (and NOT required) for graduation from high school in West Virginia for those students wishing to attend college and receive a 4 year college degree. Currently, most colleges require the completion of at least 2 credits of the same world language "before or during post-secondary programming".

Being proficient in a world language, (that is, being able to communicate by speaking, listening, writing and reading) at a level described by a nationally recognized organization such as ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) is a long term goal whose implementation should begin in elementary school and continue through middle and high school. This is, and has been, the standard in much of Western Europe where students graduate high school proficient in at least one world language other than their native language.

Currently, West Virginia ranks at 41st in percentage of K-12 students in world language classrooms. (Des Moines Register):

<https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/education/2017/07/24/study-iowa-lags-world-language-education/471771001/>

West Virginia is not alone in experiencing difficulty in attracting and

retaining qualified teachers and other positions across the spectrum in public education. When public sentiment and political will by our elected officials changes in support for students, curriculum, infrastructure, resources, and employees, our world language classes will be a requirement and not simply recommended.

N

he assumption that "Students should consult their chosen post-secondary educational/training institution when choosing course options and electives" puts too high a burden on students. All students who finish high school in West Virginia should come out ready and prepared for any opportunity. We should ensure that--it shouldn't be put on the students.

Requiring 22 credit hours to graduate doesn't make sense to me. Students on a block schedule who complete 32 courses could potentially fail an entire year of school and have enough credits to graduate. Additionally, putting it on county boards of education to set higher standards creates inequalities in our educational system. The state board should mandate high standards from the top down.

English: While more flexibility is a nice idea, in practice this erodes the abilities of schools to ensure that students have an equitable education and that they are prepared for college and the workforce. There is no way that English 9 and 10 can teach students all the skills and cultural currency they need to succeed in the world. Two years is too short a time to survey all the great literature the world has to offer and teach students how to read, write, listen, and speak critically. More than anything the state needs to help poorer counties support more electives and options. This flexibility is misplaced and will not improve educational quality.

A/C

Additionally, allowing students to take any English elective in place of English 11 and English 12 exacerbates rather than solving issues related to students' college and career readiness.

The purpose of social studies education is to develop the skills to

While we work with Higher Education Policy Commission to ensure students are prepared with the appropriate courses for in-state college programs, this language is necessary for students who chose to attend private and out-of-state institutions of higher education.

See Response 10

become engaged citizens of this country. It's about empowerment – the ability to think for oneself. Our students must be able to analyze problems in our democracy, discover possible/potential solutions to those issues and develop the ability to advocate for reforms that continue to create a more perfect union.

Modeling democracy takes time. Education requires interaction, and that also takes time. Research, analysis, discussion, debate, evaluation, and synthesis – historical thinking skills – are all compromised and potentially lost with the proposed reduction in social studies education requirements. The ability to be involved, informed, and engaged are arguably among the most important lessons taught in public schools. Many of our state officials have maligned our state education system as inadequate. It does not make sense to reduce the number of credits, particularly in core classes, that students need to graduate. If our students are not performing adequately on standardized tests, it does not make sense to get rid of our rigorous core classes. Math, science, English, and social studies are the core classes needed for a fundamental knowledge base. Without these classes, our students will not be well-informed, contributing members of society.

Eliminating World History as a required class would be a great disservice to our students. Students can't possibly grasp the role of the United States in the world without understanding how it fits into the world as a whole. Our core concept of democracy, freedom, and liberty came from world events and people that preceded the formation of the United States. Many of these ideas came from people living under oppressive governments, and these concepts were goals in which to aspire. The United States took these valued concepts and put them into practice to create that more perfect union. We cannot appreciate what we have if we do not know why it exists. Reducing World History to an elective is to reduce the number of students who learn why other systems of government and other economic systems fail. We do not live in isolation as a country. We are part of a greater world in which the United States must trade and interact. Public education should be reflective of that ideology.

Recent reports on federal employment list West Virginia as the 5th highest in unemployment. More importantly, those reports rank West Virginia second highest in underemployment. It is difficult, if not

A/C

See Response 3

		impossible, to rationalize decreasing requirements that would potentially send large numbers of less educated, less skilled, youth into the workforce to compete for unskilled and semi-skilled jobs in an already weak economy. Leaving school to pursue low or semi-skilled work typically perpetuates the cycle of poverty, eliminating the potential earnings of any type of post-secondary education. Many discover far too late that they need multiple part-time jobs to simply survive. Lowering standards and requirements in West Virginia may yield more diplomas but does nothing to assist our children who might have otherwise had a chance to compete in the quest to live their American dream.		
2020-01-15 09:46:14	Jamie Buckland Legislative Liaison Raleigh Educational Association of Christian Homeschoolers Flat Top WV	I support the initiative to encourage every WV county to offer a pathway for reentry into public schools after 9th grade so that our state's public education system can best serve the student when needed. Often it is in the best interest of the child to be placed back into high school in 10th, 11th, or even 12th grade to finish their studies for their diploma. I believe WV should offer the option to come back into school when it is best for the student. I believe this policy change would support that objective.	A/S	
2020-01-15 09:46:20	Matthew Ravenscroft, Ed.D Resident and Parent Burlington WV	The proposed change to Social Studies standards is reckless. Our students need to be taught what really happened in history by a certified teacher in a manner that allows for deep learning. It cannot be rushed. Ive taught history for 15 years at the secondary and post-secondary level, this is a dangerous proposition for the future of our state and country.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-15 10:03:57	Matthew Vester Professor WVU History Department Morgantown WV	I strongly oppose the proposal to reduce the number of history/social studies classes required from graduation from two to one (or from three to two if you include Civics). The knowledge and skills obtained through history/social studies courses are required more than ever in todays increasingly complex society. The job market requires students who can think flexibly and critically; we fail them by declining to offer adequate training in these areas	A/C	See Response 8
2020-01-15 10:12:16	Amy Jarosz Teacher Jarosz Homeschool Scarbro West	I support a pathway to reentry for every school in WV. This support is for every county.	A/S	

2020-01-15 10:33:09	Mary Robinson Member Raleigh Educational Association of Christian Homeschoolers Mount Hope WV	I support every WV county making a path for reentry in to the public high schools. Reentry should be based on the individual students progress and ability.	A/S	
2020-01-15 10:38:37	Jennifer Shrewsbury Shady Spring WV	I support a pathway for reentry into high school for every WV county.	A/S	
2020-01-15 10:48:33	Gary Talstein Mount Nebo WV	I support a pathway for reentry into high school for every WV county.	A/S	
2020-01-15 10:49:28	Brandi Sumpter Odd WV	I support the initiative to encourage every WV county to offer a pathway for reentry into public schools after 9th grade. I believe WV should offer this option when it is most appropriate for the student and this happens often during high school years. I believe this policy change would support that objective.	A/S	
2020-01-15 10:49:43	Amber Simon Professional Hurricane WV	I support the initiative to encourage all counties to provide a pathway for reentry into high school. I feel this is a very important matter for all high school children to be able to re-enter at appropriate grade level successfully. If the credits are there, let them enroll at that level.	A/S	
2020-01-15 11:16:42	Joshua Arthurs Associate Professor of History West Virginia University Morgantown WV	As both an educator and a parent, I would like to voice my strong opposition to the proposed changes in high school social studies requirements. To prepare the young people of West Virginia for the demands of the global marketplace, they need MORE, not less, education in social studies and world affairs. As the recent episode at the Department of Corrections underlines, we also need to equip the new generation with critical thinking skills and historical context, to preserve core American values of democracy and freedom. Please do not approve this proposal.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-15 11:16:47	Jessica Smith Appalachian Classical Academy Beaver WV	I support a pathway for reentry into high school for every county in West Virginia.	A/S	

<p>2020-01-15 11:31:23</p>	<p>Matthew Harris Morgantown WV</p>	<p>Students need to be taught a comprehensive history of not only the U.S. but the world at large. Limiting their historical studies so severely will cause repeats of the recent Nazi photo at the police academy. People will claim that "they didn't know it was wrong" for all kinds of terrible actions, because our educators were not allowed to properly inform them of horrors such as the Holocaust. For a state that complains about its ranking and reputation in the country, these are the actions that will only harm its reputation and secure its spot as a second class state. I don't want my children growing up in this state if changes like this are implemented.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 3</p>
<p>2020-01-15 12:03:41</p>	<p>Jessica Bailey homeschool mom POCA WV</p>	<p>I support the initiative to encourage all counties to provide a pathway for reentry into high school</p>	<p>A/S</p>	
<p>2020-01-15 12:48:32</p>	<p>Mary McClung Principal Bradley Elementary Mount Hope WV</p>	<p>The new flex credit will help our county accommodate the educational needs of all students. Our minimum graduation requirement in Raleigh County is 24 credits. The flex credit will allow flexibility for students based on their post-secondary interests and plans, while still meeting the state minimum requirement of 22 credits. Students could have a choice in either: a 4th social studies credit, a 4th science credit, a computer science course, or a CTE foundational course depending on the student's personal interests and future plans.</p>	<p>A/S</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2020-01-15 13:39:55</p>	<p>Jeff Rutherford Assistant Professor of History Xavier University (formerly of Wheeling Jesuit University) Wheeling WV</p>	<p>The decision to cut in half the (already low) number of social studies classes needed for graduation in West Virginia is extremely short-sighted. Students in this state need to be better prepared to operate in an increasingly globalized world and this requires more knowledge and understanding about societies -- including their own -- around the world. This is the only way that they can make informed decisions that will affect the future of their state and country. High schools are vital in producing citizens who can actively and constructively participate in society and social studies classes are extremely important in this process. If West Virginia wants to attract businesses that will bring good-paying jobs to the state, it needs an educated work-force that can navigate a globalized economy. On a different note, perhaps more instruction on history would allow the state to avoid humiliating episodes such as an entire class of prison guards giving the Hitler salute. History classes are vital to learning and understanding the past so that a better present and</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Responses 3 and 8</p>

		future can be reached and by eliminating social studies requirements, the state board of education is actively sabotaging any hopes for a brighter future for West Virginia.		
2020-01-15 14:40:48	Christine Cozart Raleigh Educational Association of Christian Homeschooling Beckley WV	I support the initiative to encourage every WV county to offer a pathway for reentry into public schools after 9th grade so that our state's public education system can best serve the student when needed. Often it is in the best interest of the child to be placed back into high school in 10th, 11th, or even 12th grade to finish their studies for their diploma. I believe WV should offer the option to come back into school when it is best for the student. I believe this policy change would support that objective.	A/S	
2020-01-15 14:52:43	Joe Wade Teacher, Classroom Brooke County Schools Follansbee WV	<p>Social Studies literacy is critical for having an educated citizen. Reducing the requirements does not maintain rigor for a high school student.</p> <p>This appears to be a method to diminish civic learning at the expense of some other coursework or political pet project.</p> <p>Mathematics has already suffered at the hands of legislation that sought to restructure it. Now math curriculum is a mess.</p> <p>If you absolutely must destroy something, change World History to an elective and mandate students take Economics, Geography, or Sociology as a graduation requirement in addition to US Studies, Contemporary Studies, and Civics.</p> <p>Overall, think about what is proposed: less learning by students at the hands of people not working in the classroom. Bad move. Students need these courses more than they realize.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-15 15:22:43	Elizabeth Jenkins Arnett WV	I support the initiative to encourage all counties to provide a pathway for reentry into high school! I am excited to see this opportunity for our students.	A/S	
2020-01-15 17:31:31	Patricia A Haught Fairview WV	I am totally opposed to reducing social studies credits for high school students. Studies report that WV students don perform well on tests in the area of social studies already. What do you think will happen with less instruction in social studies. If anything, I believe that at least a	A/C	See Response 1

		<p>semester of geography should be required. Or at least, combine and offer 8 weeks of geography and 8 weeks of civics into one course. Several years ago, 17% of all high school seniors couldn't locate the United States on a blank world map. That's pathetic! Knowledge about our past, where we came from, how we arrived to the present time, etc. is necessary for future adults to make informed decisions when they vote. They need more information, not less, to make those decisions. American History should be taught and one semester isn't enough. In fact, usually American History is divided (1) up to the civil war (2) post-civil war and (3) 20th century. Teachers are rushed to get through key information with three classes. That doesn't even include World Civilization. Our heritage (form of government, political structure, etc.) is based on what the Romans and Greeks did. We need to teach that information as well. Again, I do NOT support reducing the number of social studies courses required in West Virginia High Schools.</p>		
2020-01-15 17:54:46	Flora Perrone Weirton Wv	Please do not reduce the requirements for social studies/civic education	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-15 18:06:05	Maria Bailey Daniels WV	I support the initiative to encourage all counties to provide a pathway for reentry into high school	A/S	
2020-01-15 18:26:16	Ellen D. Tucker Publications Editor Teaching American History Ashland OH	<p>I am not a resident of West Virginia, but I spend much of my work day talking with social studies teachers, writing articles about their work, and writing and editing materials that support them in their work. Every teacher I speak with tells me that it is a challenge to cover all the content that needs to be covered in American history and government. This includes not only those teachers who cover all of American history in one school year; it includes teachers who teach a semester course on history from 1945 to the present.</p> <p>Why? Because we cannot understand history by rushing through a textbook synopsis. Reaching historical understanding, as an Iowa teacher told me just last week, is not as simple as learning a quadratic equation in math. The quadratic equation is the same this year as it was decades ago. History, however, is made up of the innumerable firsthand</p>	A/C	See Response 3

accounts of many witnesses. New accounts and interpretations are continually generated by scholars and writers. Becoming competent in history requires learning how to locate variant accounts, analyze each, and compare them. It involves learning a complex set of skills.

These analytical skills, complex as they may seem, are the same skills needed by voters in our democratic republic. Self-governing people need to know how to read, analyze, and compare variant accounts of proposed policies and laws. They need these skills to evaluate the competence of those running for elective office. They need them simply to understand the regulations governments generate, regulations that govern their lives!

No teacher can lead students through a comprehensive study of all there is to know about these things. At best, they can lead them in a thorough and thoughtful exploration of key moments in history, key Constitutional concepts, key moments of decision. At best, they can help students explore only the most significant and reputable of the contrasting accounts. But if they have time to do this, they will equip students to continue learning on their own.

Its not a matter of covering all the learning standards. There are usually too many to cover. Its a matter of learning how to find information and think about it with an open but critical mind. The teachers I find most impressive, the ones who are praised by colleagues, administrators, and students, are not those who cover all the learning standards. They are those who take the time to help students develop thinking skills. You cannot complete this process in one semester.

Its worth pointing out that American history demands more thought of students than the longer history of Europe, Asia, or the Ancient world. Why? because Americans are self-governing. Every American citizen, not just a single royal family or an elite class, is involved in government. It is far easier to rule as a tyrant than to rule as a democratically elected official. Tyrants need not consider the needs of the many different interest groups. They don need to find ways to help these groups cooperate. They don need to persuade voters. They don need to consider opposing views. Learning American history involves learning how

		<p>effective and wise leaders managed the complex task of working with other elected officials to respond to the needs of the voting public.</p> <p>Every time I interview a social studies teacher, I ask: Do you consider it part of your job to help young people become responsible citizens in our republic? Every teacher answers "Yes!" Then I ask a follow-up: What then is the most important thing you hope students learn in your class? Invariably, teachers answer that they hope students learn to think for themselves--to evaluate information and compare it to other information, to discern which interpretations are supported by evidence and which are not. Most teachers also say that they hope students learn that sustaining our republic will depend on how well they pay attention to public affairs and how much they are willing to contribute to the discussion of these affairs. Most teachers add that they want students to be thoroughly familiar with our nations Constitution, since it provides the rules by which we are governed. And almost every teacher tells me that they hope the students in their class will learn how to talk in a calm and thoughtful way about questions of public policy and government--that they learn how to have these discussions while listening to and respecting those who hold different views.</p> <p>These are all critical lessons. They simply cannot be taught in a single semester. They need to be taught over and over again--just as we teach basic math and reading skills. Please allow more time for social studies--not less.--Ellen Tucker, writer and editor for TeachingAmericanHistory.org</p>		
<p>2020-01-15 18:28:24</p>	<p>Celena Keeney Member ORCHARDS Homeschool Co-op, Fayette Co. Rainelle WV</p>	<p>I support a pathway for re-entry into high school. I believe WV should offer the option to come back to school when it is best for the student.</p>	<p>A/S</p>	
<p>2020-01-15 18:58:38</p>	<p>Ellen Tucker Monterey CA</p>	<p>Dear West Virginia Department of Education:</p> <p>I just submitted comments on your proposed Social Studies programming. Please remove from those comments my affiliation with Teaching American History. While I think my views correlate with those of others in my organization, I can really only speak for myself. Thank you for your understanding, and please accept my apology for this</p>	<p>N</p>	

		<p>mistake.</p> <p>Ellen D. Tucker</p>		
2020-01-15 20:07:26	Sharon Eaton Sutton WV	I support the initiative for allowing reentry into public high school in all counties. Having to completely restart at 9th grade after having done previous high school level work is demotivating and unfair.	A/S	
2020-01-15 20:07:42	Danea Tomlinson Lewisburg WV	I am extremely disappointed that the state would like to reduce the high school social studies credit requirements for graduation. Students need a full and rich education and reducing history credits shorts them of this opportunity. The state has already reduced requirements and changed the grading scale. Students need to have high expectations and be held accountable and I believe the state is doing a disservice to our future citizens of West Virginia. Stop dumbing down our youth and lets build them up with higher standards, requirements, and expectations. The history classes our youth already take is on an extremely fast pace and they do not need to try and squish more into less classes. Kids need to go in depth and understand concepts and learning and not just skim over information and facts. If we want young adults to be sound citizens who can make smart decisions, they need to understand history and where they came from. I urge you to not lower the social studies credits requirements for graduation, do what is right for our youth of West Virginia.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-15 20:53:11	Leah Shinaberry Durbin WV	<p>I was a secondary math teacher in WV for 13 years before switching to be a school librarian two years ago. Part of the reason I switched positions is that the rigorous math standards made teaching high school math quite miserable. I was literally teaching logarithms to future loggers - and this was in 11th grade; they still had another math credit to go. Having to pass 4 math classes leaves no room for failing a course and graduating on time - unless your family has transportation options to allow you to attend summer school.</p> <p>I strongly oppose dropping the number of social studies credits from 4 to 3. Knowledge of historical information makes for much better citizens, less likely to repeat the same mistakes. Also, if a student fails a social studies course, they can take it again while simultaneously enrolled in a different course, not needing to attend summer school or postpone their</p>	N	See Response 1

		<p>graduation.</p> <p>I am not, however, opposed to dropping the required number of credits to graduate. I recommend leaving the social studies requirement at 4 and dropping the number of required math credits from 4 to 3. This leaves room for students to repeat a course if they do not pass the first time, and it also leaves room to adjust the curriculum to contain the most pertinent content standards.</p>		
2020-01-15 22:37:59	Michelle Hontz Financial Director Raleigh Educational Association of Christian Homeschoolers Beckley WV	I support the initiative to encourage every WV county to offer a pathway for reentry into public schools after 9th grade so that our states public education system can best serve the student when needed. Often it is in the best interest of the child to be placed back into high school in 10th, 11th, or even 12th grade to finish their studies for their diploma. I believe WV should offer the option to come back into school when it is best for the student. I believe this policy change would support that objective.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-16 07:57:52	Laura Meadows Rainelle WV	I strongly agree that a child should be able to attend public school if its of the best interest of the child and that the credits they have previously earned be valid.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-16 09:03:11	Lulabelle Tyler WV	With all of the climate change problems we are facing, our students need to learn as much earth science as we can get them.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-16 09:04:25	Louise Wilson	Do not remove the Earth and space science requirement for high school graduation.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-16 09:13:41	Bebe Tyler Stonewood WV	All students should be required to take earth to science.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-16 09:15:11	Alberta Martin Jane Lew WV	It is important that all students take the earth science course for graduation.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.

2020-01-16 09:24:45	Melanie Bethel Beckley WV	I support the initiate for every county to have a pathway for students to enter or re-enter public high school beyond grade 9 in order to best serve the needs of every student.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-16 10:50:41	Misty Loggins HEARTH & REACH Princeton WV	I'm in support of the initiative to allow every WV county to offer reentry into public schools after 9th grade. Keeping the best interest of the child in mind to be placed back into high school in 10th, 11th, or 12th grade to finish their studies for their diploma. WV should offer the option to come back into school when it is best for the student.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-16 11:19:16	Ray Rappold Adult Education Instructor Fayette County Schools Alloy WV	Used to be 4 credits equired in Social Studies when I was in High School. Reducing this is just dumb (Id even suggest adding Geography for 5 credits). Todays young people need more background in History, Civics, Economics, Government, Geography, Political Science, Sociology - not less. Teaches them how to think.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-16 13:24:12	Brittany Kowalski Adjunct Instructor Pierpont Community and Technical College Fairmont WV	Condensing high school history to one course is an extreme disservice to the students of West Virginia. Having a knowledge of history and other social sciences is crucial to making informed political decisions. West Virginia students will be less well-prepared for college and potentially fall behind their out-of-state peers if they only take one history course. Additionally, some colleges and universities require more history courses than one to qualify to apply for their admission to their institution. By only requiring one history course, students may realize when it is already too late that they needed to take more history than that to even be able to apply to the college or university they would like to attend ( <a href="https://www.thoughtco.com/years-of-social-studies-needed-788863">https://www.thoughtco.com/years-of-social-studies-needed-788863</a> ). Please reconsider reducing the number of required history courses. Perhaps looking at the requirements of other states would provide insight into the standard across the country to determine if West Virginia students will be put at a disadvantage as compared to their peers when they are applying for and entering college ( <a href="https://c0arw235.caspio.com/dp/b7f930000e16e10a822c47b3baa2">https://c0arw235.caspio.com/dp/b7f930000e16e10a822c47b3baa2</a> ).	A/C	See Response 8
2020-01-16 13:51:44	Beverly VanScyoc Counselor Hundred High Hundred West	I disagree with the proposed changes to the social studies curriculum. We are failing our students and our nation by not providing an in depth education about the Holocaust, Vietnam War, slavery, etc. As a society we only skim the surface of issues so we are easily led and manipulated by individuals who spout rhetoric and half-truths. The social studies	A/C N	See Response 1 Curriculum and instruction are a local level decision.

		curriculum needs to remain as it is. It might also be beneficial to consult with educators when making proposed changes to curriculum.		
2020-01-16 14:07:43	Jessica Baker Teacher Mathias WV	I strongly disagree with the proposal to lessen the social studies required courses from 4 to 3. Our students need a greater knowledge of history and government, not less. As the legislature has recently required a citizenship test be given to all civics graduating students, recognizing the need for our students to be educated in the way our government works and their role as responsible citizens in a democracy. Comprehensive knowledge of US History as well as World Studies is vital to ensuring our students are prepared to go to college or go to work in a global economy.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-16 14:17:35	Phillip J Peters Physician Little Rock AR	Please do not diminish the Social Studies requirements in WV high schools. I grew up in WV and attended school there through high school. I now live in AR but read both the Charleston and Wheeling papers as well as return to the state several times per year because of business interests. Our society can ill afford to turn out high school graduates who are products of a “dumbed down” educational experience. All of us will live in an increasingly complex global society in the years to come and need to understand the past in order to prepare for the future. I can see absolutely nothing beneficial to the students or the state by diminishing their exposure to Social Sciences.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-16 14:49:48	Monter R. Wilson retired former teacher Bruceton Mills wv	I believe it is a mistake to lower the social studies requirements. To consolidate American History into one year of study and include civics and economics within the structure of that unit will greatly decrease student knowledge. As a former history teacher I found it difficult to teach American History in two years, to reduce it to one is an abomination. Civics and economics should be taught in an expanded format not a shorten format. Chief Justice Roberts has said recently that citizens need more study of the constitution and more study of government and our history. I agree and ask you to not change the current social studies and graduation requirements.	A/C	See Response 3 See Response 8
2020-01-16 19:02:28	Doug Minor Registered Nurse Benwood Wv	So I hear that there is a proposal to decrease the number of credits needed in history/civics at the high school level. As I look around the country today it is obvious that this is exactly the opposite of what needs to be done. Anyone that truly pays attention to what is going on in the Country and world can see that we need to arm our children with the	A/C	See Response 1

		past so it is not repeated. They need the knowledge so as to not be led astray by those that would take advantage of someone with a lesser education.		
2020-01-16 20:24:36	Katrin Machaj Lead Physics Teacher Chicago Public Schools Lane Tech College Prep HS Chicago IL	Students need more science at all levels as this is the field with the greatest potential for jobs and improvements to society. If you consider the Next Generation Science Standards, Earth/Space is the capstone science after Biology, Chemistry and Physics. 4 years of math and science should be a requirement at the high school level as the moaiority of careers in the future will be related to scientific endeavors.	A/S	
2020-01-16 21:14:40	Rose Marshall Homeschool family Cool Ridge Wv	All wv counties should offer a easier way to let high school age students enter into the school system. I believe the testing and state certificated teacher evaluation that is already in effect for progressing to the next grade should be sufficient to enter high school as a public school student as well. Also letting homeschool students take A. C. T. Courses like public school students.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-16 21:24:12	Shannon Cipoletti Beckley WV	I support a pathway for reentry into high school for every WV county.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-16 21:26:23	Meggan C Price Homeschool Mom Raleigh Educators Association of Christian Homeschoolers Beckley WV	I support a pathway for reentry into high school for every WV county.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-17 09:24:25	Theresa Dennison Teacher Appalachian Classical Academy Beckley WV	West Virginia needs a track for high school homeschoolers to re-enter the public school system. As a widowed homeschooler, I feel it especially important for lawmakers to realize that family situations change, and that West Virginia should be supporting ALL of their students!	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-17 09:43:38	Teresa Garrett Mount Hope WV	Families need to have the ability to enroll their children in the WV public school system in 10th grade and above. Other states give tests or review a student's portfolio to determine placement.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools

		This is just another facet of WV living that makes it so hard to raise a family here...		
2020-01-17 10:00:58	Gina Smith Raleigh Education Association of Christian Homeschoolers Beaver WV	I support a pathway for reentry to high school for homeschoolers first every WV county.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-17 10:41:14	Christine Keyes Homeschool mom, LPN REACH, CHEWV Naoma (Raleigh County) WV	I support having a policy in place to allow reentry into high school for every student in every county in WV.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-17 11:12:14	Carol Miley Dunbar WV	I want to voice my alarm with this proposal of reducing the teaching of history in our high schools. We need more exposure to help the students process the significance of events in our world today. I am a retired Kanawha County elementary school teacher. We also need more teaching about the Constitution and civic responsibilities.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-17 11:38:09	Ruth Gines	There are so many climate change problems in the world today. All of our students should be required to take earth and space science to graduate.	A/S	
2020-01-17 12:14:22	Michael Ross Winfield WV	See comments above	N	
2020-01-17 13:27:25	Michael Wilson structural civil engineer former student Bruceton Mills WV	To whom it may concern,  I have recently learned of the West Virginia State Board of Education's proposal to condense high school American History, Geography, and Economics into a single year social studies course and to eliminate Civics from the curriculum, and as the son of a retired history teacher and graduate of the West Virginia public education system, I am appalled. I simply cannot fathom how this terrible idea would benefit the students of West Virginia. It is a challenge for teachers to cover the necessary material as the curriculum currently stands, and this certainly won't make it any easier.	A/C  N	See Response 8  Policy 2510 does not address curriculum. Curriculum is a local level decision. Policy 2520.4 contains the social studies standards

Many people in our country complain that the younger generation don't understand the history of our country nor how it works. Under this proposal, how will our children have a better understanding? How will teachers present such a large amount of material in such a small timeframe? Does this proposal suggest that teachers cut out sections of history? Does this proposal suggest that teachers condense important events? Who is the judge of what stays and what doesn't?

I'd like to cite an example – the Civil War, one of our country's most important events. In order to be able to cover this material along with the 238 non-Civil War years, the time spent on it must be reduced or five other years of American History should be cut out of the curriculum. So, will our children be only learning that the War was caused by slavery, or will they learn about the other political and economic issues? What will they not learn instead? Will the teachers remove something like the Gilded Age or something "more important" like the Vietnam War? Time will only tell.

I would like to also introduce something more modern and relevant – the impeachment proceedings against Donald Trump. Without a Civics class, how will students understand this historical event unfolding before their eyes? How will they understand how impeachment works? How will they understand that impeachment doesn't mean removal from office? How will they understand that these proceedings are being followed by the Constitution and the law of the United States? Are they supposed to learn this from politically biased media like Breitbart or Huffington Post, or should they turn to their politicians who ignorantly lambast the proceedings simply because they don't like them?

In conclusion, it should be obvious to even the most ignorant fool that removing and/or breezing over history and government in school is a recipe for disaster. While those on the Board may not care what the younger generation knows, since they'll be dead when they become the leaders of this country, there are those of us who will be living and would not like to see another Civil War or Holocaust happen simply because of ignorance and lack of knowledge.

		<p>“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it” George Santayana</p> <p>“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today” Malcom X</p> <p>“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire” William Butler Yeats</p> <p>“Learning is like rowing upstream: not to advance is to drop back” Chinese proverb</p>		
2020-01-17 13:32:36	Gabrielle Clifton Daniel's WV	I support the initiative to encourage every WV county to offer a pathway for reentry into public schools after 9th grade so that our state’s public education system can best serve the student when needed. Often it is in the best interest of the child to be placed back into high school in 10th, 11th, or even 12th grade to finish their studies for their diploma. I believe WV should offer the option to come back into school when it is best for the student. I believe this policy change would support that objective.”	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-17 14:06:27	Jenny McCardle Wheeling WV	This comment is with regard to the proposal to decrease the number of social studies courses/credits for WV H.S. students. It saddens me to think that WV is even considering this. Social Studies is not just ONE subject, hence social studIIES (plural). It includes geography, history, politics, economics and culture and to deprive any of our students from learning one or more of these subjects is disheartening. Please DO NOT decrease the number of courses/credits required for WV high school students - you would be doing them an immense disservice.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-17 15:53:45	Michelle Wolfe teacher Baker WV	The proposed policy reduces required credits to 22, lessens social studies credits requirements to 3 and makes several other changes designed to allow school systems to employ fewer teachers. This policy lessens rather than strengthens the rigor and content of the work required of students to graduate from high school in West Virginia, which in my opinion will only put them further behind when they go to college or to the workplace.	N	See Response 7

2020-01-17 16:03:02	Lawrence Bissett Mr. South Charleston WV	I am opposed to your proposal to reduce social studies and history content requirements for high school students. Our state adult citizenry already appears poorly educated about these subjects. New graduates with even lower education in these subjects will only further lower state residents capabilities to perform responsibilities as citizens, voters, and employees. Please reject any proposals to reduce these requirements.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-17 22:50:14	Darby Brown N/A N/A Cameron WV	The state is considering getting rid of world history & condensing American history into 1 year instead of 2. This puts stress on teachers & is a disservice to our students. Without world history students get only an American perspective. And by condensing the American history courses the information cannot be covered in-depth, in the way it needs to be covered so our students have an accurate understanding.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-18 08:02:06	Jack Lambert Jr. Owner Jacks Gun Sales Saulsville Wv	More history!	AS	
2020-01-18 08:10:17	Kenneth Williams	Every day I read more and more about the destruction that we are doing to our planet, to the environments that we live in. Our children need to know more science. Our children especially need to know more about the earth science so they can understand and fix the problems we have caused.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-18 08:10:18	Kenneth Williams	Every day I read more and more about the destruction that we are doing to our planet, to the environments that we live in. Our children need to know more science. Our children especially need to know more about the earth science so they can understand and fix the problems we have caused.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-18 08:12:03	Jerry Jarman	It was good when you required students to take earth science the ninth grade year. Don't change it now.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-18 11:32:49	Greg Allen Community Member Putnam County Schools Hurricane WV	Social Studies requirements need to stay the same - four credits with world history as requirement.	A/C	See Response 1

2020-01-18 11:39:21	Stacy McPherson Parent Putnam County Schools Hurricane Wv	Social Studies Requirements should be kept the same. World History should be a requirement. Keep American History- two courses; If necessary, absorb Civics in the American History courses.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-18 11:56:54	Tamara Westfall Teacher Putnam County Schools Poca WV	I approve of the flex credit since it will allow students to get more tailored education based on their interests. I believe that a better solution to the issue of Earth & space science (ESS) vs physical science is to allow the rising freshman to choose which they want to take. We have some freshmen who do not have the algebra skills to succeed in physical science their first year, so the CSOs for ESS is more obtainable for them. At the same time, we have students who have those skills and plan to pursue a chemistry or biology degree that would be better serviced for a physical science starting course. Letting students choose what classes work best for them ensures that they are learning skills needed for their future.	A/S N	See Response 1 See Response 12
2020-01-18 15:47:38	Gary A Wroblewski Mr. Ceredo WV	Do not remove social studies requirement our society is a mess because . When young people stated the impeachment is over after the house voted just shows BOEs are pushing for a dumbing down of society. Just be use you do not teat it does. Ot make it irrelevant.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-19 11:19:08	Jason MacDonald Associate Professor West Virginia University Morgantown WV	My understanding is that a proposal is under consideration that would decrease the number of years of social studies that high school students must take in order to graduate. Reducing the number of years from two to one would decrease the amount of knowledge that high school students have about their government and their history-as well as government and history throughout the world. This would have the effect of making students less well-prepared for higher education courses on these topics. More importantly, though, it would reduce the general level of knowledge about government and history throughout the state. Fewer citizens would know about the separation of powers system, for example, and appreciate the role that competing branches of government play in making laws and protecting democracy. Fewer citizens would appreciate the importance of civil liberties for promoting the benefits of a free and civil society. Fewer citizens would become familiar with the electoral system and their role in it.	A/C	See Response 3 and 8
2020-01-19	Kristine Alvarez English Teacher Monongalia County	As a veteran high school English teacher in West Virginia, I urge those with the power to stop this bill's progression to do so without hesitation. This bill supports watering down our social studies curriculum and that	A/C	See Response 1

12:09:40	Schools - MHS Morgantown WV	<p>is not just negligible, it is a worrisome approach that indicates a certain degree of ignorance regarding opportunities for maximizing learning outcomes for our students. Simply put, it is the opposite of what our students need.</p> <p>The social studies curriculum in West Virginia needs to be broadened as a means to best educate our students and to better foster meaningful cross curricular learning opportunities for them. Social Studies classes afford students the opportunity for more depth of understanding when they are studying historical documents, speeches, figures, and other invaluable pieces of American literature. Class discussions with students who have been exposed to accurate and in depth analysis of historical time periods, figures and documents in their social studies classes are so much more beneficial to their overall learning. As a result, their ability to discuss and craft evidence based arguments and develop commentary to support their claims or their analysis of another's perspective when writing is much more attainable for them. It's a win win when social studies courses act as anchors for our English Language and Literature classes.</p>	N	Curriculum and instruction are addressed at the county level.
2020-01-19 15:22:00	Suzanne Patrick Retired Teacher Shepherdstown WV	I understand there is a movement to eliminate or reduce Social Studies classes in the high school programming. As a democracy we rely on the informed voter to elect representatives who will ensure the continuation of our freedoms. The youth need to have a firm understanding of how our government works and the issues facing it today. Social Studies and Current Events are studies vital to our democracy. The curriculum should be expanded, not reduced.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-19 20:38:18	Parker O. Pennington IV former President National Earth Science Teachers Assoc Ann Arbor MI	I approve of flex credit so students can take more science. Earth & Space Science is an appropriate course for 9th grade students and should remain.	A/S	See Response 1 In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-20 06:34:07	Marilou McClung Teacher Capital high school Charleston West	Given the current level of student engagement -- we need 4 years of social studies. We try but they have to listen. One more year can hurt.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-20	Jonathan Berkey Athens WV	I am opposed to giving students more "choice" by decreasing the number of required social studies courses. Our contentious times and	A/C	See Response 8

09:15:23		news headlines show that Americans (and West Virginians) need all of the background in social studies they can get. If we want responsible citizens in the state who are willing to address the key challenges we face, social studies must be emphasized. Limiting the social studies requirement to one course will cause students to miss important parts of our history that can teach valuable lessons.		
2020-01-20 09:28:45	S. Carter Zerbe Charleston WV	The Boards proposal to eliminate some of the social studies curriculum requirements is exactly the wrong direction to go in at a time when the very foundation of our democracy is under attack. We have a president with dictatorial tendencies, who with the cooperation and protection of a large, extreme right-wing section of one of our political parties, seeks to destroy the enlightenment foundation of our democratic system which stresses reason, science, facts, and integrity. Instead of reduction, the social studies curriculum requirements should be expanded.	N	Curriculum and instruction are addressed at the county level.
2020-01-20 09:40:41	Eleanor Finn Shepherdstown WV	Please do not reduce graduation requirements and certainly not in social studies. People don even recognize the 3 branches of government, let alone their responsibilities. They have no idea about global geography. They need MORE, not less. A higher graduation rate of ill informed students will not be a plus for them or for our state.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-20 17:27:20	Gail Ricketts Mr. Citizen Follansbee WV	Keep 2 years of American History and a comprehensive civics course.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-20 22:14:32	Kimberly Dennler Lewisburg WV	As a teacher in West Virginia, I strongly disagree with reducing the number of social studies credits required for graduation. When similar ideas were proposed a couple years ago, I was against it. Social studies is an important element in student learning. Not only does it teach students how to be productive citizens, but it also helps them see their role in shaping the future. Social studies courses also help students identify their relationship with their community, state, nation, and world. It is difficult already to cover all of the material students are required to learn in various social studies courses. Eliminating one course would make this even more challenging. If I read correctly, the policy proposed a comprehensive U.S. history course. Because AP courses are rigorous, teaching U.S. history can be achieved. However, general education classrooms are paced according to the learners that are in those respective classrooms. I cannot imagine students in a general setting	A/C	See Response 1

		<p>going through the entire history of our nation and retaining everything there is to know.</p> <p>Rather than eliminating a social studies credit, I believe revisions should be made to the social studies curriculum at the middle and high school levels. Some courses are revisited between the two and I believe that is partly why it has been suggested to drop the credits. Instead of reducing the credits, why not change the courses taught in middle and high school so they aren't retaught? For instance, colleagues across the state have discussed students' lack of geography skills between various grade levels. Why not teach students geography in middle school instead of world history or U.S. studies? Or incorporate an economics course into the social studies curriculum that teaches students the basics of investing, taking out loans, writing checks, etc. Both courses are desperately needed to help students be successful, conscientious adults. In the interests of students, I believe that the social studies credits needed to graduate should not be reduced.</p>	N	Curriculum and instruction are addressed at the county level.
2020-01-20 22:35:54	<p>Jack Hentz Retired high school science teacher Michigan Earth Science Teachers Association Rosenberg TX</p>	<p>I believe the removal of Earth Science in your 9th grade curriculum would be a serious mistake. The Earth Sciences are in the news almost daily now. Climate change and its impact, meteorological disasters are becoming even more destructive every year, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions continue to wreck havoc on millions of lives each year. We are all worried about energy sources and sustainability of food sources. These are all relevant topics that high school students should be exposed to in Earth Science class in order to make informed decisions as citizens of this country and to encourage students to enter these fields as permanent careers. This is very important for your students, since West Virginia is a leader in the area of Astronomy in this country. Flex credits are a great idea to get additional science credits for students during their high school careers. Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, and Physics are all important topics that students should have some exposure to in high school. Please do not remove Earth Science in order to replace it with another science. Physical Science (Physics and Chemistry) should be a one year class, Life Science (Biology) should be a one year class, and Earth and Space Science should be a one year class. This will expose all high school students to all the major sciences during their high school career.</p>	A/S	<p>See Response 1</p> <p>In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.</p>

<p>2020-01-21 09:25:54</p>	<p>Ralone Cool teacher Kanawha County Schools SAINT ALBANS WV</p>	<p>□ There seems to be little attention given to the sequencing of these courses as they relate to other courses. Social studies provides context for understanding other subjects and the world. When courses are sequenced, scaffolding can occur resulting in greater student understanding and achievement. The repetitive nature of courses could easily be addressed with changes to the middle school sequencing. Changes in middle school sequencing could alleviate concerns about repetitive coursework and support the current course requirements in high school.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 3</p>
<p>2020-01-21 09:42:30</p>	<p>Valerie Leasure classroom teacher Kanawha County Schools Charleston WV</p>	<p>The required classes are ethnocentric in nature and do not prepare students to be part of the global community. If our students leave West Virginia for college or careers, they will need to be educated in diverse cultures and traditions of the world, not just the United States. Their limited education in this field may also limit their opportunities for success. We need to emphasize, now more than ever, that we live in a global, interconnected society. World history and geography, both human and physical, need to be required and emphasized parts of the curriculum.</p> <p>Condensing American history into one year-long class or one semester block class lends itself to teaching content and not skills. Sufficient depth of knowledge about any person, event, or era cannot be achieved with such a large time span to be covered. Our students need to have a deep understanding of our shared history as Americans in order to address the problems facing their generation. While students taking AP courses are prepared for such a demanding course load and are able to complete a comprehensive curriculum, this would limit our standard level and special needs students' ability to be successful as they would be required to master two years of material in one year.</p> <p>There seems to be little attention given to the sequencing of these courses as they relate to other courses. Social studies provides context for understanding other subjects and the world. When courses are sequenced, scaffolding can occur resulting in greater student</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

understanding and achievement. The repetitive nature of courses could easily be addressed with changes to the middle school sequencing. Changes in middle school sequencing could alleviate concerns about repetitive coursework and support the current course requirements in high school.

Skills learned in social studies courses- annotation, document analysis, analysis of world events, reading maps, tables, and graphs- are essential to performing well on standardized tests. Even though Social Studies is not a separate section on standardized testing, the reading and Language Arts portions use these skills.

When social studies requirements are reduced for our students, it also reduces the need to maintain social studies departments at their current employment levels. Although not a separate section on high stakes tests, per the SAT website, social studies provides the primary source document analysis necessary to be successful on the Reading and English portions of standardized testing. It also is an opportunity to foster education for the head and the heart as it emphasizes national and global perspectives and understanding our student roles as a citizen.

Shared educational experiences students have in English and social studies fosters interdisciplinary connections and promotes collaboration leading to a deeper understanding and more meaningful learning. Flexibility, especially in the junior and senior years, lends itself to less collaboration amongst teachers.

New instructional materials for social studies have been adopted for the 2019-2020 school year. Teachers and school districts have already invested a significant amount of time and taxpayer money into these resources. Any changes to the structure of graduation requirements at this point would be seen as a waste of resources.

Policy 2510 has been addressed for the third time in as many years. Consistency would be beneficial until we know how the previous changes are affecting stakeholders.

If leaving course options open to counties, is there an internal review for newly related courses that are counting towards graduation? What will

		<p>be offered in lieu of in depth study?</p> <p>At this time in our history, it is imperative to offer more opportunities for students to learn how the social construct of their world operates. This is not done by decreasing the requirements but by adding more offerings as electives and more support of social studies teachers through advanced content specific training.</p> <p>As now required, Civics is the senior level course. This is the appropriate capstone to social studies coursework but there is not guarantee that this would be continued and therefore would diminish it effectiveness for preparing citizens in the 21st century.</p>		
2020-01-21 11:29:34	JOHN HOPKINS TEACHER KCS ELKVIEW WV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy 2510 has been addressed for the third time in as many years. Consistency would be beneficial until we know how the previous changes are affecting stakeholders.</li> <li>• If leaving course options open to counties, is there an internal review for newly related courses that are counting towards graduation? What will be offered in lieu of in depth study?</li> <li>• At this time in our history, it is imperative to offer more opportunities for students to learn how the social construct of their world operates. This is not done by decreasing the requirements but by adding more offerings as electives and more support of social studies teachers through advanced content specific training.</li> <li>• As now required, Civics is the senior level course. This is the appropriate capstone to social studies coursework but there is not guarantee that this would be continued and therefore would diminish it effectiveness for preparing citizens in the 21st century.</li> </ul>	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-21 12:49:54	Cecil Walker Herbert Hoover High School Charleston West	<p>I am opposed to the proposed changes in regards to Social Studies courses in West Virginia for the following reasons; 1) Putting U.S. history into one class would not allow teachers to cover the content with any depth, 2) Skills like analyzing documents, map reading, understanding tables and graphs which are taught in social studies are skills needed to perform well on standardized tests, 3) Social studies compliment other courses, especially Language Arts, 4) Due to diversity in our nation and world our high school students need more knowledge of history than ever before. Such monumental changes in course requirements should be left up to the educators and not bureaucrats</p>	A/C	See Response 3

		outside the field. Please reconsider these proposed changes and make the right decision and leave these programs as they are.		
2020-01-21 16:29:29	Elisabeth Staro Jefferson County Schools Shepherdstown WV	As a substitute, I see a broad spectrum of students, in multiple subjects. They, for the most part have little understanding of how our government works, why it might be important and what their role as a citizen might be. I find this appalling and frightening. The idea of decreasing, not increasing, their time studying these important topics is irresponsible and detrimental to the future of this State and Country. It is time to raise the bar not lower it further. Make Civics classes available and required in Middle and High School as well as History. A Passing grade should be a requirement to graduate.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-21 20:12:34	Janet Joseph Wheeling WV	As a former social studies teacher, I am appalled at the minimal requirements proposed in the social studies area. I am glad to see that Civics would be required but wonder how personal finance got included in this subject area. I believe adding personal finance is an area of importance for students but wonder how it was decided to include this as part of a Civics class. I see that a student could substitute Contemporary Studies for U.S. History, meaning we could have a whole generation of decision makers having very little knowledge of our history beyond what they learned in elementary and middle school. And where is World History? I don't even see it in the list of possible third credit classes. We are ever more entwined with other nations of the world, but our students will be given no knowledge in this area at all? Please reconsider this change and make the Social Studies area more stringent and demanding of our students. Development of critical thinking skills is absolutely necessary and can be best developed in this area. I see that a watered-down area of Social Studies was proposed by your board in 2017 and was changed after public protest. I hope this will happen again.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-21 21:19:51	Maureen McCormick	Permafrost is thawing and Australia has nearly burned to the ground. Our students need all the Earth science they can get. We must stop climate change. Keep the earth science graduation requirement.	A/S	See Response 1 In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-21	Jim Nasium	Requiring for social studies classes is job security for coaches.	N	

21:22:58				
2020-01-21 21:52:58	Debra Basham Elkview West	Trying to condense the teaching of US History into one course does not allow enough time to discuss the many topics that help us to understand how our country has developed to this time and what things we need to watch for in the future. Currently many students barely learn anything about the Vietnam War period to the present, and by eliminating this as a two course option, they will learn even less. This is a very bad idea, created without adequate input from social studies teachers.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-21 22:28:41	Fred Ware Social Studies Teacher Liberty High School Clarksburg We	Leave the Social Studies alone. Please don't fix it the way you fixed science and math. Pick a curriculum and stick with it. A little consistency can go a long way.	A/C	See Response 1  Curriculum and instruction are addressed at the county level.
2020-01-21 22:57:45	Joyce Okes Parkersburg WV	Recommend requiring English 11 and 12 without allowing substitution of English electives. Business and Industry have needs for workers that have strong reading and writing skills along with the ability to problem solve, interpret information, and apply it to various situations. While these skills may be taught in some electives, they receive greater emphasis in standard English classes.	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-21 23:54:28	Emily Okes Teacher Jackson County Schools Evans WV	<p>11th grade is the accountability year for high schools where our standardized test scores help to determine how we are rated. The students taking the state-mandated SAT may not have a traditional English class at that time to help them prepare.</p> <p>Actually, they may not have traditional English classes in 11th or 12th grade as they are preparing for college or careers. Students skills may diminish without practice in common text analysis and writing formats. This is during a time many are aiming for scores that could be helpful for college admissions or scholarship applications.</p> <p>If teachers are pulled from the traditional classes to offer more electives, a domino effect will occur.</p> <p>More electives may need to be offered which means more preps for</p>	A/C	See Response 10

		<p>teachers.</p> <p>Class sizes in both the electives and traditional classes will have to increase in order to accommodate additional alternatives. Students will get less individualized attention.</p> <p>A "compromise" is that counties can choose to keep their own graduation requirements. For core classes especially this has the potential to be messy. If a senior transfers schools to a county that requires English 11 and 12, they may have to double-up on that core class, restrict their elective options, and potentially have trouble staying on time for graduation. There are not always clear equivalent courses available. Section 6.4.d puts the responsibility on the State Superintendent for waivers.</p> <p>Skills such as reading and analyzing texts, practicing research, writing well-crafted and organized responses, and speaking in public are crucial for any career path. While we certainly value our electives, they may be focused on standards that are less-widely applicable.</p>		
2020-01-21 23:58:23	L. Leon Okes Parkersburg WV	<p>Business and industry are in need of people who have strong skills in communication and language. It is imperative that our high schools provide a strong background in English for that reason. Changing the requirements for traditional English courses so that students only have to take two years of traditional English will not prepare our students for either the workplace or higher education. Students in eleventh grade are also required to take standardized tests. Lowering the standards in English will cause significant drops in test scores. I strongly oppose proposed changes in the high school curriculum requirements for graduation because it will have an adverse effect.</p>	A/C	<p>See Response 10</p> <p>Curriculum and instruction are addressed at the county level.</p>
2020-01-22 08:43:26	Corey Miller Teacher Monroe County Board of Education Ballard WV	<p>I am writing to ask you to consider keeping the required Social Studies credits at four. While I understand the desire for flexibility, I also understand the importance of four years of Social Studies education for all students. Students need these classes to understand the differences in cultures, people and lifestyles. The four social studies classes also act as a medium to tie in important current events and events around the world that will affect the student's future. In addition, United States history must be taught in two separate full courses in order to cover the material in a proper manner. If taught in a one-year period in a general education class, the material would be condensed to only the highlights. The</p>	A/C	<p>See Response 3</p>

		<p>teacher and the students would have no time to analyze the material in a critical manner.</p> <p>In closing, I will offer an alternative solution for flexibility. Perhaps, the students could have a choice of a variety of courses within social studies including the current core areas (World, US 1, US 2 and Civics). Perhaps choosing to replace one of the main four with an alternative course such as Geography, Sociology, Psychology or Economics.</p>		
<p>2020-01-22 09:12:57</p>	<p>Karen Moreno Social Studies Teacher Washington High School Charles Town WV</p>	<p>I will include a list below of the reasons why I think cutting the social studies requirements would ultimately harm our students.</p> <p>Social studies supports other subjects. I often times teach writing skills and graphing data. Today alone I taught about averages and percentages (which many of college prep students still struggle with) when collecting class data. This helps support the math and science department. I also taught students how to write thesis statements as well has how to cite sources last week. My whole department does this often to support the English department.</p> <p>Contemporary studies has already been cut as a requirement which makes students unprepared for civics their senior year as they don't know basic information such as the civil rights movement and major amendments and court cases. These foundational pieces to civics.</p> <p>Without world history, how are students suppose to know about world religions and basic geography? 1/3 of adults can't find Iran on a map. My brother may be a business owner, but it is important that he knows how make political voting decisions and be a compassionate person to his fellow man by understanding other cultures and backgrounds. We are suppose to be teaching the youth tolerance, equality, the beauty of our differences. All things taught in history. Even the electrical lineman, like cousin needs to know about the cultures of ancient times before himself and how they were impacted by conquistadors as a Mexican American.</p> <p>College bound students will be taking world history courses regardless of their majors. Without prior knowledge how successful do you think they will be in those courses?</p> <p>Students will still be put in classes that are not required and they did not sign up for because scheduling necessities and to fill schedules. Students will be less motivated to learn and therefore more behavior problems will arise.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

<p>2020-01-22 11:33:15</p>	<p>Tim Parent Wheeling WV</p>	<p>Consideration for the state board and the higher ed commission. Allow students to take either two years of the same world language or two credits in computer science. This would increase the number of students taking computer science. It is increasingly difficult for high schools to find world language teachers, if some of our students took computer science instead it would decrease the number of world language sections needed. In our county alone, we have been short two full time Spanish teachers all school year. Make the FLEX in Policy 2510 in world language not social studies.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>WV virtual school employs fulltime Spanish teachers to ensure Spanish is available to all students.</p>
<p>2020-01-22 11:42:56</p>	<p>Luke Teel teacher Kanawha County Schools Elkview WV</p>	<p>As a social studies teacher, I am strongly opposed to the reduction in the amount of social studies credits high school students would need to graduate. The study of history is vital to understanding a societys past mistakes and moving forward without recreating them. By eliminating the required time students need to spend in a social studies classroom setting, it would be impossible to impart all of the knowledge these students need to become educated members of our society.</p> <p>In addition, as a teacher who has taught a Contemporary Studies course, I can tell you that it is impossible to adequately teach all of American history in one combined course. Contemporary Studies is a class teaching American history from 1900 to the present day. It can be difficult to teach all of that information in a school year, let alone include an additional two hundred plus years of history to a courses curriculum.</p> <p>In conclusion, eliminating a social studies credit for our high school students would be an extreme disservice to the youth of West Virginia. We want our students to be as competitive as any others in the United States when they graduate from high school, and this proposed course of action is not the way to do that.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 3</p>
<p>2020-01-22 11:55:12</p>	<p>Rebecca Kimmons Citizen of West Virginia Charleston WV</p>	<p>I understand that the State Board of Educations proposal, Policy 2510, would allow counties to eliminate the two-course option in Social Studies, and would also cut the requirement for a fourth social studies credit. Whatever would inspire such thinking? Young West Virginians need to know more, not less. Young West Virginians are leaving the state in droves. They will learn much the hard way when they leave, and one of the things they will learn, if they have the capacity to see and understand it, is how deprived they have been of an honest</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 3</p>

		understanding of world, US and West Virginia history. Do not contribute to the further dumbing down of West Virginias citizens. Don tell us that you e aiming for a "world class educational system" and then consider proposals such as this.		
2020-01-22 11:59:27	M.Cox Athens WV	I support the initiative to encourage every WV county to offer a pathway for reentry into public schools after 9th grade so that our state's public education system can best serve the student when needed. Often it is in the best interest of the child to be placed back into high school in 10th, 11th, or even 12th grade to finish their studies for their diploma. I believe WV should offer the option to come back into school when it is best for the student. I believe this policy change would support that objective.	A/S	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools
2020-01-22 12:56:21	Jamie Lemon Teacher Braxton County High School Sutton WV	Can you provide additional clarification on the required Social Studies courses for high school?	A/C	Chart has been updated to identify courses required to be offered
2020-01-22 13:11:49	Melissa Kaiser Teacher Belington WV	<p>English: Against proposal - As a parent of a current college student, it concerns me greatly that he could have chosen a path in high school that would have prevented him from writing a term paper. Eng 9 and 10, no term paper is completed. If he would have chosen Creative writing and Technical as the 2nd two, he would not have the skills he needs to write a research paper in college.</p> <p>Social Studies: Against proposal - We require students to have foreign language, but not teach them the history of the world. This baffles me. Teaching US history in one course? You could make it 3 courses and not do it justice.</p> <p>PE: Against extracurricular proposal - A quality PE program is to teach students in WV the skills they will need to live a lifestyle of wellness, not just play basketball or soccer. As a past high school basketball player, I can tell you from age 24 to 47 I have not played the sport. I have however used many other wellness skills to maintain my health because I learned that life is not about one sport, it is about a lifestyle using many skills from many areas - all of which should be evident in a PE classroom.</p>	<p>A/C</p> <p>N</p> <p>N</p>	<p>See Response 10</p> <p>World Languages are not required for graduation</p> <p>The proposed policy makes no changes to physical education</p>

		<p>Against extracurricular graded and non-grade: So a coach can give a grade? How will this be assessed and by whom? How will the standards be determined across the board? If I come to practice every day I get an A?</p> <p>Arts: For the proposal - just concerned how positions for 4 courses will be filled. How will small schools get that many teachers?</p> <p>Driver Education: For remaining the same. I am glad to see that this did not change.</p>	A/S	
2020-01-22 13:25:08	Stephen R. Higgins Teacher Marion County BOE Barrackville West	I strongly urge the WV Board of Education to reconsider the proposal to reduce the number of social studies credits required for high school graduation from 4 to 3. The various disciplines within the social studies sphere affords students the opportunity to consider not only their own past and current standing within the inter-connected, global world, but insight into the beliefs, customs, and history of the worlds people. Social studies education is a key component in developing a better understanding of the self and others and should remain a 4 credit requirement for high school graduation in West Virginia.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-22 14:29:46	Alicia Kidd teacher Bridgeport High School Bridgeport WV	<p>The high school graduation requirement should not be reduced to 22 credits. To maintain rigor and to prepare globally competent citizens with problem-solving skills, students should have a minimum of 26 credits to graduate.</p> <p>For the Seal of Biliteracy, how will proficiency be assessed and who will administer and pay for the assessment?</p> <p>For graduation students should be required to take all four social studies classes - Early US History, Contemporary US History, World Cultures, and Civics. Early and Contemporary US History should not be combined. There is too much information for one course. World Cultures is essential to creating globally competent citizens.</p> <p>Students should not be permitted to substitute creative writing for English 11 or 12. They need the critical reading and writing skills taught in English 11 and 12.</p> <p>CTE courses should not count as a graduation credit in science.</p> <p>A Parenting Skills class is a valuable addition to the curriculum; however, who will teach the course and what are the required credentials to teach the course?</p>	<p>N</p> <p>A/C</p> <p>A/C</p> <p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 7</p> <p>See Response 1</p> <p>See Response 10</p> <p>See Response 6</p>

2020-01-22 14:39:33	Roberta Sinsel Teacher Bridgeport High School Bridgeport WV	Requirements for high school should not be less rigorous. We are constantly hearing about how far behind our WV students are. Less rigor in high school will perpetuate this problem, not help solve it. Students given more choice will choose less rigor. Students will choose the path of least resistance as most adults also do...doesn't mean that is the best path. Students should be ready for life when they graduate whether they choose to go to work or college. A free public education provides opportunities for people to be successful whichever choice they make. The standards in Policy 2510 seem more geared toward a manual labor viewpoint, which many of WV's students will make that choice right after graduation, but many will also decide to go to college after a few years of manual labor, and they should also be prepared for higher education even if they enter college later. By cutting required courses in core content areas, that basic knowledge base will also be cut. Electives in English and Social Studies will not afford the same basic knowledge in core areas that required courses now provide. That basic core knowledge is also needed for national and international testing. Our students cannot be expected to perform and compete with students from other states and countries when our curriculum is not maintaining rigorous standards or even ever increasing standards. An educated population is not just how many people have a high school diploma, but what that high school diploma represents.	A/C	See Response 1  See Response 10
2020-01-22 14:43:11	joseph.monahan@k12.wv.us Teacher Bridgeport High School Bridgeport WV	20th Century History must be a required subject. The sacrifice of our veterans must be taught and never forgotten, as you folks obviously have. This is also the most important time period for major Supreme Court decisions and major rights won. Our nation's history should not be sacrificed on the altar of better graduation rates by dumbing down curriculum to obtain better press/public relations. Those of us who are successful (in the northern part of the state) should not be punished, or have our kids short changed because parents in the southern part of the state don't care if their kids graduate. Making the state LESS EDUCATED is not the answer to attracting/creating economic growth. Find a way to lift them up, not bring us down.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-22 15:07:03	Lisa Sullivan Huntington WV	Please require 4 Social Studies credits. Thank you.	A/C	See Response 1



11:22:48	Jefferson High School Shenandoah Junction WV	schools need to expose students to rigorous instruction in reading and writing of broad depth. Electives focused on specific writing types and reading genres do not sufficiently prepare student for the variety they will find in adult life.		
2020-01-23 11:23:48	Dale Leatherman Shepherdstown WV	Social studies classes should not be reduced. Americans are woefully ignorant of how our government works and how precious democracy is. If we don't learn about it and protect it, we will lose it.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-23 11:47:30	Amy Vickers Teacher Kearneysville WV	Students need both the 11th and 12th grade English standards. If the students take electives that do not follow these standards, they will not be prepared for post-secondary education. The students still need to work on analytical and persuasive writing, in addition to critical thinking and researching. They will not get this information in an elective class that will have more focus on Shakespeare or Journalism. Please do not allow an elective to take the place of much needed classes.	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-23 11:52:47	Lisa Cunningham Director of Special Education Jackson County Schools Ripley WV	In regard to math programming at the high school, there must be options for math credit that ensure our students are not only college ready, but also career ready. A large number of our students are leaving high school to enter the workforce or trade school without the appropriate skills for these options. Business math, financial math, and math skills for independent living are VITAL. These skills are necessary for career readiness and the requirements for Algebra I, II and Geometry are not sufficient for this preparation. Especially for students with disabilities on a standard diploma, the requirement for higher level math is diminishing their preparation in skills that they truly need as they struggle to obtain credits in these higher math courses. Modifications and accommodations to the standards in these courses may enable students to obtain the credit, but they do nothing to provide the vital instruction they need in math for THEIR lives. Please consider students who are preparing to be career ready through high school and not just those who are preparing to go to college.	A/S	In favor of proposed math offerings
2020-01-23 14:47:37	Corinne Scurlock Supervisory Aide/BS AFT Shady Spring West	I feel teachers need to keep the same lesson plan as outlined in state code. To adhere strictly to a lesson plan and not let an instructor have leeway to think laterally during a lesson or take advantage of an inspirational moment is restricting the possibility of students learning in a different capacity.	A/C	See Response 9

<p>2020-01-23 18:55:11</p>	<p>Cheryll Roberts Chemistry and Physics Teacher Putnam County Schools Culloden WV</p>	<p>I would like to see the 9th Grade required course give students an option between Physical Science and Earth and Space Science. It is frequently said that students struggle too much in math to take Physical Science, but there are flaws in that reasoning:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Those reading these comments are old enough to have taken Physical Science in School. Are we saying that kids today cannot learn what we were required to learn?</li> <li>2. How is it fair to allow students to take Algebra I in the 8th Grade (because they are advanced) yet say they are unable to learn how to use a simple equation like <math>v = d/t</math> or <math>d = m/v</math>?</li> <li>3. How is it possible to have students take a less challenging course, yet expect outcomes to improve?</li> <li>4. When ESS was adopted part of the debate was that very few teachers in the state actually had the certification to teach that subject. How many teachers teaching that subject today have an actual certification in ESS (meaning...have they actually completed the coursework for ESS certification)?</li> </ol> <p>Of the approximately 20 states that require ESS, how many have better outcomes on standardized testing when compared to the states that still have the Physical Science requirement?</p> <p>I am not suggesting that we eliminate ESS. I am requesting that students be allowed an opportunity to take Physical Science in place of ESS for their 9th Grade science requirement.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>See Response 12</p>
<p>2020-01-23 19:17:59</p>	<p>Julianna Santos Teacher Logan County Board of Education Logan WV</p>	<p>As a social studies teacher, I see on a daily basis how important it is to teach my students about US and World History. Please do NOT lower the social studies credits that are required to graduate.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>
<p>2020-01-23 20:26:48</p>	<p>David Warvel Secondary Director Fayette County BOE Fayetteville WV</p>	<p>Would like to see if Coding/ Programming could be considered a foreign language. There are numerous jobs that involve programming and coding and many of our schools have moved to be pervasive with STEM in all grade levels. This would be a natural fit to consider a change of thought to what foreign language is today.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>While we require computer science courses to be offered, we cannot guarantee all colleges and universities across the country will accept</p>

				these courses as a world language credit.
2020-01-23 21:26:31	Teresa Atkinson Teacher-Special Education Mason County Schools Point Pleasant WV	6.1 I agree with the different options for the third and fourth years of study in math. I would like to see all students take a financial math class that deals with math in the real world, as in income tax, health costs, banking, interest, loans, credit, financial planning and purchasing power. I am glad to see this as a math option but this is one area that everyone has to deal with every day in the real world. Some students can handle Algebra II and Trigonometry but have no idea about real life math.  I also see the need to keep the 4 credit requirement in Social Studies.	A/S	In favor of proposed math offerings
2020-01-23 22:38:59	Kathryn Goodwin Kathryn S Goodwin Ripley West	As a parent, grandparent, Ph.d in Developmental Psychology and retired Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Charleston, and former Jackson County Board of Education member, I am opposed to dropping a social studies unit. Having read that there has been widespread opposition to dropping the unit and that Superintendent Paine has indicated that he will not recommend that action, I doubt that I can add to the discussion. However, I wanted to add at least one more voice of support to the notion that our students need more not less of what is offered in the social studies curriculum. All of my training and experience supports this notion. I am pleased that so many others agree.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-24 06:23:47	M Jarrell Artie W V	I think they should keep the social studies requirement at four. It is very important for our students to have a good understanding of history . The Civics class they added many years ago is very good as part of the social studies group. The history classes have a lot material to cover so decreasing them would be an injustice to our students. They still have enough flexibility in their schedules to add courses that fit their plan. Don't decrease our education , it is not to the students' advantage to do that.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-24 08:49:49	James Cork Social Studies Department Chair Tucker County High School Parsons WV	I highly encourage the state board not to adopt the proposed 3 credit requirement for high school social studies. Currently I teach AP United States history, which delivers US history in a comprehensive format to college level students. I also teach US studies (early American history) and Contemporary studies (modern American history). This	A/C	See Response 1



		high school. The progression of Earth and space, biology and physical science is grounded in good pedagogy and students are math ready by their junior year for the rigors of physical science. Thank you for recognizing the importance of placing Earth & space science as a required high school course. I think requiring a physical science for graduation to quiet the comments about students avoiding the subject.	A/S	See Response 6  In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-24 10:20:24	Heather DeLuca-Nestor Teacher Monongalia County Board of Education Morgantown WV	Required credits for high school Social Studies students should remain at 4. We should not be lowering our standards for WV students. We should possibly take a look at the content that is taught and focus more on civics and government and incorporate real-world application into the course requirements such as how to balance a checkbook-online banking, standard rates, how interest rates are determined for credit cards, tax credits, how to fill out applications. Things that are regulated by our government that will directly affect our students in the next couple of years.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-24 10:31:03	John Kerns Glen Dale WV	I support the FLEX credit for students. Social Studies should not be required of all students for 4 years. Allow students to take the classes needed to succeed in their future by not requiring 4 social studies credits.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 10:32:38	Donna Kerns Moundsville WV	Social Studies should not require 4 credits for graduation. Let students take what they need for college instead of forcing them into Social Studies.	A/S	See Response 1

2020-01-24 10:33:47	Teacher Davis West	I endorse the idea - its nice for students to have choice	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 10:35:51	Robert Barricelli Morgantown WV	I endorse flexible scheduling which would allow students to choose science or social studies classes based on their interested career interests.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 10:55:47	Jessica Butcher Robotics Instructor James Rumsey Technical Institute Martinsburg WV	FLEX scheduling is more reasonable. Why should social studies receive more emphasis in high school than science? Shouldn't future STEM majors be given the opportunity to count an additional science course for graduation?	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 10:56:17	Jason Evans Teacher, Department Chair Parkersburg South High School Parkersburg WV	<p>As the West Virginia Department of Education prepares to alter Policy 2510 I would like to weigh in on a proposed change.</p> <p>The new policy, if adopted, could require certain students, most likely the lowest achieving math students, to take two math credits their freshman year. This could potentially lead these same students to taking 5 math classes during their high school career. My question is simple, why?</p> <p>Before we tackle this, I feel some background is in order. I have taught students math in all grades from 7th through 12th and have taught post-secondary math courses as well. I have been teaching math for 15 years and I'm currently the Math Department Chair at Parkersburg South High School. I've taught Applied Math classes (when those were still offered) and I've taught AP Calculus classes and nearly everything in between. I feel my experience is worthy of a comment.</p> <p>Some background on the issue at hand. I do not remember the specifics, but at some point in my teaching career West Virginia required 3 math credits to graduate. I believe, in a push toward getting students into college, the state upped the requirement to 4 math credits. I see no problem in doing this for our college bound students, but I, and many of my colleagues, questioned doing this for all students. Apparently, the powers to be in West Virginia must have agreed, because soon after the</p>	N	Math 1 and Math 1 Lab or Algebra 1 and Algebra 1 Support contain the exact same set of standards and were created to be taught concurrently. The proposed policy allows counties to determine if students are required to have math every year of high school.

change to 4 math credits to graduate, a new math class (College Transition Math for Seniors or some variation of this name) was created, or maybe more appropriately, melded together from other, existing math courses. Why the need for a new math class? It would appear (and is proven out in the classrooms of high schools across West Virginia) that many students cannot master an original, fourth math. Transition Math for Seniors was originally billed to us, the teachers, as a course to prepare the lowest achieving college bound students for college math. This sounded reasonable enough, in theory; however, in practice, this class is used simply as a dumping ground for students in need of a fourth math credit. Earlier, I stated it was a class melded from other courses. The content standards for Transition Math are taken directly from Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II content standards, meaning there is no new or original content taught in this course. I believe it is even more telling that the NCAA Clearinghouse does not recognize Transition Math for Seniors as a legitimate course for NCAA eligibility purposes.

Now, to the point of my comment on the proposed Policy 2510. We are taking the students who struggle the most with math and we're asking, no requiring, them to take more math than other students and it is math that is often the least attainable subject for them. With all due respect, this makes no sense.

Playing by the rules set forth by the proposed Policy 2510, let a weaker and/or low achieving math student model the courses they would face on their path to graduate:

Freshman Year - Algebra I Support  
Algebra I  
Sophomore Year – Geometry  
Junior Year – Algebra II  
Senior Year – Financial Algebra

This gets our student to 3 math credits through 2 years of high school; well on track to graduate. However, if we account for 9.1.c.4 of the proposed Policy 2510 and what I believe to be best practice, our student should take a math class each of the next two years. Why is this best practice? Because math is not the proverbial riding of a bike. If a student

does not experience and work with math on a regular basis they do not keep the fluency or even understanding needed to be successful when they take on a math course their first year of post-secondary work or in taking of many of the tests jobs require for employment. In fact, I've helped numerous students work on the math needed to be successful for the ASVAB.

In my opinion, it is in the last two years where the dilemma will begin to show itself if we require Algebra I as a corequisite with Algebra I Support. In our student's junior year, they will be faced with the rigor of an Algebra II course; a course they are most likely not suited for. And to what end? If our student is not college bound, then I'm curious as to why they need to learn about quadratics and their properties. Or why they have to know how to find the zeroes of a polynomial function.

Many of our poorest math students are already struggling to get to this point in their junior year. Their Algebra I and Geometry courses, coupled with their apathy or even distaste of math leads them to limp along these prescribed courses. I do not question the prescription of these courses as I do believe many of our students will benefit from time and the maturity it brings. These students need some foundation to build from if they do decide to pursue college later in life; but, to force these same students to endure more high level math is ludicrous.

I do believe in the adage of a challenge cannot be presented without a corresponding solution. As such, I have a solution to offer. Instead of requiring Algebra I Support as a corequisite with Algebra I, offer Algebra I Support, as a stand alone credit, to the lowest achieving students. I'll even concede that we should be choosy about who is offered Algebra I Support. Much of mathematics is about placement. This is true in college mathematics and it only holds that it should be true in high school mathematics. A student's math ability does not magically change. 8th graders, who are not currently in Algebra I, can take a placement test toward the end of their 8th grade year to best determine their fit in the math curriculum. This placement test will identify those students most in need of Algebra I Support and they can be scheduled accordingly.

In my proposed model our student from before would now take the following:

Freshman Year - Algebra I Support

Sophomore Year - Algebra I

Junior Year - Geometry

Senior Year - Financial Algebra or Transitional Math or Algebra II

I've included Algebra II in this model in the senior year because it is possible our student has done some growing and self-reflection and has decided a four year college is for them. If that's the case they could beef up their math resume by taking the more rigorous Algebra II in preparation for college.

Much of the proposed 2510 is being called into question because of a backing off on requirements, but in terms of math, there was a strengthening of requirements. Why this fundamental change in the state's philosophy? Why do we continue to ask more of our students than they are capable of? In my opinion, the learning of math can be compared to the dunking of a basketball. I believe we all agree some people are capable of dunking a basketball and some are not. Now, can we improve skills related to dunking? Sure, improving one's vertical leap, coordination drills to more efficiently jump, etc. But no amount of drills will change the final outcome. The same is true with math. There are some math concepts at the high school level that are so advanced that some students cannot fully grasp them. This does not make these students any lesser a student or person, but they can't fully grasp the ideas needed. Now, can we improve math skills that may lead to success in other areas? Absolutely, basic skills are essential across the board. Financial literacy is another component that is currently lacking, but within the wheelhouse of virtually every student.

In conclusion, I ask that you reconsider the decision to make Algebra I a corequisite with Algebra I Support and instead let Algebra I Support be a stand alone math credit. A good, solid curriculum with a focus on basics is what a select group of our student population needs. Not higher math.

2020-01-24 10:58:55	Suzanne McDonald Mrs Parent Morgantown WV	I support FLEX. My son should be able to choose more science and less history senior year if he will be seeking a career in science. Those students seeking a career in history could choose a 4th year of history.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 11:00:05	Jessica Russler Science Teacher Washington High School Charles Town WV	I support the plan to allow students to take a fourth science.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 11:18:00	Elizabeth Strong Program Coordinator SMART-Center Wheeling WV	I support the flex scheduling for high school science. Students should be given the option to choose a fourth science course in high school given the need for preparation for STEM careers and the need for a scientifically literate public.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 11:20:53	Megan Bennett Teacher Paw Paw High School Paw Paw WV	<p>Earth and Space science is an appropriate science course for 9th grade. It is much more relevant to students and is a better connection to the other sciences including environmental science. Physical Science would be a better 3rd option with chemistry and physics. In my experience, students are not developmentally ready for physics and chemistry in 9th grade due to its more abstract nature. I teach students in grades 7-12 and my students are better prepared and have more meaningful connections with the content when Earth and Space Science is the 9th grade option. ESS also includes topics relevant to physical science and introduces them in a context that reaches students better than physical science would. I have no doubt in my mind that Earth and Space Science is an integral part of the high school science curriculum. As a past student who took ESS is the 9th grade and went on to take physics and AP Chemistry and AP Biology and graduated with a BS in Biochemistry, I felt that ESS made science more relevant and prepared me for real world problems that were used as applications in the later science courses.</p> <p>Additionally, I agree with the idea of the FLEX credit as it allows the fourth science credit to be counted towards graduation instead of an elective, but would prefer that both social studies and science are required to have 4 credits to graduate. One should not have more emphasis than the other.</p>	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-24	Sherri McManaway	Endorse the FLEX scheduling... We want students to be able to choose science as their final required credit in high school. Why should social studies receive more emphasis in high school than science? Shouldn't	A/S	See Response 1

11:24:28		future STEM majors be given the opportunity to count an additional science course for graduation?		
2020-01-24 11:42:33	Tina Cartwright Professor Marshall University Huntington West	I support Earth & Space Sciences in 9th grade. I believe that teaching students about issues and concepts in ESS help make the other sciences like Chemistry and Physics less abstract, assuming ESS teachers make the connection in their courses. If Chemistry teachers feel that students are not prepared for Chemistry then there should be dedicated instructional support time to help ESS teachers incorporate more chemistry into the ESS course. Its there! They may need more PD to make it happen. Students can look at their window and ESS science all around them -- this is a valuable science that has important societal ramifications, particularly related to climate change! We need it taught to ALL STUDENTS and the best way to make that happen is to keep it in 9th grade.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-24 11:45:32	Sonya Picklesimer science teacher mingo central high delbarton wv	While I believe and love science, and do feel the need for 4 years of science (not just 4 courses) I believe that our students do NOT know enough history---and our country needs a populace who know their history to prevent actions that appear to be taking place again. History is a MUST for all students!!!! Those students interested in science do somehow manage to take 4 sciences.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-24 11:46:50	Angela McDaniel teacher PHILIPPI MIDDLE SCHOOL Philippi WV	I support FLEX scheduling as a parent and educator! Give these students choice!!!	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 11:53:11	Marianne Beckett Shepherdstown WV	The high school graduation requirements should include more Social Studies,not less. At this time when our country is so divided, students need to know how gov .is suppose to work. They need civics. They need to know & care how our gov works & know & understand our Constitution. Their future, our countrys future (& present) depends on them maintaing/restoring our democracy.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-24 11:58:06	Kathy Jacquez C7I coordinator Marion County Schools Barrackville West	Why is social studies more important than science? Look at the social studies curriculum--three of the four required classes require students to study United State History and Government. Science classes are STEM classes and yet only three are required for graduation. STEM areas are the future of this state, but this policy puts much more emphasis on studying the past.	N	See Response 1

2020-01-24 12:26:45	Shannon Owen Parkersburg WV	Students should have the flexibility to choose science OR social studies as a graduation requirement.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 12:43:10	Tina J Cartwright Professor Marshall University Huntington West	I would like to submit my comment in support of FLEX scheduling which will allow high school seniors to count science courses towards their graduation requirements. High school students interested in STEM need the opportunity to take as much science courses that they can in high school which increases their likelihood of being more successful in STEM majors in college. WV needs more STEM graduates!	N	See Response 1
2020-01-24 12:51:51	Jennie Boone Teacher Washington High School Charles Town WV	I am currently teaching Biology, and can see first-hand the need for students to have the opportunity to choose a 4th science to count toward graduation, especially if they intend to further their education/interest in STEM.	A/S	
2020-01-24 12:55:42	Rhonda Wood Teacher Cabell Schools Huntington WV	There have been a lot of controversy surrounding the flex credit option. Many uneducated and not forward thinking individuals are referring to this proposal as " dummies down". The state has seemingly backed off of the idea of Flex credit due to the publics misinformed outcry. All I have heard during my career as an educator is to give more student choice and varying college and career options. I have also heard about student engagement and relevancy to their chosen interests and abilities. Having heard nothing but these topics I have to pose the question as to why when progress is made there is a backlash? Providing a Flex credit, a choice, to a student can only be a productive thing for that student and that students future. Why is being forced to take a social studies course seen as a favorable option to a student taking an upper level, more relevant course in science. We also tout the word STEM, STEAM, etc, yet we are not allowing a student to choose to take science courses which will benefit them in the STEM related fields? Is social studies really more important than science as a cut and dry matter of fact, across the board requirement? Try explaining this to a student who wants to be an engineer,a nurse, a biochemist, a brain surgeon, an astronaut, who could benefit from the extra science course. Creating a Flex credit absolutely does not take away from the educational experience. It only allow the student choice and control over what is in their best interest according to their strengths and future plans. Perhaps this should be proposed to the public in a different manner. I cannot understand why	A/S	See Response 1



				Art offerings are a local level decision
2020-01-24 14:19:55	Angela A McKeen Science Teacher Notre Dame High School REYNOLDSVILLE WV	I endorse the FLEX scheduling.... We want students to be able to choose science as their final required credit in high school. Why should social studies receive more emphasis in high school than science? Shouldn't future STEM majors be given the opportunity to count an additional science course for graduation?	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 14:39:45	Christina Sterck Teacher Belington Middle School Belington wv	Flex scheduling is an ideal option for students who desire to pursue careers in science or have an greater interest in science. Since numerous career options desire STEM skills, students can opt to take more science classes, and forbear additional history classes. A flex schedule is ideal for the senior student since students can select courses that better reflect their desires for education.  As well, many students in West Virginia, specifically rural areas lack the desire to attend college and, incidentally, the skills to be successful in higher education. For these students, Earth and Space science is a more appropriate fit for their needs. Content in both earth and space science is applicable to their every day lives. Careers in fields such as carpentry, construction, masonry, and mining utilize the earth and space science content and students can immediately put this knowledge to use in their homes and community.	A/S	See Response 1
2020-01-24 14:39:45	Christina Sterck Teacher Belington Middle School Belington wv	Flex scheduling is an ideal option for students who desire to pursue careers in science or have an greater interest in science. Since numerous career options desire STEM skills, students can opt to take more science classes, and forbear additional history classes. A flex schedule is ideal for the senior student since students can select courses that better reflect their desires for education.  As well, many students in West Virginia, specifically rural areas lack the	A/S	See Response 1

		desire to attend college and, incidentally, the skills to be successful in higher education. For these students, Earth and Space science is a more appropriate fit for their needs. Content in both earth and space science is applicable to their every day lives. Careers in fields such as carpentry, construction, masonry, and mining utilize the earth and space science content and students can immediately put this knowledge to use in their homes and community.		
2020-01-24 14:50:20	Mary Carpenter WV	I heard that Dr Paine said WVDE would continue to require 4 social studies classes. Why even bother putting the policy out for comment. What a joke! No wonder we have no faith in the department of education. You should have kept the flex credit.	N	The purpose of a comment period is to allow all stakeholders to have a voice in policy decisions.
2020-01-24 14:51:39	Mike monroe Wv	Yes to the flex credit. Yes to earth science.	A/S	See Response 1 In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-24 14:56:40	Logan Scott WV	The flex credit will make it easier to schedule S.T.E.M. classes.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-24 14:59:11	Isabelle Blaine	Yes my grandchildren need to learn earth science. Yes for flex credit too. No to charter schools. No to Betsy Devos.	A/S A/S N	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade. See Response 1 See Response 4
2020-01-24 15:03:04	BERT MARTIN WV	YES FLEX CREDIT AND YES EARTH SCIENCE YES ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE TOO!!	A/S	See Response 1 In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.

2020-01-24 15:16:56	Gene Stebly San Diego CA	I am writing to you today to support Earth science classes required in high school.	A/S	In favor of Earth and Space Science in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
2020-01-24 15:20:45	Roy Beven Bellingham WA	It's bad enough what your coal companies are doing to this planet with climate change. now you want to stop teaching your students about earth science so they won't understand the damage that's been done! Shame on you.	N	See Response 6
2020-01-24 15:30:05	Tiffany Mitchell Patterson Assistant Professor of Secondary Social Studies West Virginia University Morgantown West	<p>The proposed change in Section 126.42.6, 6.1 High School Programming includes a reduction of social studies credits from 4 to 3, with two prescribed credits of US History Comprehensive* and Civics and one personalized credit amongst an array of social studies course options. While choice and personalization might be appealing, geography and world history cannot be optional. In 2014, only twenty seven percent of eighth graders performed at or above the Proficient level in geography according to the National Center for Educational Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress. As a goal of the state to prepare students to be global citizens, it is imperative that world history not be a recommended option and be a required one. In addition, as a former secondary social studies educator with 5 years of experience teaching US History until 1865, I understand the realities of teaching the content. To do teach US history you need time and even with two years some significant historical events are not covered in depth due to lack of time. The condensed timeframe to teach US History in one year would mean that students could potentially learn less about US History. In 2014, only eighteen percent of eighth graders performed at or above the Proficient level in US History according to the National Center for Educational Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress. Having a robust social studies program in schools is critical to our democracy. Please consider what research implies regarding importance of social studies and voices of concern from various stakeholders vested in social studies education in the state.</p> <p>U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), various years, 1994–2014</p>	A/C	See Response 3

2020-01-24 15:33:35	Robert Ruder Indianapolis IN	<p>I am appalled that climate change deniers are trying to remove the earth science class requirement. They must be stopped.</p> <p>There have been MANY scientists that have proved that climate change is real. We must teach our children about it. They deserve to learn the facts, stop hiding this information from them. Don't let the deniers take the the earth science class away.</p>	N	See Response 6
2020-01-24 15:40:30	Martha Kinney Mrs. Dahlinega Ga	Climate change is a reality. The high school course requirements allow students to investigate and understand the matter. Keep the change- do not remove the earth class requirement.	A/S	See Response 6
2020-01-24 15:42:59	Jill Balsler Teacher Lewis Count High School Weston WV	add FAFSA as secondary planning in PEP	A/C	This language was added to the policy
2020-01-24 15:44:56	Richard Duncan Superintendent Roane County Board of Education Reedy WV	<p>Relaxing mathematics requirements to allow for student flexibility in the 3rd and 4th years will lead to better outcomes for students in a career pathway that does not require Algebra II. Consideration should be given, however, to the large variety of alternatives given when most schools do not have sufficient students or staff to offer all options.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to determining other courses labeled as "CTE" which contain significant application of the sciences for credit as a "Science" course.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to relaxing the requirement that four sequential courses be offered in choir, instrumental music, visual art, dance, and theater. Students in smaller schools may benefit more from a progressing exposure to varied performing arts rather than what becomes practical in the current setup - "co-scheduled" courses of levels two through four that may or may not vary with student experience.</p> <p>Emphasis should be placed on the opportunities for integration of computer science concepts in existing mathematics and science courses.</p>	<p>A/S</p> <p>A/S</p> <p>A/S</p>	<p>There is a process in place for this to happen through Career and Technical Education</p> <p>Policy 2520.14 requires technical and computer science standards to be integrated into courses.</p>
2020-01-24	Holly A Cloonan Charleston WV	Im a retired member of the WVU medical school faculty in Charleston. Im deeply opposed to the proposal to allow counties to eliminate the two-course option which diminishes social studies standards for high	A/C	See Response 3

15:58:23		school students. Im also opposed to cutting the requirement for a 4th social studies credit. Our WV students need all the preparation they can get through the school system to prepare them to compete with students from across the country in college admissions and to prepare them to be responsible US citizens.		
<b>§126-42-7 School Responsibilities</b>				
2019-12-16 07:34:17	Christopher O'Dell Assistant Principal Mason County Schools Point Pleasant WV	Removing world history as a required credit within the curriculum is counterproductive to at least one phase of our educational purpose. We are supposed to be preparing our students for the 21st century and instilling a sense of understanding of the global community. Simply embedding it in another course will not provide enough information. Additionally, we cannot understand ourselves as a nation without understanding how the rest of the world has impacted every element of our creation as a nation and the relationships that exist presently with other nations of the world.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-16 10:46:18	Tim Turner School Counselor Kenneth Honey Rubenstein Center School DAVIS WV	An important piece of information was left out of the proposed policy. This information legitimizes ODTP and makes a smooth transition for graduation for students leaving an ODTP School. Language concerning graduating students from an ODTP School has been in several revisions of Policy 2510 over the years. The current policy contains the following language (5.4.I.3) and it should be included in the proposed policy. "An ODTP School operated by the WVDE will transfer graduation credits to a county high school district for the awarding of the high school diploma. County school systems are required to accept the transferred credits." Without this strong statement, we will go back to trying to wrangle with counties to get ODTP students a diploma and hamper the ability to provide a smooth transition to their next phase of life.	A/C	Correction was made.
2019-12-18 08:52:31	Mitch Nida Principal Berkeley Springs WV	I really like the flexibility in social studies and math. I am so thankful to see the addition of financial algebra and prob and stats back.	A/S	
2020-01-02 11:35:38	M Houck Principal Raleigh County Schools Beckley WV	We have a responsibility to support efforts to individualize coursework for student interests, aptitudes, and post secondary plans. The approach of "one size fits all" is outdated and does not match student needs.	A/S	

2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	No Comment.	N	
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-06 08:36:38	susan teacher huntington wv	More 1 on 1 attention. Aides in first and second grade classrooms. Cut board office jobs like data coach and put them in the classrooms. Smaller classroom sizes.  Fall Hamilton Elemntary: has a great practice for trauma. We need to copy some of their ideas. One idea check in system so kids are held accountable. Also for specialize rotation they add leadership in which they focus on Leadership in me book. Be that kid quote on wall and other positive quotes on wall at school.	N	These are changes that would require legislation action.

		<p>Programs for afterschool offer to all kids including a bus to take them home.          Make school a 4 day week extend the day to 5.</p>		
2020-01-10 07:28:16	<p>Chris White          Teacher          Jefferson High School          Shenandoah Junction WV</p>	<p>become ffffff</p>	N	See Response 5
2020-01-14 13:04:58	<p>Jennifer Reaves          Technology Integration Specialist          Monongalia County Schools          Morgantown WV</p>	<p>I am in favor of schools ensuring that they have "adequate technology resources to support instruction."</p>	A/S	
2020-01-14 15:29:34	<p>Renee Mahon          School Counselor          Taylor County Middle School          Grafton WV</p>	<p>Schools should keep 4 credits for social studies no matter what.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-18 08:02:06	<p>Jack Lambert Jr.          Owner          Jacks Gun Sales          Saulsville Wv</p>	<p>Teaching history, math, reading, cursive writing, geography.?</p>	A/S	
2020-01-22 16:40:13	<p>Jacob Green          Superintendent, ODTP          WVDE          Charleston WV</p>	<p>Please ensure the language (previously listed in section 5.4.i.3) is included in the new version of Policy 2510. Many of our students complete the Option Pathway Program to earn a high school diploma. While most districts are receptive to re-enrolling the students and awarding high school diplomas, many counties are not. The Option Pathway is a State Board initiative that allows students (on the brink of dropping out) to complete high school and earn a high school diploma. If students were not allowed to earn a diploma through this alternative means, the dropout rates for many school districts would be increased. Since Option Pathway students are required to be a completer in a vocational program, we have students earning a diploma as well as transitioning from ODTP with employable work skills.</p> <p>Please ensure the language (5.4.i.3 in previous policy) continues to be part of Policy 2510.</p>	A/C	Changes were made.

2020-01-22 19:42:00	Tina Foster SpEd Teacher GCS Glenville West	Offer more non traditional and challenging courses that students have the option to take to prepare them for college	A/S	
2020-01-23 02:09:49	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-23 02:12:03	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-24 13:55:34	Jenny L. Santilli Teacher Harrison County Schools Bridgeport WV	"Section 7.1.b.4-Principles shall ensure that teachers" is poorly defined. Who will determine whether or not pedagogy is evidence/research based? Who will determine that the research itself is valid and reliable? Will a teachers own anecdotal research be acceptable? Will teachers be burdened with yet another duty proving that what they do works? "Assessments aligned with the curriculum" cannot by nature "drive instructional improvement", but they do show what students know and can do and can inform future pedagogical and curricular decisions. "A formative process shall be used in all grades" is unclear. Is it referring to state standardized testing or to each course? Is it to place students in remedial or more challenging classes? Is it to evaluate teachers?	A/S	The answer to your questions would be defined by the administration at the local level.
<b>§126-42-8 County Board of Education Staff (CBES) Responsibilities</b>				
2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	No Comment.	N	
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glenville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do	A/C	See Response 3

		<p>Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teach reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we are striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!</p>		
2020-01-06 08:36:38	susan teacher huntington wv	We need less. Each staff at the board should be in charge doing 2 grants for the school they are charge in to help schools achieve their best.	N	See Response 4
2020-01-13 09:49:54	Allyson M Perry Marion County Schools Fairmont WV	The definition of lesson plans does not need to be changed since an adequate definition is already in statute. This new definition would not be compatible.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-13 09:50:00	Richard Morris Attorney Legal Aid Fairmont WV	The definition of lesson plans does not need to be changed since an adequate definition is already in statute. This new definition would not be compatible.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-14 15:29:34	Renee Mahon School Counselor Taylor County Middle School Grafton WV	County BOEs should keep 4 credits for social studies as well.	A/C	See Response 1

2020-01-15 09:48:05	Grant Spencer Secondary Curriculum Coordinator Harrison County Schools Clarksburg WV	Please do not force counties to weight dual credit college classes.  This creates an unfair GPA advantage for the wealthier students that can afford to take many college classes while in high school.	N	See Response 11
2020-01-19 12:01:38	Anna Marshall student Hgnt Wv	They are falling listen to parents because we don count. We need more minutes to speak at the board instead of/3 minutes. We also need to be able to speak early in the board.	N	See Response 4
2020-01-22 19:21:26	Tony the tiger Parent Kenova Wv	Answer parents concerns	N	See Response 5
2020-01-22 19:42:00	Tina Foster SpEd Teacher GCS Glenville West	consider options of challenging classes to be offered	N	See Response 5
2020-01-23 11:52:47	Lisa Cunningham Director of Special Education Jackson County Schools Ripley WV	Section 8.10 should include a definition of "self-contained classroom" as referenced in Senate Bill 632 which states in part, "...a classroom at a public school in which a majority of the students in regular attendance are provided special education instruction AND AS FURTHER DEFINED IN STATE BOARD POLICY." Neither policy 2510 or policy 2419 provide a definition of this term.	A/C	Added to glossary of terms
2020-01-23 21:26:31	Teresa Atkinson Teacher-Special Education Mason County Schools Point Pleasant WV	8.1.b.3 For some schools, it will be difficult to be at 30% or less IEP students in the general education environment. This could indicate a need for more special education teachers in some schools if this is a requirement and not a suggestion.	N	While this statement is reinforced by Policy 2510, the requirements are a part of Policy 2419
<b>§126-42-9 County Board of Education Member (CBEM) Responsibilities</b>				
2019-12-19 15:55:10	Grant Spencer Secondary Curriculum Coordinator Harrison County Schools Clarksburg WV	Uniform Grading Policy: Weighting Dual Credit Courses?  Not sure why you are being so rigid on weighting Dual Credit classes. You have added great flexibility for counties in other parts of 2510, but have allowed none when it comes to which classes a county decides to weight.	N	See Response 11

		<p>Shall is a very strong word.</p> <p>Dual Credit Courses are NOT EQUAL TO AP Courses, and should not receive equal weight. Using "shall" in the statement in 9.1.h.2, will make students opt for the easier academic road of introductory level dual credit college courses as opposed to experiencing the rigor of AP that truly prepares them for college. If you are trying to minimize the AP program in West Virginia, this will surely do it. Most Dual Credit classes we offer do not transfer out-of-state because of the lack of verified college-level content. AP provides the opportunity for our kids to be on-level with students from around the world. Our students will begin chasing a GPA boost via dual credit instead of truly learning the skills needed for college.</p> <p>Is the because our state colleges don make any money from AP courses?</p> <p>Please replace the word "shall" with the word "may" in 9.1.h.2 regarding the weighting of dual credit.</p>		
<p>2019-12-20 11:34:51</p>	<p>Grant Spencer Secondary Curriculum Coordinator Harrison County Schools Clarksburg WV</p>	<p>Uniform Grading Policy: Weighting Dual Credit Courses?</p> <p>Not sure why you are being so rigid on weighting Dual Credit classes. You have added great flexibility for counties in other parts of 2510, but have allowed none when it comes to which classes a county decides to weight.</p> <p>Shall is a very strong word.</p> <p>Dual Credit Courses are NOT EQUAL TO AP Courses, and should not receive equal weight. Using "shall" in the statement in 9.1.h.2, will make students opt for the easier academic road of introductory level dual credit college courses as opposed to experiencing the rigor of AP that truly prepares them for college. If you are trying to minimize the AP program in West Virginia, this will surely do it. Most Dual Credit classes we offer do not transfer out-of-state because of the lack of verified college-level content. AP provides the opportunity for our kids to be on-level with students from around the world. Our students will begin chasing a GPA boost via dual credit instead of truly learning the</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>See Response 11</p>

		<p>skills needed for college.</p> <p>Is the because our state colleges don make any money from AP courses?</p> <p>Please replace the word "shall" with the word "may" in 9.1.h.2 regarding the weighting of dual credit.</p>		
2020-01-03 12:47:27	<p>Andrew Carroll English Teacher Elkins High School Elkins WV</p>	<p>The state should set the graduation requirments. Not doing so promotes educational inequality in our system.</p>	A/S	
2020-01-05 12:25:09	<p>Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV</p>	<p>No Comment.</p>	N	
2020-01-06 07:18:44	<p>Jacob Yocum Glennville WV</p>	<p>nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it</p>	A/C	See Response 3

		were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!		
2020-01-06 08:36:38	susan teacher huntington wv	Need to be able to sub in classrooms and make sure they sub at all schools not just one. Need to attend LSIC meeting to see what parents issues. Also, townhall type meeting every 9 weeks that parents and staff can ask them questions. 3 minutes at a board meeting to speak but we are not allow to ask questions.	N	See Response 4
2020-01-13 12:52:33	Eric D. Croasmun Principal Pleasants County Schools Belmont WV	County Board Members in a county should have the right to vote to allow or not allow a charter school. Not having the power to do so would open the door for anyone to establish a charter school in a county and take tax-payer money raised by the county. Counties should have the right to do so and not let it be a state-level decision.	N	See Response 4
2020-01-19 12:19:18	Thomas Stark Weston West	9.1.c.1 is an excellent policy that should be utilized at every opportunity given the watering down of the state standards regarding graduation requirements.  9.1.e.2.k - This requirement is generally a waste of time. Perhaps if we focused on producing good Americans instead of worrying about a myriad of hyphenated-Americans everyone would get along a whole lot better without the necessity of "accommodations" for thirty two different "cultures". Time to get back to the melting pot instead of the salad bowl. Respect for culture is one thing...accommodating and discouraging assimilation does damage to the cohesiveness of American culture.	A/S  N	Multicultural education is required in West Virginia state code.
2020-01-21 10:11:29	wendy summers Board Member Christian Home Educators of West Virginia Wallback wv	The following comments are offered on behalf of the Christian Home Educators of West Virginia (CHEWV) in regard to draft Policy 2510. Specifically, these comments are in relation to the "Homeschool Policy" directive to counties contained in Appendix A of Policy 2510.  In broad terms, CHEWV supports the concept of more local control for school systems and believes that such an approach will generally benefit WV students. However, there is a fundamental difference between the internal policy of a county operating its own school system and the county implementing policy to regulate a population outside of its school system. Such an approach provides an opportunity for counties to	A/S  A/C	In favor of pathway for reentry into public schools  <b>Response 14:</b> Language regarding

interpret the actual legal requirements contained in the state code according to their own, sometimes inaccurate, understanding or personal bias. This is particularly true for “exit policy”.

Counties should have the ability to set by policy, for example, what personnel will have primary responsibility for collecting and maintaining information submitted by homeschoolers, but it should have no authority to, for example, define its own requirements for what constitutes “satisfactory evidence of a high school diploma”. In short, state code gives counties no authority to set requirements for homeschoolers that are any more restrictive or numerous than the actual state code. This policy directive appears to provide an opportunity for counties to do so.

We are unsure what public notice requirements, if any, exist for county school policy. At best, the proposed approach to policy would require a review of 55 different policies and potential communications with 55 different county officials. We believe this approach is overly burdensome to homeschool families – who are, after all, already quite busy educating their children. Homeschool families don’t have “staff” who can be assigned to such policy matters. If counties don’t provide adequate opportunity for public notice and input (one county recently sent out a notification to homeschoolers that a policy on homeschooling would be voted on by the county board within a matter of a few days), problems will inevitably result.

We can see the benefit of having a written policy for homeschoolers wishing to (re)enter a county school system. However, the proposed state policy directive to counties is much too vague. It says, in essence, that a county can place a transferring homeschooled student in whatever grade it decides using whatever means of evaluation it decides. CHEWV recommends that some threshold of fairness be established that could be used as a minimal guideline for transferring a homeschool student into the public school system.

We understand that subject tests developed from state CSOs may be used as a tool to determine whether high school graduation credit is awarded for a subject. However, homeschool students shouldn’t be held to a higher standard than public school students are held, i.e. “mastery” shouldn’t be the standard for a homeschool student to receive credit if public school students are awarded credit for graduation without fully mastering the standards.

public school students exiting into homeschool is addressed in state code and has been removed from the required county policy language.

CHEWV makes the following specific recommendations for Policy 2510:

1. The concept of “exiting policy” should be removed from Policy 2510. State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public school system to begin homeschooling.
2. The phrase “transferring the student into the county” is somewhat vague. The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public school system, but this is unclear and not in sync with the definition of “county” provided in the Policy 2510 Glossary. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.
3. Policy 2510 should establish some recommended fairness guidelines for transferring a homeschool student into the public school system.
4. WVDE should consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties.
5. Policy 2510 should establish adequate public notice requirements if notice isn’t already required by law or other WVBE Policy.

Specific suggested wording changes for Policy 2510 are shown below.

CBEM shall develop a policy for the process of exiting students to homeschool and transferring a student from homeschool into the county school system. Students entering the county in grades K-8 may join their age-appropriate cohort if the student’s academic assessments have shown acceptable progress as defined in 18-8-1(c)(2)(C), or the county may utilize a combination of methods to determine appropriate placement for students who have not achieved such acceptable progress. For high school students, the county may choose to use testing or other methods for placing students in the grade level deemed most appropriate or for issuance of credits. Acceptance of high school credits while homeschooling will be completely at the discretion of should be based on a fair and reasonable standard comparable to public school student achievement levels and will be set by the individual county. The CBEM shall give written notice of the proposed policy, and any future changes to the policy, to homeschoolers registered in their county at least 30 days prior to voting on such policy or changes to the policy.

Thank you for considering our perspective and for providing opportunity

		<p>for input.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>CHEWV Board of Directors</p>		
<p>2020-01-21 10:39:08</p>	<p>wendy summers homeschool mom Wallback WV</p>	<p>I am concerned that having 55 counties develop individual policies regarding homeschooled students exit and reentry into public school will cause more problems for families as well as attendance directors. First, state code already addresses exit procedures. Giving county officials the opportunities to create their own policies may inadvertently communicate an allowance to add to existing state code. Second, while having a reentry policy is a good idea, perhaps having one statewide policy would be a better idea. A single, statewide policy would better ensure homeschoolers are treated fairly. Also, making sure homeschooled students are not held to a much higher standard than public schooled students is a critical factor for consideration. The standard for passage and advancement for public schooled students should also be used for homeschooled students.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my comments, Wendy Summers</p>	A/C	<p>Language regarding public school students exiting into homeschool is addressed in state code and has been removed from the required county policy language.</p> <p>County Boards of Education are required to put their homeschool policy out for comment; county homeschool policies may not supersede state code</p>
<p>2020-01-22 14:29:46</p>	<p>Alicia Kidd teacher Bridgeport High School Bridgeport WV</p>	<p>Dual credit classes should not be weighted. Some dual credit courses do not have the same rigor as AP courses.</p>	N	<p>See Response 11</p>
<p>2020-01-23 11:52:47</p>	<p>Lisa Cunningham Director of Special Education Jackson County Schools Ripley WV</p>	<p>Section 9.1.d should include a definition of "self-contained classroom" as referenced in Senate Bill 632 which states in part, "...a classroom at a public school in which a majority of the students in regular attendance are provided special education instruction AND AS FURTHER DEFINED IN STATE BOARD POLICY." Neither policy 2510 or policy 2419 provide a definition of this term.</p>	A/C	<p>Definition added to glossary of terms</p>

<p>2020-01-23 12:44:00</p>	<p>Howard OCull Executive Director West Virginia School Board Association Charleston WV</p>	<p>In terms of 9.1.a., it would prove helpful to county boards if the WVDE especially provided some type "template" for the various policies which are to be developed. (Of course, the WVDE may provide such template guidance.) The current process most counties utilize is to rely upon vendors to develop policies. It is my contention, the resultant policies may not fully deliver in terms of WVDE policy intent policy, although the WVDE may be required to approve policies. The template need not be a full-blown policy document but could be based on a series of checklists for policy completion and, in some cases, suggested language or terms. Additionally, this process could result in quicker policy development turn around and, finally, entities such as Educational Services Cooperatives (ESCs) could use the WVDE template to engage various county boards, including ESC boards of directors (which include county board members and county superintendents) in terms of development of required policies. Policy knowledge would be enhanced if WVDE staff, to the degree possible, were to participate in policy development sessions. I realize this suggestion may be outside the parameters of policy comment constructs. In the least I believe is something to think about.</p>	<p>A/S</p>	<p>Templates are available.</p>
<p>2020-01-23 12:54:38</p>	<p>Jennifer Piercy LSIC President Nitro High School Nitro WV</p>	<p>In WV, the State Department of Education requires Advanced Placement (AP)/International Baccalaureate (IB), Dual Enrollment, and Honors classes be given equal grade weighting through policy. However, this weighting does not reflect the higher, documented rigor of AP courses as compared to other offerings. Competing states have recorded increases in student achievement when incentivizing students to take AP courses. Florida, Arkansas, and Missouri have additional grade weights as an incentive to reward students who take rigorous AP/IB courses. This incentive does not discourage enrollment in Honors or Dual Enrollment courses, it provides an added reward to students who pursue high-rigor classes with clear accountability for student outcomes. These nationally recognized courses deserve a GPA value over and above other weighted courses without similarly documented accountability.</p> <p>This is how such a law could translate in the State Department's Policy 2510: 1.h.3. Counties shall issue "AP-weighted" grades for AP® courses and IB courses for which high school credit is to be awarded.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>See Response 11</p>

Weighted course grading scale.

Average

Grade

Quality Points

90-100

A

5.5

80-89

B

4.5

70-79

C

3.5

60-69

D

2.5

0-59

F

0

		Thank you. Jennifer Piercy, LSIC President, Nitro High School		
2020-01-23 21:26:31	Teresa Atkinson Teacher-Special Education Mason County Schools Point Pleasant WV	9.1.d.3 For some schools, it will be difficult to be at 30% or less IEP students in the general education environment. This could indicate a need for more special education teachers in some schools if this is a requirement and not a suggestion.	N	While this statement is reinforced in Policy 2510, the requirements are part of Policy 2419.
2020-01-24 13:55:34	Jenny L. Santilli Teacher Harrison County Schools Bridgeport WV	No weighted grades should be given to honors or dual credit classes. Dual credit courses taught off site often lack the rigor and high expectations of AP courses. In general, when comparing students who took AP versus dual credit courses, students with AP classes experience more academic achievement. *One exception would be dual credit classes taught at the HS by a HS teacher under the supervision of an administrator.	N	See Response 11  Weighting of honors courses is local level decision
2020-01-24 15:44:56	Richard Duncan Superintendent Roane County Board of Education Reedy WV	Consideration should be given to ensure that required weighting of courses in AP, AC, DC, and IB programs does not encourage students in smaller schools to avoid courses more applicable to their career but simply are not AP/AC/DC/IB and therefore place a disadvantage in GPA on the student. For instance, schools that do not have the resources to offer AC courses or those AP/DC/IB courses focused on the arts and humanities may see students shy away from the arts and humanities if the only weighted courses available at that school are in the areas of math, science, social studies, and English (as is common). If BOEs are to be given the discretionary authority to add weights to courses, then the same should be given to remove them.	A/C	See Response 11
<b>§126-42-10 West Virginia Department of Education Responsibilities</b>				
2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	No Comment.	N	
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred	A/C	See Response 3

		<p>throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teach reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we are striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!</p>		
2020-01-06 08:36:38	susan teacher huntington wv	<p>We need to cut positions. Federal, ocr and special needs investigations need to be out of wvde because they are not investigating the issue or fixing the issue. Investigation unit needs to be moved to State Department with the Medicaid / consumer unit.</p>	N	See Response 4
2020-01-12 13:14:27	Sigernia Carper WV Citizen Ranson WV	<p>Please explain why you are thinking about erasing history. If what happened before present day is not taught, how will students, our future, know how to act and react when they have not been taught about wars, turmoils, etc, not only in their state but in their country and their world. Education is to teach not to gloss over important data that has brought our world this far. There needs to be understanding about how we evolved to where we are now and be able to look to the future while knowing what happened in the past. Just common sense which I think the WV Board of Education is lacking.</p>	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-13 12:52:33	Eric D. Croasmun Principal Pleasants County Schools Belmont WV	<p>County Board Members in a county should have the right to vote to allow or not allow a charter school. Not having the power to do so would open the door for anyone to establish a charter school in a county and take tax-payer money raised</p>	N	See Response 4

		by the county. Counties should have the right to do so and not let it be a state-level decision.		
2020-01-14 15:29:34	Renee Mahon School Counselor Taylor County Middle School Grafton WV	The department of education should keep 4 credits for social studies and remove definition of lesson plans.	A/C	See Responses 1 and 9
2020-01-19 12:19:18	Thomas Stark Weston West	10.1.g - This appears to be a severe weakness in the system when so many counties are not producing students that meet or exceed standards. Further emphasis must be placed on this function including field auditing of actual classroom performance and effectiveness of faculty.	A/S	
2020-01-21 09:25:54	Ralone Cool teacher Kanawha County Schools SAINT ALBANS WV	do not change social studies requirements	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-22 19:21:26	Tony the tiger Parent Kenova Wv	A complaint system when schools don address the concern.	N	See Response 4
2020-01-22 19:42:00	Tina Foster SpEd Teacher GCS Glenville West	Set a basic parameter of classes to be offered that are challenging and rewarding for the students- appeals to students	A/S	
2020-01-23 02:09:49	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-23 02:12:03	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	See Response 10
<b>§126-42-11 West Virginia Board of Education Responsibilities</b>				
2020-01-05	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head	No Comment.	N	

12:25:09	Morgantown High School Morgantown WV			
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glenville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-06 08:36:38	susan teacher huntington wv	investigate complaints!!!!!!!!!! what is James Agee Job?	N	See Response 4
2020-01-12 15:13:36	Edna Reed Pratt WV	Please do NOT reduce the history courses required in our schools. An understanding of our history is essential to the future of our state, country, and world. Some great people have reminded us that if we fail to remember our history, we are doomed to repeat it! We do not need to further "dumb down" our students. They are quite capable of learning and understanding the mistakes and failures as well as the successes of	A/C	See Response 1

		those who came before them. We must continue to EDUCATE our young people. HISTORY IS VITAL!		
2020-01-18 18:39:06	Crystal Adkins Sped Teacher AFT Rivesville Wv	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else”.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-19 12:01:38	Anna Marshall student Hgnt Wv	Need to investigate misconduct and have a online complaint form.	N	See Response 4
2020-01-22 19:42:00	Tina Foster SpEd Teacher GCS Glenville West	Ensure the parameter of classes offered are geared toward preparing students to attend college	A/S	
2020-01-23 02:09:49	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-23 02:12:03	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	See Response 10
<b>§126-42-12 Severability</b>				
2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	No Comment.	N	
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glenville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does	A/C	See Response 3

		the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we are striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!		
2020-01-14 15:29:34	Renee Mahon School Counselor Taylor County Middle School Grafton WV	The WVDE should remove lesson plan definition and keep 4 credits of social studies, but keep the career exploration for middle school students.	A/C A/C A/S	See Response 9 See Response 1
2020-01-24 10:20:24	Heather DeLuca-Nestor Teacher Monongalia County Board of Education Morgantown WV	The definition of lesson plans does not need to be included in this policy. The definition of lesson plans is already in statute 18A-2-12 and this is not needed.	A/C	See Response 9
<b>§Appendix A Required County Board of Education Members (CBEM) Policies Resulting from Policy 2510</b>				
2019-12-13 10:47:20	David Parsons John Marshall High School Glen Dale West	It is truly unbelievable that the state of WV is even considering reducing the credits needed for graduation for Social Studies. The little knowledge that students have is a reason of the state of our nation. not only does the social studies curriculum teach history and geography, but it includes citizenship, college and career preparation, reading and writing, and mathematics. The credits for graduation must remain the same for social studies.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-05	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head	No Comment.	N	

12:25:09	Morgantown High School Morgantown WV			
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	<p>nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!</p>	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-09 13:05:13	Carla Brown Director Roane County Schools Spencer wv	<p>There should be stricter requirements by the state on students transferring in and out of homeschool. Students should only be permitted to withdraw or re-enroll to/from homeschool prior to Sept 1.</p> <p>The state needs to maintain regulations for instructional materials. Small counties do not have the man-power or resources to conduct all that is involved with instructional material review.</p>	A/S	<p>Proposed policy allows counties to create local homeschool policy not to supersede state code.</p> <p>See Response 4</p>
2020-01-10	Lorrie Mottesheard Teacher South Charleston High	I agree that the 9th grade Science requirement should go back to Physical Science. In most schools it is now an elective and my school	N	See Response 12

18:40:3 5	School South Charleston WV	doesn't even offer Physical Science, do students are absolutely leaving high school with no physical science or chemistry introduction.		
2020-01-11 21:13:0 9	Hannah Evans Teacher Gettysburg PA	I have taught American History in the state of West Virginia for five years. Condensing the course into one year will leave students without a thorough understanding of their history, who they are and then where they are going in life. Students will not learn about diversity or multiculturalism, but only about people who were in power such as the Presidents. They will lack knowledge about the Holocaust, multiple perspectives, and any in-depth analysis of a particular topic. Students need time to develop their critical thinking skills instead of rushing through content. Currently, teachers do not enough time to cover curriculum from the Civil War to the present. Reconstruction is consistently cut from the curriculum which leaves students a lack of knowledge about race relations in America allowing racism to be misunderstood. Let's be progressive about developing West Virginia citizens and leave this as two year courses.	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-12 10:41:5 1	Jeff Dreisbach Teacher and Lacrosse Coach Preston High School Bruceton Mills WV	I am against lowering the Social Studies requirement. I have had high school students who do not know who Daniel Boone was or know about the Alamo. (They know now.) Two days ago, I heard a 9th grade girl ask another, "Is Pennsylvania in the United States?". (She knows now.)	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-12 11:21:4 9	Diana Gainer Parent/ used to be a teacher Vienna WV	This will strip childrens understanding of our past and our future	N	See Response 5
2020-01-14 11:36:1 7	Carol Williams Ms. Shepherdstown wv	I object to the change proposed that would decrease the number of credits or courses for Social Studies and US history.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 21:14:0 9	Nancy Raia Pittsburgh PA	Why would you decrease the social studies credits? You'd be doing the kids an extreme disservice.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-16	Charlotte Morgan Milton WV	WV does not need to be removing any history from the curriculum. History is a very important part of education and for the welfare of our children's future. Removing history is the first step in causing history to	A/C	See Response 1

14:06:29		repeat itself and for children to be susceptible to brainwashing. History is knowledge. Knowledge is survival.		
2020-01-19 12:19:18	Thomas Stark Weston West	Home school transfers into the public system during high school should include mandatory acceptance of credits based on the completion of the annual assessment testing that is required of home-school students. This should not be discretionary on the part of a local board. Too much room for bias to enter into the equation.  Instructional resource policy should specifically state which type of resources are covered by this policy (e.g., textbooks, supplemental hand-outs, alternative texts suggested or selected by teachers, etc.)	N  N	County policy will not be able to supersede state code.  See Response 4
2020-01-21 12:11:02	Lindsay Heywood Teacher Cross Lanes WV	Policy 2510 regarding the additional language about lesson plans needs to be removed. There are too many expectations for lesson plans already, and adding this language puts a great tax on teachers and administrators alike, both of which take away from quality time planning lessons and other essential work. The additional language is not needed anyway, as teachers are already considering these items as part of their lesson plans.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-21 17:31:56	Kayla Ball Charleston WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-21 17:32:48	Grace Underhill Charleston WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 12:40:38	Michelle Smith Inwood West	Both of my children were withdrawn from public school during a school year. Both times, we were treated with respect and kindness by the local school system. I agree with and see the benefit of allowing local school systems to have more control, but I am concerned that 55 different policies regarding how students exit the public school system to homeschool could cause confusion for everyone.	A/C	See Response 14
2020-01-23 12:44:00	Howard OCull Executive Director West Virginia School Board Association Charleston WV	County boards may, in fact, have versions of these policies. In the least, the policy versions may require updating, based on county board procedures for such, including public notice. Moreover, refer to previous comments regarding WVDE policy templates.	A/S	



				Clarifying language was added
2019-12-17 17:18:54	Susan McCauley Mathematics Teacher Randolph County Schools & WV Virtual School Elkins WV	I am concerned about the requirements for Advanced Placement Teacher Training. The proposed policy changes appears to have removed the provision that AP teachers who are selected and serve as AP Exam Readers for ETS/College Board are no longer exempt from the APSI every three years. I would like to see that reinstated. I had the opportunity to serve as a Reader for the AP Calculus AB and BC exams in June 2019. The experience and learning that comes from serving as a Reader for an AP Exam is the BEST professional development for Advanced Placement that I have ever participated in. I also feel that WV teachers who serve as College Board Consultants and deliver trainings should be exempt from the APSI requirement.	A/C	Clarifying language was added.
2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	No Comment.	N	
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such	A/C	See Response 3

		as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!		
2020-01-10 10:27:26	James Bunner Teacher Parkersburg WV	As a science teacher the flexibility given with this policy change will enable students that wish to go into the STEM fields more options to expand their options.	N	See Response 1
2020-01-14 11:36:17	Carol Williams Ms. Shepherdstown wv	I object to the change proposed that would decrease the number of credits or courses for Social Studies and US history.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-18 10:51:02	Lisa Runion Culloden Wv	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-21 17:31:56	Kayla Ball Charleston WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-21 17:32:48	Grace Underhill Charleston WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 10:18:00	Joe Griffith Tyler Consolidated High School Sistersville West	As a high school teacher, I see in my students that their understanding of the history of our country is limited. Policy 2510 will hinder their understanding even more by reducing the number of social studies credits required for graduation.  Please do not lower the number of required social studies classes!	A/C	See Response 3

2020-01-24 10:37:20	Carolyn Hizer Teacher Paden City High School Paden City West	I feel that changing the required grade 9 science back to Physical Science would be greatly beneficial for the elective sciences. I teach Chemistry and my students are never prepared with the physical science aspect of the subject.  I also endorse the proposed flex scheduling. Thank you.	N  A/S	See Response 12  See Response 1
<b>§Appendix C Virtual Learning</b>				
2020-01-02 22:39:09	Krista Former student None Mullens WV	I was stuck into a classroom my senior year, the year of 2017-2018 for an online “English class” at the Wyoming county career and technical center for 2 days a week for an hour and that was supposed to be my English class. Now that I’m out into the world I have found that I was cheated my whole senior year while everyone else got to have an English/literature class. I was very upset when I found out but there was nothing to be done. The students need a classroom with a real teacher that will help them in every way I wasn’t able to experience. This needs to be changed.	N	Embedded credit is a course option; Policy 2510 does not require students to take embedded courses.
2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	Virtual School should be heavily monitored as so that we do not head down a road where all public education is done virtually.	A/S	Each county has the ability to create their own policy regarding virtual school and select virtual school providers.
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade:	A/C	See Response 3

		<p>Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!</p>		
<p>2020-01-09 07:27:45</p>	<p>Amy Mortensen Teacher Liberty High School Clarksburg WV</p>	<p>I currently have two former students enrolled in this type of program. They are struggling because they can not get immediate feedback from their instructor. They are then delayed in completing their assignments and find that they are often rushed to complete the assignment on time because they had to wait for assistance. As a result, they have been coming to me with many of their questions. I am not certified to teach the particular subject, but because I have taken several courses in the field, I have been able to help them, but not to the level of someone that is certified in the subject.</p> <p>I realize that we are seeing fewer people entering the teaching profession, especially in fields like science and math. I could leave education and make twice my current salary if I used my undergraduate science degree, but I love what I do. I have heard students say that they would like to go into education, but they are afraid with virtual learning, teachers will be eliminated in favor of more cost effective measures. Sometimes virtual learning is the only option available, because we lack certified teachers. But studies are showing that technology driven education is not as effective as more traditional methods. If a private school, attended by the children of workers in Silicon Valley has moved away from 1:1 IPAD use in their education and moved back to a more traditional method, what does that tell us about the results they were seeing? There is certainly a place for technology in the classroom, but it should be a tool in our toolbox and not the primary form of delivery. A long hard look at the effectiveness of virtual learning including honest feedback from students that have participated in virtual learning needs to occur.</p>	N	<p>Each county has the ability to create their own policy regarding virtual school and select virtual school providers.</p>
<p>2020-01-13</p>	<p>Allyson M Perry Marion County Schools Fairmont WV</p>	<p>This would only take kids out of classroom and put them into services for which students would not be held accountable. It is a waste of funding, which could be used in our schools.</p>	N	<p>Virtual instruction is an option that creates flexibility and</p>

09:49:54				<p>availability of coursework. Each county has the ability to create their own policy regarding virtual school and select virtual school providers.</p> <p>Fulltime virtual students are considered a fulltime public-school student for funding and accountability purposes.</p>
2020-01-13 09:50:00	Richard Morris Attorney Legal Aid Fairmont WV	This would only take kids out of classroom and put them into services for which students would not be held accountable. It is a waste of funding, which could be used in our schools.	N	<p>Virtual instruction is an option that creates flexibility and availability of coursework. Each county has the ability to create their own policy regarding virtual school and select virtual school providers.</p> <p>Fulltime virtual students are considered a fulltime public-school student for funding and accountability purposes.</p>
2020-01-14	Renee Mahon School Counselor Taylor County Middle	If counties offer virtual learning, they should be able to keep those students on their roster, so they do not lose money.	N	Virtual instruction is an option that creates flexibility and

15:29:34	School Grafton WV			<p>availability of coursework. Each county has the ability to create their own policy regarding virtual school and select virtual school providers.</p> <p>Fulltime virtual students are considered a fulltime public-school student for funding and accountability purposes.</p>
2020-01-22 14:15:57	Kristabelle Collins Teacher Kenna WV	<p>Virtual learning allows too many possibilities for cheating and unethical work being done. There is no way to prove the student is doing or has done the work.</p> <p>By allowing virtual learning, it will the door for more virtual classrooms to exist. Therefore lowering the need for classroom teachers and reducing jobs.</p>	N	<p>Safeguards and accountability measures are in place for all WV Virtual School coursework. Counties can address safeguards and accountability measures in their local level policies</p>
2020-01-22 14:29:46	Alicia Kidd teacher Bridgeport High School Bridgeport WV	<p>Virtual schools should not be extended to the elementary level. Early elementary students need to be obtaining social interaction skills. Who is funding this program? Who is monitoring progress?</p>	N	<p>WV state code provides the ability and outlines requirements for counties to create a policy detailing virtual instruction for K-12.</p>

<p>2020-01-24 10:56:17</p>	<p>Jason Evans Teacher, Department Chair Parkersburg South High School Parkersburg WV</p>	<p>Accountability is key. Who is the teacher of record? The Virtual Teacher or a teacher back home? The teacher back home should not be setting the grade in a Virtual School class.</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>The virtual instructor is the teacher of record unless it is blended coursework that involves both the virtual instructor and a public home school instructor</p>
<p>2020-01-24 13:55:34</p>	<p>Jenny L. Santilli Teacher Harrison County Schools Bridgeport WV</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kindergarten <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Virtual school should NOT begin this early as part of the K curriculum is social interaction skills. Exactly how can that be achieved through a screen?</li> <li>b. Another skill is hand/eye coordination. How can that be achieved through a screen?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. What is the contingency plan if a county does not have the funds to appoint a person to oversee the program?</li> <li>3. What is the contingency plan if a county does not have the funding to appoint a person in every school to oversee the program? Is this another burden placed on teachers?</li> <li>4. What is the contingency plan if a county does not have the funds to provide materials? What will monitoring entail? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Who will proctor exams/testing?</li> <li>b. Who will enter grades?</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Who determines whether or not a family is capable of monitoring their childrens online courses?</li> <li>6. What repercussions are there if families aren supervising their children?</li> <li>7. What repercussions are there if children do not complete the course?</li> <li>8. What if families cannot afford a device and/or Internet?</li> <li>9. If families choose that their children will take virtual classes onsite, who will supervise them during the school day? What if the school cannot accommodate that?</li> <li>10. What happens when the legislature does not appropriate funding to the virtual classroom? Will counties then be forced to pay?</li> </ol>	<p>N</p>	<p>WV state code provides the ability and outlines requirements for counties to create a policy detailing virtual instruction for K-12.</p>

**§Appendix D Personalized Education Plan (PEP) Development and Requirements**

2019-12-12 16:59:55	Melanie Pinkerman Counseling Department Chair Huntington High Huntington WV	PEP plans are great in theory, but it is difficult to get parents to sign and return them. Its also difficult to keep track of a paper copy especially when a student transfers to other schools then back again. Is is possible for an electronic version to be built in to WVEIS? The homeroom advisor is supposed to keep track of these and make sure students and parents fill them out and sign. But, it usually falls on the school counselor to do them all along with the very long list of other duties assigned to us.	A/S	Practices for completing the PEP are local level decisions.  After Policy 2510 is finalized, the PEP will be updated and available online.
2019-12-16 08:47:51	Chuck Fuller Counselor Woodrow Wilson High School Beckley WV	Considering the options and variety of paths a student can take to graduate with the new flex credit, the PEP policy needs to be updated so that students will complete a 4 year high school plan during 8th grade. With the different options, waiting until 10th grade could easily put a student in an unpleasant position of disqualifying options without being aware of it. Annual review should continue in high school. It would be helpful if the PEP could be online in WVEIS and follow the student from school-to-school more easily and be accessed easily by counselors and administrators in SAT and IEP meetings.	A/S	After Policy 2510 is finalized, the PEP will be updated and available online.
2019-12-26 11:58:39	Samuel Vincent Teacher Wood County Schools Parkersburg WV	As an educator for the past eight years, I feel that the personalized plan is not a bad idea for education. However, I am concerned about changing the requirements of the social studies credits. While we should help all students have the best chance of success, I feel that not requiring a "World History" credit is shortchanging a students education. In an ever changing society, built on globalization, to not have a proper understanding of global histories and events leaves West Virginia students on an uneven playing ground. It is important to understand the civics of our country, the history of our country, but just as importantly, the history of the world.  With this in mind, I believe that the social studies credits should remain at 4 required credits for graduation: 1 civics, 1 U.S. History, 1 World History, and 1 other of the students choosing.	A/C	See Response 1
2019-12-26 12:58:51	Maribeth Vincent Teacher Wood County Schools Parkerburg WV	As an educator for the past 20+ years, I feel it is an absolute necessity, is in the best interest of the student and their overall education to continue to require them to have History REQUIREMENTS to INCLUDE: US History, Civics, AND World History. World History NEEDS to continue to be a Required History class. Please DO NOT allow our West	A/C	See Response 1

		Virginia students to miss out on the importance of World History events/information!!!		
2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	No Comment.	N	
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!	A/C	See Response 3
2020-01-06 08:36:38	susan teacher huntington wv	we need testing in preschool. If kids don know their names by January then they need to have 1:1 time with a teacher working on a skills so they won get behind. We need dyslexia type curriculum for all kids so when they fall though the cracks they will have something that will learn something.	N	WV Universal Pre-K utilizes The Early Learning Reporting System (ELRS) as the online platform where pre-k child assessment

				<p>data is entered three times a year. It is developmentally inappropriate to test pre-k children; therefore, observational based formative assessment methods and screeners are utilized to determine children's strengths and potential weaknesses. In addition, the WVDE makes The Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) available, free of charge, to classrooms Pre-K through third grade in West Virginia. PALS is a screening, diagnostic, and progress monitoring tool that provides teacher resources and activities to strengthen instruction.</p>
2020-01-10 07:28:16	Chris White Teacher Jefferson High School Shenandoah Junction WV	I am against the measure to reduce the number of social studies credit hours needed for high school students. In the history of our society, a more educated society with the knowledge of what came before and what is currently happening in their world creates better opportunities	A/C	See Response 1

		for them to succeed in the modern climate. By reducing an hour off of the currently required 4 credit hours, in addition to the decision previously to remove Social Studies from state-wide testing, this would send a message that social studies and its affiliated contents are not important. In order to have a better educated, more independent-thinking future adult, the current status of 4 credit hours for social studies must be maintained. We are in the business of helping to mold the future generations and help all students achieve their full potential. Social Studies is vital to this effort. After all, those who do not study history are doomed to repeat past mistakes. I hope the WV Board of Education heeds that last sentence as it decided whether to further curtail expectations for the social studies curriculum.		
2020-01-14 12:55:27	Erik Gardner Teacher Raleigh County Schools Beckley WV	Social Studies is an essential course for students in all grade levels. Every other subject can be taught along with history to form connections and deepen student understanding. West Virginia should continue to require students to earn four social studies credits in order to graduate. Do what is right, not what is easy.	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 13:08:20	Carol Williams Ms. Shepherdstown wv	I oppose any decrease in the requirements for Social Studies. Im repeating this because Im not sure my previous comment was in the correct box. Thanks!	A/C	See Response 1
2020-01-14 15:29:34	Renee Mahon School Counselor Taylor County Middle School Grafton WV	PEPs are important and should be completed by counties.	A/S	
2020-01-16 15:56:03	michele hine Ranson West	Students should only be allowed to take English 11, 12, or dual credit classes to count as their core class, not other electives to count as these classes	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-23 02:09:49	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.	A/C	See Response 10
2020-01-23	michele hine Ranson West	Students should not be allowed to take an elective to count as their English 11 or 12 credit, it should be the class alone or a Dual Credit	A/C	See Response 10

02:12:03		Class, not an elective. This demoralizes the sanctity of education and devalues what an 11th or 12 grade English CORE requirement is.		
2020-01-24 11:24:28	Sherri McManaway	Endorse the FLEX scheduling... We want students to be able to choose science as their final required credit in high school. Why should social studies receive more emphasis in high school than science? Shouldn't future STEM majors be given the opportunity to count an additional science course for graduation?	N	See Response 1
2020-01-24 15:38:50	Nebraska Scotchie Principal Pocahontas County BOE Buckeye WV	Could you please clarify the role of FAFSA in the PEP process?	A/C	Language was clarified.
<b>§Glossary of Terms Comment</b>				
2020-01-05 12:25:09	Matt Kelly Social Studies Teacher/ Department Head Morgantown High School Morgantown WV	No Comment.	N	
2020-01-06 07:18:44	Jacob Yocum Glennville WV	nce again, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBOE) has decided to try and slide a reduction in the amount of Social Studies Credits needed for students to graduate from four credits to three. Why must the WVBOE attack the fascinating subject that is history? Not only do Social Studies courses teach students about what has occurred throughout history but in many Social Studies classrooms across the state we as the teachers also teacher reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills along with various other learning strategies. Why does the WVBOE and WV State Government continue to say that we a striving for the best education system but in reality the policies being set forth are hurting the students. I believe that the WVBOE should continue with the four Social Studies Credits but to set up the curriculum as such; 9th Grade: US Studies/History, 10th Grade: US Contemporary Studies, 11th Grade: An Elective Course in Social Studies content such as Psychology, Sociology, Geography, World History etc., 12th Grade: Civics. Why must the WVBOE continue to attack the Social Studies curriculum? Instead of creating a better education system in the state, outside educational lobbyists are pushing to continue the decrease in students learning. Next time while considering to reduce credits in a particular field of study, create a survey and send out to everyday people	A/C	See Response 3

		and have them answer questions concerning that particular field. If it were social studies and you asked people ages 18-30 about Civics I can guarantee only around 10 percent would get a passing grade. We must stop the attack on Social Studies!		
2020-01-10 14:40:15	Blaine Hess Superintendent Jackson County Schools Ripley WV	County school systems need a more concise definition of a “self-contained classroom” to allow for the effective implementation of SB 632, specifically as it pertains to placing video cameras in certain public special education classrooms. SB 362 broadly defines a “self-contained classroom” and as further defined in state board policy.	A/C	Definition was added to glossary.
2020-01-13 09:38:44	Vic Fisher President WV Council of Administrators of Special Education Clarksburg WV	This comment is to request the inclusion of a definition of "Self-Contained Classroom" temporarily within Policy 2510. SB 632 requires the placement of cameras within all self-contained classrooms. Currently a definition of self-contained classroom does not exist in state policy. The language in SB 632 may not be consistently interpreted: "Self-contained classroom means a classroom at a public school in which a majority of the students in regular attendance are provided special education and related services." This definition could be enhanced by greater specificity to prevent confusion during implementation of this section of state code. Although Policy 2419 is a more natural fit for this definition, opening policy 2419 would result in a significant delay to the inclusion of a definition within state policy. Therefore, our organization recommends the temporary placement of the definition within Policy 2510 and then its movement to Policy 2419 when that policy is next opened for review.	A/C	Definition was added to glossary.
2020-01-14 12:26:26	Donald Pauley Scott Depot WV	I can also say that I am not a fan of how the definition of lesson plan has been changed. I feel that the educator is the person best suited to maintain what they feel is best for their class. Curriculum and presentation of the information should be in line with WV Code 18A-2-12, but the format and content should be that of the teacher. They already have so much on their plate; let them determine what they need in there.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-16 17:42:12	Jessica Criner Teacher KCS Saint Albans WV	I do not agree with the definition of lesson plans. Lesson plans are for the teacher. The current definition should not be changed. Take it out.	A/C	See Response 9

2020-01-16 20:22:02	Rosemary Jenkins AFTWV Charleston Wv	Eliminate the definition of lesson plans from the glossary or just state the reference to the code only and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 08:54:22	Patricia Hamilton Teacher Education Saint Albans WV	The definitions and requirements for lesson plans are covered under the state code. Please either remove this from policy or only to refer to the code.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 09:03:11	Heather Balsler Member AFT-4444 Charleston WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 09:17:05	Ashley Williams Teacher Spencer WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 09:25:53	Teresa Teacher Kanawha County Schools South Charleston WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 09:26:10	Marilou McClung Teacher Capital High School Sandyville wv	“The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else”.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 09:43:43	Michelle Gearhart Charleston WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 10:01:43	Arlie Asbury Teacher Boone County Schools Hewett WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 10:05:31	Tina Randolph Teacher Aft- KCS Employee Saint Albans WV	“The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else”.	A/C	See Response 9

2020-01-18 10:59:01	Myla Davis Clothier WV	The requirements for lesson plans are in state code. Remove this or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 11:00:41	Jacqueline suzette Jackson Hurricane WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 11:03:35	Myla Davis Teacher Clothier WV	The requirements for lesson plans are in state code. Remove this from the poly or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 11:06:13	Cathy Davis Marion County Schools Fairmont West	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this or only refer to state code.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 11:32:49	Greg Allen Community Member Putnam County Schools Hurricane WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 11:39:21	Stacy McPherson Parent Putnam County Schools Hurricane Wv	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 12:04:21	James Botkin Poca West	“The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else”.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 12:33:02	Sherry Dotson Teacher Boone County Schools Foster WV	The requirements for lesson plans are in state code, which should be followed.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 13:00:08	Allison Kessinger Teacher Kanawha County Schools Charleston WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9

2020-01-18 14:02:34	Elizabeth Sirbaugh Teacher Given WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 14:40:07	Jami Hayes Teacher Public School Bancroft West	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 15:27:24	Keisha Runion Thompson SCOTT DEPOT West	Lesson Plans - The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else. Adding extra work to include even more in lesson plans takes away from planning and data analysis by teachers. Teachers plan according to standards and every minute detail should not have to be present in those daily lesson plans.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 15:47:38	Gary A Wroblewski Mr. Ceredo WV	Lessons plans are defined by state code not your policy please remove.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 17:54:41	Suzanne Rector Second grade teacher Walton WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 18:39:06	Crystal Adkins Sped Teacher AFT Rivesville Wv	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else”.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 21:55:55	Emily Patterson teacher Kanawha County Schools Charleston WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-18 22:08:52	Sarah Duncan Reedy WV	18A-2-12 already defines lesson plans. This policy should omit this definition or simply refer to 18A.	A/C	See Response 9

2020-01-18 22:45:53	Carrena Rouse President AFT Boone County Federation of Teachers St. Albans West	Lesson Plans - State BOE policy 2510 has a disturbing definition included in the policy that is on public comment. The requirements for lesson plans are in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-19 08:20:49	Jeffrey Webb Belle West	I find the definition of "lesson plan" here to be very troublesome.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-19 14:45:43	Helen Durgin Winfield 63	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else. Comment	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-19 15:02:03	Shanda Boggess Teacher GWES Eleanor WV	The requirements for lesson plans are in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-19 15:04:33	Jeff Durgin Citizen Community memeber Winfield WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else. Thank you.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-19 15:56:08	Amy Landers Third Grade Teacher Eleanor WV	“The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else”.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-20 08:57:41	Sara Hampton Teacher Kanawha County Schools South Charleston WV	In the lesson plan definition, I do not agree with the addition. Please remove the added requirements.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-20 10:14:09	Cynthia Johnson Teacher St Albans WV	In the lesson plan definition, I do not agree with the addition. Please remove the added requirements.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-20	June Klassen NBCT	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9

10:24:1 5	Kanawha County Schools Charleston WV	Lesson plans should serve only as guide for the teacher or substitute in the event of the teacher's absence and nothing more.		
2020-01-20 20:23:3 4	June Klassen NBCT Kanawha County Schools Charleston WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else. Lesson plans should serve only as guide for the teacher or substitute in the event of the teacher's absence and nothing more.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-21 08:14:4 9	Hope Young Teacher WVEA - SCMS South Charleston WV	Please do not change the definition of lesson plans in policy 2510	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-21 08:15:0 4	Rachel Standish teacher Kanawha County Schools South Charleston WV	Do not change the definition of Lesson Plans	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-21 08:17:0 1	Vicki Hess AFT Hurricane WV	please leave lesson plan code as is.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-21 08:19:1 2	Michael Ludle Teacher Kanawha County Schools South Charleston WV	Lesson Plans should not be changed.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-21 11:16:4 2	Rondia J Smith Teacher Kanawha County Teacher Cross Lanes West	Please remove the lesson plans definition out of the glossary . Thank you.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-21 18:50:4 0	Amber Brown Teacher Culloden West	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-22 10:23:0 9	Cyndi Nelson Ms. Charleston West	I don find it relevant to list specific learning targets when they are listed in the major concepts. Also, some teachers teach several learning concepts in one lesson; why should we list them individually? Also, I went to college to learn to write lesson plans. I was hired for my skills and expertise. Why are we being micro managed? Do you tell surgeons how to do their jobs or just trust that they are?	A/C	See Response 9

2020-01-22 12:07:35	Christie teacher Fayette County Schools Ansted WV	Please remove any language in Policy 2510 about lesson plans. The law is clear in 18-A, is codified, and needs no further explanation.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-22 12:28:06	Rachael Copley Teacher Kanawha County Schools Cross Lanes WV	Please remove the definition, from the glossary, of lesson plans with the added items.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-22 14:14:57	Cheryl Evans Teacher School Dunbar WV	The definition and requirements for lesson plans are covered in state code. Please either remove this from policy or only refer to code.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-22 14:17:07	Amy Nutter Teacher Gauley Bridge Elementary Gauley Bridge WV	Please remove any language in Policy 2510 about lesson plans. The law is clear in 18-A, is codified, and needs no further explanation.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-22 17:17:51	Scott Rice Hurricane WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else”.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-22 18:47:32	Kendra Poca WV	The definition of lesson plans doesn't need to be added to this policy because lesson plans are already clearly defined in state code.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-22 19:25:19	Stephen Reedy Na Putnam County schools Leon Wv	This change is not needed as state code had already defined this term.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-22 19:29:12	Valerie Zornes Teacher School Pratt WV	The definition and requirements for lesson plans is covered in state code. Please either remove this from the policy or only refer to the code.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-22 22:01:30	Jennifer Hunt Teacher AFT WV Clendenin WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9

2020-01-22 22:26:36	Loana Hoffman Spencer WV	The requirements for lesson plans is in state code. Remove this from the policy or ONLY refer to the code and nothing else.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 09:37:53	Patricia Hamilton Teacher School Pratt WV	Please remove the definition of lesson plans from the glassily	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 09:39:39	Valerie Zornes Teacher School Pratt WVWV	Please remove the definition of lesson plans from the glossary.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 09:40:23	Valerie Zornes Teacher School Pratt WVWV	Please remove the definition of lesson plans from the glossary.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 09:41:02	Valerie Zornes Teacher School Pratt WVWV	Please remove the definition of lesson plans from the glossary.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 11:02:23	Pam Arnold Teacher AFT Charleston wv	Lesson Plan Definition needs to be removed from the glossary. It is covered in State Law and needs removed.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 11:41:20	Sam Brunett Classroom Teacher/Local President Monongalia Co Schools/AFT WV Morgantown WV	For some reason administration seems to constantly attack a teacher's professionalism by demanding information on lesson plans that does not help in any way the instruction in the classroom. Teachers have very little time to plan as it is. The proposed language defining Lesson Plans is cumbersome and will burn valuable minutes that could otherwise be used to actually plan for instruction. Therefore the definition should read as follows:  Lesson Plan- serves as a daily guide for teachers and substitutes for the orderly presentation of the curriculum in accordance with WV Code 18A-2-12. Format and contents of the daily lesson plans are developed and written by the teacher.	A/C	See Response 9

2020-01-23 11:46:28	Tega Toney Teacher Fayette County Board of Education Oak Hill WV	Lesson Plan- serves as a daily guide for teachers and substitutes for the orderly presentation of the curriculum in accordance with WV Code 18A-2-12. Format and contents of the daily lesson plans are developed and written by the teacher.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 11:47:30	Amy Vickers Teacher Kearneysville WV	The definition of the lesson plan is unnecessary. The purpose and needs of the lesson plan is already clearly defined in statute.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 11:52:47	Lisa Cunningham Director of Special Education Jackson County Schools Ripley WV	The Glossary should include a definition of "self-contained classroom" as referenced in Senate Bill 632 which states in part, "...a classroom at a public school in which a majority of the students in regular attendance are provided special education instruction AND AS FURTHER DEFINED IN STATE BOARD POLICY." Neither policy 2510 or policy 2419 provide a definition of this term.	A/C	Definition was added to glossary
2020-01-23 12:08:23	Pamela Estep Kindergarten Aide/ECCAT AF Charleston WV	Please remove the definition of lesson plans from the glossary.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 12:14:01	Krystal McConihay Teacher 4th Grade WVEA Charleston WV	Please remove the definition of lesson plans.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 12:21:23	Shirley Skaggs Charleston WV	Lesson Plan- serves as a daily guide for teachers and substitutes for the orderly presentation of the curriculum in accordance with WV Code 18A-2-12. Format and contents of the daily lesson plans are developed and written by the teacher.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 13:13:01	Melinda Owens Scott Depot WV	The elaboration of the term Lesson Plans is unnecessary. Teachers are educated professionals and currently use the CSOs to guide their lesson plans and pacing guides. The continued micromanagement of teachers in the state is one of the reasons we have a current teacher shortage.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 13:37:32	Matthew Thomas Mr. NEA Culloden West	Lesson Plan- serves as a daily guide for teachers and substitutes for the orderly presentation of the curriculum in accordance with WV Code 18A-2-12. Format and contents of the daily lesson plans are developed and written by the teacher.	A/C	See Response 9

2020-01-23 14:14:21	Dayna Miller Charleston WV	Please remove or revise the lesson plans section from the glossary. A lesson plan is a simple guide for substitutes to use when a teacher is absent. Teachers use lesson plans to help organize their day. Teachers are professionals and should be allowed to decide what goes into our lesson plans. What has happened to teacher autonomy? We should not have to list the standards we are teaching and the specific learning targets in a lesson plan. Again, a lesson plan is a guide!	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 14:31:55	Becky Tucker Teacher Teacher South Charleston WV	Take out the lesson plan definition	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 14:32:40	Kaylah Carnell Charleston WV	Lesson plans are used as a guide for a substitute. They are used to track and guide me through my instruction. I should reserve the right to construct my lesson plans as needed for my students and myself. What ever happened to teacher autonomy?	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 15:45:36	Megan Parsons 2nd grade teacher Ruffner Elementary Charleston WV	Remove the definition of lesson plans.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 16:06:03	Dale Lee WVEA President WVEA Charleston WV	The definition of Lesson Plans does not need to be included in the Glossary of Terms in this policy. It is clearly defined in statute and what is included in the policy is not compatible with what is in code.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 16:55:57	Jane Duffy Teacher Kanawha County Saint Albans WV	The definition of lesson plans does not need to be changed. Please leave it the way it is stated currently. It should state that Lesson Plan-serves as a daily guide for teachers and substitutes for the orderly presentation of the curriculum in accordance with WV Code 18A-2-12. Format and contents of the daily lesson plans are developed and written by the teacher. Thank you.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 19:17:59	Julianna Santos Teacher Logan County Board of Education Logan WV	Please do not change the definition of “lesson plans”. I believe that the definition should be : “Lesson Plan- serves as a daily guide for teachers and substitutes for the orderly presentation of the curriculum in accordance with WV Code 18A-2-12. Format and contents of the daily lesson plans are developed and written by the teacher.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23	Andy Bird Hurricane WV	Lesson Plan- serves as a daily guide for teachers and substitutes for the orderly presentation of the curriculum in accordance with WV Code	A/C	See Response 9

19:41:55		18A-2-12. Format and contents of the daily lesson plans are developed and written by the teacher.		
2020-01-23 21:24:14	Kathy Hudson member AFT Charleston WV	Please remove the definition of lesson plans from the glossary !!!	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 21:31:10	Robin Jarvis Teacher WEMS Walton West	I am writing in regards to Definition of a Lesson Plan in the Glossary of Terms in Policy 2510. Lesson plans are intended to serve as a daily guide for teachers and substitutes for the orderly presentation of the curriculum. This is in accordance with WV Code 18A-2-12. Any items, such as those stated in the Glossary of Terms of Policy 2510, which are not required to serve as a guide to the teacher or substitute for daily instruction should not be required in the daily lesson plan.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 21:32:32	Kathy Hudson member AFT Charleston WV	Please remove the definition of lesson plans from the glossary !!!	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 21:55:52	Randy A Shamblin Belle WV	Please remove the definition of lesson plans from the glossary.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-23 22:48:45	Cindy Wentz Special Education Teacher Kanawha County Schools Charleston WV	Please remove the definition of lesson plans from the glossary.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-24 06:12:17	Adam Feazell Assistant Principal Hampshire High School Romney WV	In this section you are addressing Lesson Plans, the new addition is a wonderful change and will help teachers in their guided and planning process. We are asking for 3 simple things to be included, if lesson plans are missing those components they we are going to be offering less than great instruction to our students. Lesson plans should serve as a guide for all that need them, including the teacher who should be able to look back and have an idea of what has already been covered in their classroom.	A/C	See Response 9
2020-01-24	MARGARET LOGAN Teacher	Lesson plans serve as a daily guide for the teacher or substitute. If a teacher is using teaching materials approved and adopted by county and state then that information is already provided. The teacher need only	A/C	See Response 9



	<p>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Chris Weekley  Mr. &amp; Mrs. Damien Cleveland  Mr. &amp; Mrs. Bob Piotrowski  Heather Chandler  Walter York  John Zepeda  Erika Zepeda  Charles Zepeda  Kara Milinovich</p>	<p>model. People have many reasons for wanting to re-enroll in public school. If they choose to do so relevant work should be considered.</p> <p>4. Consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties. The state can help the counties by providing a guideline to reduce unnecessary differences which could cause confusion across the counties.</p> <p>5. Establish adequate public notice requirements for county rulemaking if notice isn't already required by law or other WVBE Policy.</p>		
<p>2020-01-24</p>	<p>The following email was sent by Stephanie E. Butcher Chair, WVHEA</p>	<p>Dear Dr. Barth,</p> <p>After careful review of the draft I must express my great concern regarding the concept of an "exit policy". State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public-school system to begin homeschooling. Creating 55 county policies will create unnecessary confusion and likely result in increased conflict between parents and school authorities over homeschooling. We must minimize conflict, not increase it.</p> <p>The phrase "transferring the student into the county" must be clarified. The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.</p> <p>Finally, I'd like to address the issue of creating a system for homeschoolers entering public school during the high school years. The WVDE should create a template or rubric regarding home educated students seeking to enter the public school system that is fair to all youngsters that all 55 counties can use to guide them. No one favors local control more than I, but statewide guidelines will benefit everyone.</p> <p>I enjoyed meeting in person and the phone call we had last year. I am willing to help work on these guidelines. The youngsters of West</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Responses 14 and 15</p>

		<p>Virginia all deserve an equal access to all educational services provided by state and county government. I know you will seriously consider these comments and hope you know I am willing to be of assistance.</p>		
<p>2020-01-23</p>	<p>The following email was sent by Jeannie Mills Dunbar, WV</p>	<p>Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth,</p> <p>The 55 individual counties should not be allowed to create policies to regulate and maintain. I believe this will create more conflict between homeschool families and the Board of Education. Keeping a unified, state policy would be much more efficient.</p> <p>I would also like to add a comment to HSLDA recommendation of recognition of high school credits obtained through homeschool by the public school when the student is considering entering the public school system. I have two children, both left the public school system starting in 6th grade. We chose to homeschool for many reasons, one of which was the low performance level of the middle school they would attend and we could not afford private school. One of my children decided that he would have considered going to the public high school for his junior and senior year; however, as state law stands currently, he would have been placed in 9th grade as his homeschool high school credits would not be recognized by the State of WV. He has excelled on his standardized tests every year and so placing him in the 9th grade would not have been fair. He deserves to be given credit for the hard work he has performed, regardless of where his studies took place.</p> <p>Please consider the following comments as you review Draft Policy 2510.</p> <p>I agree with Comments made by The Home School Legal Defense Association and Christian Home Educators of West Virginia.</p> <p>Please</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Responses 14 and 15</p>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove the concept of an "exiting policy" from Policy 2510. State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public-school system to begin homeschooling. Creating 55 county policies will create unnecessary confusion and likely result in increased conflict between parents and school authorities over homeschooling.</li> <li>2. Clarify the phrase "transferring the student into the county". The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.</li> <li>3. Create fairness for transferring a homeschool student into the public-school system. Many students who homeschool have done significant coursework that should be recognized. Not giving credit for work in a homeschool setting is an unnecessary punishment of the child and fails to recognize that homeschooling is a legitimate and effective educational model. People have many reasons for wanting to re-enroll in public school. If they choose to do so relevant work should be considered.</li> <li>4. Consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties. The state can help the counties by providing a guideline to reduce unnecessary differences which could cause confusion across the counties.</li> <li>5. Establish adequate public notice requirements for county rulemaking if notice isn't already required by law or other WVBE Policy.</li> </ol>		
2020-01-23	The following email was sent by Ellen Harrison Martinsburg, WV	<p>Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth,</p> <p>Changing the rules for exiting public school and entering home school is of great concern to West Virginians who home school. The law is already clear regarding how this should be done, and I fear that allowing each county to make up their own rules will not only cause unnecessary confusion from county to county, but there may be some county boards of education that view home schooling unfavorably. This would create</p>	A/C	See Responses 14 and 15

an unnecessary hurdle for the exiting students within that county, and could be seen as a form of retribution. Please do not consider changing this law.

It's also requested that the State Board of Education team up with Home School Legal Defense Association to advance a plan for all counties to uniformly furnish a rule for home schooled students to re-enter the West Virginia public school system, and to fairly consider the accomplishments of each home schooled student on a case-by-case basis.

Your consideration of this as well as the statements of the Christian Home Educators of West Virginia is greatly appreciated.

Please consider the following comments as you review Draft Policy 2510.

I agree with Comments made by The Home School Legal Defense Association and Christian Home Educators of West Virginia.

Please

1. Remove the concept of an "exiting policy" from Policy 2510. State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public-school system to begin homeschooling. Creating 55 county policies will create unnecessary confusion and likely result in increased conflict between parents and school authorities over homeschooling.

2. Clarify the phrase "transferring the student into the county". The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.

3. Create fairness for transferring a homeschool student into the public-school system. Many students who homeschool have done significant coursework that should be recognized. Not giving credit for work in a homeschool setting is an unnecessary punishment of the child and fails to recognize that homeschooling is a legitimate and effective educational

		<p>model. People have many reasons for wanting to re-enroll in public school. If they choose to do so relevant work should be considered.</p> <p>4. Consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties. The state can help the counties by providing a guideline to reduce unnecessary differences which could cause confusion across the counties.</p> <p>5. Establish adequate public notice requirements for county rulemaking if notice isn't already required by law or other WVBE Policy.</p>		
<p>2020-01-23</p>	<p>The following email was sent by Ed Ledlow Renick, WV</p>	<p>Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth,</p> <p>My wife and I have homeschooled our child for 6 years. His interest in school work improved for the better almost overnight. We use standardized testing every year. He has scored in the 95 percentile or higher every time.</p> <p>Our child is involved in 4H and church activities. We make sure he is involved with kids his age and he has a good social life.</p> <p>This bill would make homeschooling virtually impossible as each county would different rules that would override the state laws and create statewide confusion.</p> <p>In this country we have freedoms and this bill will stifle the right and freedoms of parents to choose the education they believe is right for their children.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Respectfully, Ed Ledlow Renick, WV</p> <p>Please consider the following comments as you review Draft Policy 2510.</p> <p>I agree with Comments made by The Home School Legal Defense Association and Christian Home Educators of West Virginia.</p> <p>Please</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Responses 14 and 15</p>

		<p>1. Remove the concept of an "exiting policy" from Policy 2510. State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public-school system to begin homeschooling. Creating 55 county policies will create unnecessary confusion and likely result in increased conflict between parents and school authorities over homeschooling.</p> <p>2. Clarify the phrase "transferring the student into the county". The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.</p> <p>3. Create fairness for transferring a homeschool student into the public-school system. Many students who homeschool have done significant coursework that should be recognized. Not giving credit for work in a homeschool setting is an unnecessary punishment of the child and fails to recognize that homeschooling is a legitimate and effective educational model. People have many reasons for wanting to re-enroll in public school. If they choose to do so relevant work should be considered.</p> <p>4. Consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties. The state can help the counties by providing a guideline to reduce unnecessary differences which could cause confusion across the counties.</p> <p>5. Establish adequate public notice requirements for county rulemaking if notice isn't already required by law or other WVBE Policy.</p>		
2020-01-23	<p>The following email was sent by Mr. &amp; Mrs. Richard Cottle Lookout, WV</p>	<p>Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth,</p> <p>It is very obvious that homeschooling is under attack by school authorities. It is strongly recommended that the wording of Draft Policy 2510 be amended to prevent any further tension between homeschooling families and the Boards of Education. Allowing 55 counties to create their own "rules and requirements" is not only nonsensical but also unethical.</p>	A/C	See Responses 14 and 15

		<p>Please consider the following comments as you review Draft Policy 2510.</p> <p>I agree with the comments made by The Home School Legal Defense Association and Christian Home Educators of West Virginia.</p> <p>Please:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove the concept of an "exiting policy" from Policy 2510. State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public-school system to begin homeschooling. Creating 55 county policies will create unnecessary confusion and likely result in increased conflict between parents and school authorities over homeschooling.</li> <li>2. Clarify the phrase "transferring the student into the county". The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.</li> <li>3. Create fairness for transferring a homeschool student into the public-school system. Many students who homeschool have done significant coursework that should be recognized. Not giving credit for work in a homeschool setting is an unnecessary punishment of the child and fails to recognize that homeschooling is a legitimate and effective educational model. People have many reasons for wanting to re-enroll in public school. If they choose to do so relevant work should be considered.</li> <li>4. Consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties. The state can help the counties by providing a guideline to reduce unnecessary differences which could cause confusion across the counties.</li> <li>5. Establish adequate public notice requirements for county rule-making if notice isn't already required by law or other WVBE Policy.</li> </ol>		
2020-01-23	The following email was sent by Heather Biedler Martinsburg, WV	Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth,	A/C	See Responses 14 and 15

		<p>Please consider the following comments as you review Draft Policy 2510.</p> <p>Please</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove the concept of an "exiting policy" from Policy 2510. This is already addressed in state law, and 55 different county policies will only cause confusion for no effective purpose.</li> <li>2. Clarify the phrase "transferring the student into the county". The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.</li> <li>3. Create fairness for transferring a homeschool student into the public-school system. Many students who homeschool have done significant coursework that should be recognized. Not giving credit for work in a homeschool setting is an unnecessary punishment of the child and fails to recognize that homeschooling is a legitimate and effective educational model.</li> </ol>		
<p>2020-01-23</p>	<p>The following email was sent by Mikki Larch Hurricane, WV</p>	<p>Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth,</p> <p>Creating a policy that allows each county to write their own protocol for children exiting the public school system, in favor of homeschooling, would create confusion and unnecessary tension between parents and the county BOE's. State law already addresses children exiting the public school system, the procedures are efficient and easy to follow. Allowing for 55 varying policies would create havoc, be a burden on both parents and county officials, and is complete unnecessary.</p> <p>Please consider the following comments as you review Draft Policy 2510.</p> <p>I agree with the comments made by The Home School Legal Defense Association and Christian Home Educators of West Virginia.</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Responses 14 and 15</p>

		<p>Please:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove the concept of an "exiting policy" from Policy 2510. State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public-school system to begin homeschooling. Creating 55 county policies will create unnecessary confusion and likely result in increased conflict between parents and school authorities over homeschooling.</li> <li>2. Clarify the phrase "transferring the student into the county". The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.</li> <li>3. Create fairness for transferring a homeschool student into the public-school system. Many students who homeschool have done significant coursework that should be recognized. Not giving credit for work in a homeschool setting is an unnecessary punishment of the child and fails to recognize that homeschooling is a legitimate and effective educational model. People have many reasons for wanting to re-enroll in public school. If they choose to do so relevant work should be considered.</li> <li>4. Consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties. The state can help the counties by providing a guideline to reduce unnecessary differences which could cause confusion across the counties.</li> <li>5. Establish adequate public notice requirements for county rule-making if notice isn't already required by law or other WVBE Policy.</li> </ol>		
2020-01-23	The following email was received by Melissa Clay Philippi, WV	<p>Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth,</p> <p>In my opinion, there are quite a few superintendents that will deny homeschool requests. There are already laws in place and to change them could adversely impact a lot of children.</p> <p>Please consider the following comments as you review Draft Policy 2510.</p>	A/C	See Responses 14 and 15

		<p>I agree with Comments made by The Home School Legal Defense Association and Christian Home Educators of West Virginia.</p> <p>Please</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove the concept of an "exiting policy" from Policy 2510. State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public-school system to begin homeschooling. Creating 55 county policies will create unnecessary confusion and likely result in increased conflict between parents and school authorities over homeschooling.</li> <li>2. Clarify the phrase "transferring the student into the county". The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.</li> <li>3. Create fairness for transferring a homeschool student into the public-school system. Many students who homeschool have done significant coursework that should be recognized. Not giving credit for work in a homeschool setting is an unnecessary punishment of the child and fails to recognize that homeschooling is a legitimate and effective educational model. People have many reasons for wanting to re-enroll in public school. If they choose to do so relevant work should be considered.</li> <li>4. Consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties. The state can help the counties by providing a guideline to reduce unnecessary differences which could cause confusion across the counties.</li> <li>5. Establish adequate public notice requirements for county rulemaking if notice isn't already required by law or other WVBE Policy.</li> </ol>		
2020-01-23	<p>The following email was received by Mr. &amp; Mrs. Bryce Timberlake Shenandoah Junction, WV</p>	<p>Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth,</p> <p>I have homeschooled my six children in Jefferson County for the last twenty years. In that time, it has been a real pleasure working with our</p>	A/C	See Responses 14 and 15

county's BOE. The homeschooling laws are clear and, honestly, do not need to be further altered.

Please consider the following comments as you review Draft Policy 2510.

I agree with Comments made by The Home School Legal Defense Association and Christian Home Educators of West Virginia.

Please

1. Remove the concept of an "exiting policy" from Policy 2510. State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public-school system to begin homeschooling. Creating 55 county policies will create unnecessary confusion and likely result in increased conflict between parents and school authorities over homeschooling.
2. Clarify the phrase "transferring the student into the county". The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.
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4. Consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties. The state can help the counties by providing a guideline to reduce unnecessary differences which could cause confusion across the counties.
5. Establish adequate public notice requirements for county rulemaking if notice isn't already required by law or other WVBE Policy.

<p>2020-01-23</p>	<p>The following email was received by Linda Viderman Wellsburg, WV</p>	<p>Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth,</p> <p>Homeschooling is a necessary option for concerned parents in Brooke County, WV, due to the poor quality of education being provided to students here by the public school system.</p> <p>I implore you to please consider the following comments as you review Draft Policy 2510.</p> <p>I agree with Comments made by The Home School Legal Defense Association and Christian Home Educators of West Virginia.</p> <p>Please</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove the concept of an "exiting policy" from Policy 2510. State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public-school system to begin homeschooling. Creating 55 county policies will create unnecessary confusion and likely result in increased conflict between parents and school authorities over homeschooling.</li> <li>2. Clarify the phrase "transferring the student into the county". The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.</li> <li>3. Create fairness for transferring a homeschool student into the public-school system. Many students who homeschool have done significant coursework that should be recognized. Not giving credit for work in a homeschool setting is an unnecessary punishment of the child and fails to recognize that homeschooling is a legitimate and effective educational model. People have many reasons for wanting to re-enroll in public school. If they choose to do so relevant work should be considered.</li> <li>4. Consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties. The state can help the counties by providing a</li> </ol>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Responses 14 and 15</p>
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		<p>guideline to reduce unnecessary differences which could cause confusion across the counties.</p> <p>5.Establish adequate public notice requirements for county rulemaking if notice isn't already required by law or other WVBE Policy.</p>		
<p>2020-01-24</p>	<p>The following email was sent by Suzanne Clayton Spencer, WV</p>	<p>Dear Assistant Superintendent Barth,</p> <p>Two of our four girls have successfully completed homeschool, one went on to become a nurse and our second is in college for her BSN in Biology as a first step to becoming a Veterinarian. Praise God, first of all, for giving us the privilege to be an integral part of the education of our children. Having our state and county working to legislate the fair treatment of those who homeschool and decide to exit or enter public school should be done to reflect to our children that their best good is enmeshed in the laws being created rather than working against them. Please do what is right and fair as you legislate.</p> <p>Please consider the following comments as you review Draft Policy 2510.</p> <p>I agree with Comments made by The Home School Legal Defense Association and Christian Home Educators of West Virginia.</p> <p>Please</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove the concept of an "exiting policy" from Policy 2510. State code already exists that specifically addresses exiting the public-school system to begin homeschooling. Creating 55 county policies will create unnecessary confusion and likely result in increased conflict between parents and school authorities over homeschooling.</li> <li>2. Clarify the phrase "transferring the student into the county". The intent seems to be to address a homeschool student transferring into the public-school system, but this is unclear. The current wording could cause confusion for a homeschool student moving into the county but desiring to continue homeschooling.</li> </ol>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Responses 14 and 15</p>

		<p>3. Create fairness for transferring a homeschool student into the public-school system. Many students who homeschool have done significant coursework that should be recognized. Not giving credit for work in a homeschool setting is an unnecessary punishment of the child and fails to recognize that homeschooling is a legitimate and effective educational model. People have many reasons for wanting to re-enroll in public school. If they choose to do so relevant work should be considered.</p> <p>4. Consider developing a template policy for homeschool (re)entry as a guideline for counties. The state can help the counties by providing a guideline to reduce unnecessary differences which could cause confusion across the counties.</p> <p>5. Establish adequate public notice requirements for county rulemaking if notice isn't already required by law or other WVBE Policy.</p>		
<p>2020-01-22</p>	<p>The following email was sent by Tonya Blackburn Dr. Jenny L. Santilli</p>	<p><u>BOX SECTION 126-42-6</u></p> <p><i>WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT</i></p> <p>High School Credits to Graduate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Why only 22 credits to graduate when companies are telling us they want globally competent citizens who can think, solve problems and be creative?</li> <li>· How do less credits and less rigor make our Ss more prepared for life after graduation?</li> <li>· Students should need 26 credits to graduate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 4 science</li> <li>o 4 math</li> <li>o 4 social studies (Early US History, Contemporary US History, World Cultures and Civics)</li> <li>o 4 English</li> <li>o 1 PE</li> <li>o 1 Fine Arts</li> <li>o 1 Health</li> <li>o 4PEP</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>N</p>	<p>The state board only sets the minimum requirements for graduation. Counties have the ability to increase and personalize additional graduation requirements. The majority of counties require 24 or more credits for graduation.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 1 parenting</li> <li>o 2 Flex credits</li> </ul> <p>Math</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Math I, II, III, IV should be eliminated</li> </ul> <p>World Language - Seal of Biliteracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will proficiency be assessed?</li> <li>• Who administers the assessment?</li> <li>• Who pays for the assessment?</li> </ul> <p>Social Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early and Contemporary US History should not be combined; too much information in the 2 individual courses now</li> <li>• World Cultures should be required; how can we enable Ss to be globally competent citizens if they don't study other cultures?</li> <li>• The following should be required for graduation: Early US History, Contemporary US History, World Cultures and Civics.</li> <li>• Is your goal to prepare cogs for the industrial wheel who won't think for themselves?</li> </ul> <p>English</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ss need English 11 and 12 as they are vertically aligned with 9 and 10 to prepare students for the future.</li> <li>• Creative should not be a substitute for English 11 or 12 as the knowledge and skills aren't comparable.</li> </ul> <p>CTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who will be teaching the Parenting Skills class?</li> </ul>	<p>A/S</p> <p>A/C</p> <p>A/C</p> <p>N</p>	<p>Pilots will take place this fall across the state to ensure an adequate system is in place.</p> <p>See Response 3</p> <p>See Response 10</p> <p>State code requires all schools to offer a course in parenting. Policy 2510 states that it is up to the principal and a team of teachers at that school to determine the adequate time needed for students to</p>
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- Does the T need to be certified?
- What if your school doesn't have a Family and Consumer Sciences department?

#### Minutes of Instruction

- Who determines how minutes of mastery are needed if less than 8100?
- How will it be determined?
- Who will design the assessment?
- Who will administer the assessment?
- Who will pay for the assessment?

#### *FROM SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT*

- We are against cutting the requirements down from four to three
- We believe that cutting world history as a required course is detrimental to our students in their understanding of not just history, but also English courses. Students need a solid background in world events that have led to where we are in the 21st century.
- We disagree with turning US History into a comprehensive course. There is simply too much vitally important information in US History to do it in one course. The American Revolution, Constitution, Civil War, World Wars I&II, the civil rights movement, and the Vietnam era would not get the dedicated time they deserve.
- We believe Civics should remain a senior course as many of our students will be eligible to vote that year and we want to provide them with the tools they need to be intelligent voters and engaged citizens.

reach mastery of a given course.

*FROM SCIENCE DEPARTMENT*

English- recommend Eng 9,10,11 required with choice of English Elective Senior year. (Recommend technical writing for STEM students.)

Math - as is

Science- With only three required sciences we do not want CTE courses to count as a graduation credit in science. They may count as electives only

World language- how will the biliteracy of a student be determined for credit exemption Social Studies- defer to social studies department

PE - course required no credits through sports. Coaches should not be determining academic grade

*FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT*

1. Flex Credit" should be able to be applied to any area of study and not limited.

2. PE should not be "extracurricular". Sports/Band should not be able to be used to fulfill the PE credit .

3. AP, Dual Credit Arts credits should not be permitted to fulfill the 1 credit requirement for the Arts. They should be part of the PEP or flex credits.

4. Arts offerings/options are not defined

*FROM HEALTH DEPARTMENT*

Eng: Also concerned about not having a required Eng that would teach how to write a term paper.

Social Studies: Impossible to fit all history that students need into 1 comprehensive course. Students will not have background needed for Civics with this policy.

PE: Major concern with how grading scale across the state is on level ground if each county can decide how to assess

extracurricular PE. Also, how will the coach give grades? What will be the standards they go by? Do their standards have to be approved? We as teachers are held accountable for our grading system - who is going to hold this coach accountable. PE has purpose

- to introduce a LIFESTYLE of wellness to all students through many ways. A student is not going to play basketball or soccer their entire life, so what else are they learning?

#### ***FROM ENGLISH DEPARTMENT***

While we value student choice and the merits of English electives, electives do not replace the rigor of and skills gained in required English courses. Students gain valuable critical reading and writing skills that build year upon year in English courses; therefore, eliminating required English courses after 9th and 10th grade will leave students with an incomplete experience.

Research skills are built upon as students advance through the grades, culminating in the ability to write for both academic and real-life endeavors. Eliminating two years of English classes would decrease students' exposure to literature, reducing critical reading opportunities and cultural literacy for our student population.

#### **SECTION 126-142-7 SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### ***FROM WORLD LANGUAGE***

- Who will determine that pedagogy is evidence/research based?
- Who will determine that the research itself is

valid and reliable?

- Does the research have to be published in a peer reviewed journal?
- Does a teacher's own experience with his/her students count as acceptable research?
- Will teachers be burdened with yet another duty proving that what they do works?
- Even assessments aligned with the curriculum cannot by nature "drive instructional improvement". Assessments show what students know and can do. However, assessments can inform future pedagogical and curricular decisions.
- "A formative process shall be used in all grades" is unclear. Is it referring to state standardized testing or to each course? Is it to place students in remedial or more challenging classes?

SECTION 126-42-9 COUNCIL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER  
(CBEM) RESPONSIBILITIES

*FROM SOCIAL STUDIES*

We also believe that making dual enrollment courses a weighted grade is a mistake. This would severely hurt our AP/IB courses. These dual enrollment courses simply do not have the same rigor that our AP courses do. Statistically, students who take AP courses outperform dual enrollment students at the university level.

*FROM SCIENCE DEPARTMENT AND MATH DEPARTMENT*  
Weighted grade for AP course only

*FROM WORLD LANGUAGE*

Should not be awarded to dual credit classes UNLESS they are taught onsite. Some classes taught on university campuses are not as rigorous as dual credit and AP classes taught in the high school.

Students will choose the easier classes taught at a university which will result in less of them taking the more rigorous AP and/or onsite dual credit classes at their schools. SECTION FOR GLOSSARY OF TERMS

*FROM WORLD LANGUAGES*

Prescribed Credits - Why are these only for grades 9 and 10?  
SECTION Appendix C - Virtual Schools

*FROM WORLD LANGUAGES*

- Why is it extended to the elementary level?
  - o One point of Kindergarten is obtaining social interaction skills. How will that be accomplished through a screen?
  - o One point of Kindergarten is obtaining hand/eye coordination skills? How will that be accomplished through a screen?
- What if a county doesn't have the funds to appoint a person to oversee the program?
- What if a county doesn't have the funds to appoint a person in every school to oversee the program?
- What if the county doesn't have the funds to provide materials?
- What will monitoring entail?
  - o Who will proctor exams/testing?
  - o Who will enter grades?
- Who determines whether or not a family is capable of monitoring their children's online courses?
- What repercussions are there if parents/guardians aren't

		<p>supervising their children?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· What repercussions are there if children don't complete the course?</li> <li>· What if families can't afford a device and/or Internet?</li> <li>· If families choose that their children will take virtual classes onsite , who will supervise them during the school day? What if the school can't accommodate that?</li> <li>· What happens when the legislature doesn't appropriate funding for the virtual classes? Will counties be forced to then pay?</li> </ul> <p><i>FROM SCIENCE DEPARTMENT</i></p> <p>Virtual school -no online path beginning in Kindergarten</p>		
<p>2020-01-06</p>	<p>The following letter was received via USPS by Larry Poynter Barboursville, WV</p>	<p><b>Re: Proposal to reduce Social Studies Credit Requirements for Graduation</b></p> <p>Dear Superintendent Paine:</p> <p>This letter is to express my opposition to the West Virginia Department of Education's (Department) proposal to reduce the number of required Social Studies credits from four to three for high school graduation in West Virginia.</p> <p>As you are aware the Department considered the same or a similar proposal several years ago. It was a bad idea then, as reflected in the substantial public opposition to the plan. It is a bad idea today. Given the Department's obligation to oversee and enhance the public education system in West Virginia, it is unconscionable that the Department would consider a proposal</p>	<p>A/C</p>	<p>See Response 1</p>

that it astutely rejected just a couple of years ago. A proposal that would negatively impact a student's understanding and critical thinking related to history, culture and our system of self-governance is misguided.

It is essential to a student's high school academic experience that the student be exposed to the study of History, so that the mistakes of history are not repeated, and that the student is given the perspective of how, as a society and as individuals, we co-exist. It is vital to society of self-governance that the next generation understand our democratic principles and have the knowledge to protect and preserve our unique system of government. It is paramount to a student's self-efficacy that they understand the mores of our culture and have the skills to think critically and independently.

Any proposal that seeks to reduce the standards and defeat the purpose of our educational system is in contravention of our obligations to our youth. It is essential that the primary purpose of our school system is to educate and not subvert academic studies to vocational training. While there may be a need for providing skills training, it should not come at the expense of a comprehensive educational experience. Now, as much as ever, it is necessary that graduating students develop the ability to think and understand their role as citizens in our society. For many of these students, high school may be the last opportunity for providing them the exposure to think and act critically and independently as adults in our communities.

		<p>I would insist that the Department reject the proposal to reduce the current required credits for Social Studies for graduation.</p>		
<p>2020-01-22</p>	<p>The following letter was received via USPS from John Hammond Yellow Spring, WV</p>	<p>Dear Dr. Barth:</p> <p>The decision to further reduce the number of credits required for high school graduation is terribly flawed. Reducing, or even eliminating courses in civics, social studies, or history strikes at the very core of learning that is supposed to produce responsible young adults.</p> <p>Understanding the travails of our country's founders and the challenges our nation has faced can only come from an enlightened study of our history. That study also serves to bring pride of citizenship along with awareness of processes that shape our republic.</p> <p>Further, "dumbing down" the graduates of our West Virginia schools puts them even more behind graduates from other states as reflected in scholastic scores. And, that courses in industrial arts or home economics have been slashed years ago is incomprehensible. Though there has been some work in building interest and quality of STEM classes, it continues to need emphasis. It has been painfully obvious that the marginal calibre of our state's school system has also been a factor and made attracting new businesses and skilled new residents more than difficult.</p> <p>Throughout my career in the U.S. Air Force I observed the performance of hundreds, if not thousands of individuals. It mattered not what career field they were in, nor whether they were officer or enlisted, but those that had the better</p>	<p>A/C</p> <p>N</p>	<p>See Response 1</p> <p>See Response 7</p>

fundamental education performed and advanced far better than those less well prepared.

My wife and I retired to West Virginia 23 years ago and we've met many fine young families with kids seemingly eager to learn. I implore you to revisit your civic responsibility and cast your decisions more along the lines of building well prepared, young West Virginians to meet the challenges they face.