

**DATE:** May 1, 2026

**TO:** Brian Jensen, Emerson Middle School  
Shanan Wheeler, Frost Middle School  
Kristyn Cousino, Holmes Middle School

**FROM:** Lindsay Rousseau, 7-12 ELA & Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator

**SUBJECT:** Textbook Recommendation for the seventh grade social studies (World History) and eighth grade social studies (United States History) courses

This memo recommends the adoption of the physical copy and digital platform licenses for *National Geographic World History: Great Civilizations - Ancient Through Early Modern Times (Cengage)* for use in the seventh grade social studies (World History) course and the adoption of the physical copy and digital platform licenses for *History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism (TCI Publishing)* for use in the eighth grade social studies (United States History) course. The details below provide more information about the adoption process and information to support this recommendation.

**Committee Members (Seventh Grade Social Studies)**

Emerson: Melissa Warnick  
Frost: Amy Hoffman  
Holmes: Tia Sarandria

**Committee Members (Eighth Grade Social Studies)**

Emerson: Will Kramer  
Frost: Dan Kozlowski  
Holmes: John Strzempka

**Recommended Materials for Adoption (Seventh Grade Social Studies)** - Cost proposal is attached

- *National Geographic World History: Great Civilizations - Ancient Through Early Modern Times, Cengage Publishing, Copyright 2025*
- *National Geographic World History: Great Civilizations - Ancient Through Early Modern Times, Cengage Publishing digital platform licenses/access*

**Recommended Materials for Adoption (Eighth Grade Social Studies)** - Cost Proposal is attached

- *History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism (Third Edition), TCI Publishing, Copyright 2025*
- *History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism (Third Edition) digital platform licenses/access*

**Summary of Course(s)**

*The seventh grade social studies course (World History)* focuses on early world history and geography with a deliberate focus on content literacy. Students begin their exploration into world history with a focus on historical thinking. By unpacking historical and geographic thinking, students learn how these disciplines are distinct in how they ask questions and frame problems to organize and drive inquiry. By introducing students to the “invisible” tools historians use to create historical accounts, the course deepens students’ historical habits of mind and builds their social and content literacy. Students investigate human history from the beginning until around 1500, where they explore significant changes in each era through a chronological organization. Students learn about the earliest humans and explore early migration and settlement patterns. In studying the origins of farming and its impact upon emerging human cultures, students analyze evidence from the fields of archaeology and anthropology and employ a wide range of data sources including artifacts, photographs, and geographic information. Students examine how the emergence of pastoral and agrarian societies set the stage for the development of powerful empires, trade networks, and the diffusion of people, resources, and ideas.

### **Summary of Course(s) cont.**

*The eighth grade social studies course (United States History)* focuses on the time period from 1763 to 1880; Emphasis is placed on political themes, major events, and individuals who have contributed to shaping our nation into the country it is today. Students are required to use a variety of resources and means to acquire, process, and communicate information, which will include the analysis and application of primary sources, such as original documents and objects which were created at the time under study, as well as secondary sources, such as accounts or interpretations of events created by someone without first-hand experience. Examining primary sources gives students a powerful sense of history and the complexity of the past; Helping students analyze primary sources can also guide them toward higher-order thinking and better critical thinking and analysis skills. Students will emerge with an improved civic competency and the knowledge to improve our democratic way of life.

### **Overview**

The current textbook used in both of the middle school social studies courses is National Geographic's World History and American History textbooks/resources, which has a copyright of 2018. As National Geographic was one of the first publishers to provide digital licenses for an online platform that housed instructional and assessment materials for teacher and student use, they have made many updates to their online platform in the eight years since our initial adoption of their materials, as have the other major K-12 publishing companies. While National Geographic's materials still align well with the seventh grade Michigan state standards and with student and teacher needs, the eighth grade members of the committee said that, through their examination of other publishers' materials, there was a publisher who now, in 2026, has done a better job with the eighth grade US History curriculum as it pertains to standard alignment and learning/assessment opportunities.

### **Evaluation Process**

The committees each created their shared vision for the course, examined the textbooks and online platforms, completed a rubric for each text and online platform, checked the texts for standard alignment, used the materials to teach the priority standards in marking period three of the 2025-26 school year, and had their students evaluate the texts and online platforms after using them. The committee then came back together after the materials were piloted to discuss how the pilot went with staff and students for each text and online resource. The committee then used the student and staff data and feedback to make the determination for which of the piloted texts/resources to adopt.

### **Shared Vision**

In LPS, the vision for our middle school social studies program is to help students understand how history and geography shape the world around them while developing the skills to think critically about the past and present. In grades seven and eight, students learn to ask meaningful questions, analyze information, and approach problems using the distinct perspectives of each discipline. They work with a range of primary and secondary sources to build and evaluate historical understanding, strengthening their ability to communicate ideas clearly and make sense of complex issues over time. Instruction is designed to be engaging and purposeful, with students consistently working toward clear learning goals and outcomes. Classrooms are designed to support growth and to encourage students to take academic risks and learn from mistakes through constructive, nonjudgmental feedback. Teaching and assessments are aligned to established state standards and are a balance of formative and summative tasks used to monitor progress and guide instruction. When students need additional support, targeted interventions and reteaching are used to ensure students can access the grade-level content and build the skills necessary for success. Through this approach, students will leave middle school with a stronger sense of civic responsibility and the knowledge and skills needed to participate meaningfully in a democratic society.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

We evaluated the textbooks using a rubric with the following criteria:

- Alignment to the C3 Framework, Inquiry Arc, and the College Board standards and topics
- Balance of skill development, conceptual understanding, and applicable tasks
- Reflect the needs and diversity of LPS students
- Offer reteaching and extensions opportunities
- Discourse, engagement, critical thinking
- Assessment (formative and summative)
- Digital platform

### **Textbooks/Resources Considered (Seventh Grade World History)**

- *My World Interactive: World History Early Ages*, Savvas Publishing, Copyright 2021
- *World History: Voices and Perspectives*, McGraw-Hill Publishing, Copyright 2023
- *History Alive! The World Through 1750 (Third Edition)*, TCI Publishing, Copyright 2023
- *National Geographic World History: Great Civilizations - Ancient Through Early Modern Times*, Cengage Publishing, Copyright 2025
- *World Civilizations*, HMH Publishing, Copyright 2018

### **Textbooks/Resources Considered (Eighth Grade US History)**

- *My World Interactive: American History*, Savvas Publishing, Copyright 2021
- *United States History: Voices and Perspectives*, McGraw-Hill Publishing, Copyright 2023
- *History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism (Third Edition)*, TCI Publishing, Copyright 2023
- *National Geographic United States History: American Stories - Beginnings to 1877*, Cengage Publishing, Copyright 2025
- *United States History*, HMH Publishing, Copyright 2018

### **Independent Evaluation**

The seventh grade committee of three teachers and the eighth grade committee of three teachers each began by looking at the textbook options and the additional supplemental and online resources listed above. Each committee member for both committees individually completed a horizontal trace summary form, which had them document their overall reactions to the textbooks and online platforms, their areas of concern related to each publisher and its horizontal trace to the standards, and any/all adaptations that teachers would need to make to the materials to increase their usability with all students. The last step of the horizontal trace summary process was for the committee members to rank each textbook/resource based on whether or not the text and materials matched our vision for middle school social studies. Each of the committee's members then came together to talk through their documentation of the horizontal trace to see where commonalities arose between the members. Through this process, the committees used their horizontal trace documentation and discussion and narrowed down the five possible resources to two, which were the materials they piloted with their students during the third marking period of the 2025-26 school year. The textbooks/resources that were piloted with seventh grade students were *National Geographic World History: Great Civilizations - Ancient Through Early Modern Times* (Cengage) and *World History: Voices and Perspectives* (McGraw-Hill); the textbooks/resources that were piloted with eighth grade students were *United States History: Voices and Perspectives* (McGraw-Hill) and *History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism (Third Edition)* (TCI).

### **Evaluation Rubric Outcome**

The results of the middle school social studies committee-created rubric showed *National Geographic World History: Great Civilizations - Ancient Through Early Modern Times* to be the frontrunner of the resources that were piloted in the seventh grade social studies classrooms and showed *History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism (Third Edition)* to be the frontrunner of the resources that were piloted in the eighth grade social studies classrooms. Both resources are visually-engaging, well-organized, and written at a level that is appropriate for middle school students, which allows for strong access to content for the students without overwhelming them. Both resources are clearly aligned to priority standards and include instructional supports that help students build understanding, think critically, and engage in inquiry. Additionally, each resource provides a range of assessment options that allow teachers to check for student understanding in different ways and at varying rigor levels. The teacher materials in both resources are thorough and practical, offering guidance, strategies for differentiation, and supporting resources that can be implemented with a wide range of learners. Overall, both resources reflect a consistent focus on student engagement, skill development, and alignment to instructional goals.

### **Student Response (Seventh Grade World History)**

After having students review the texts as to the usability of each of the resources, how each resource helped them understand the social studies content, and the students' overall learning experience with each resource, the seventh grade students showed a high favorability for the Cengage resources over the McGraw-Hill resources. Over 75% of the students said that the materials were easy to understand and use, helped them understand the course content, supported in-class learning, and could be used independently if they were absent. Students particularly valued the clear organization, readability, and digital features such as read-aloud tools, highlighting, and visuals, which supported comprehension. Students also mentioned that the materials encouraged collaboration and discussion. Based on this student feedback, the Cengage resource provides a strong, accessible foundation for student learning and is well-suited to support instruction in seventh grade social studies.

### **Student Response (Eighth Grade United States History)**

After having students review the texts as to the usability of each of the resources, how each resource helped them understand the social studies content, and the students' overall learning experience with each resource, the eighth grade students showed a high favorability for the TCI resources over the McGraw-Hill resources. Over 75% of students reported strong understanding of the content, the ability to use the materials independently, and overall effectiveness for classroom learning. Students gave high praise for the clarity of the TCI text, the interactive features in the online platform, such as simulations and activities, and the availability of digital tools and said all of these features helped increase their enjoyment of learning about US history. Based on this student feedback, the TCI resource effectively supports student understanding and engagement and is well-suited to meet the needs of students and support instruction in eighth grade social studies.

### **Professional Development Needs (Seventh Grade World History)**

- Online platform training/review in August 2026 for all seventh grade social studies teachers to learn about what's included in the new/updated features and how teachers will access them
- Time as a district committee in August 2026 to navigate the updated online platform to find the materials that align with their district PLT- chosen priority standards
- Time as a district committee in August 2026 to revise the Year-at-a-Glance curriculum map so that it aligns with the updated Cengage resource

### **Professional Development Needs (Eighth Grade US History)**

- Online platform training in August 2026 for all eighth grade social studies teachers to learn about what's available in the online platform and how to access it
- Time as a district team in August 2026 to navigate the online platform to find the materials that align with their district PLT-chosen priority standards
- Time as a district team to revise the Year-at-a-Glance curriculum map so that it aligns with the new TCI resource

For additional information on the adoption recommendation, contact Lindsay Rousseau at x42594.

CC

Theresa O'Brien

Kevin Etue

MS Social Studies Department Chairs

**A note regarding the discrepancy in the number of digital licenses requested/needed each year for the next six years:**

A six-year adoption for both the seventh grade and the eighth grade social studies textbooks/digital licenses is being requested because there is a significant financial savings in purchasing a six-year adoption over an adoption of a shorter duration of time.

The caveat to this is with the 150 digital licenses needed for the MACAT students. Because the MACAT students rotate every other year as to whether they are learning the seventh or the eighth grade standards/content, and because the publishing companies cannot “pause” the licenses during the duration of an adoption, those 150 licenses, if purchased with a six-year adoption, would sit - unused - every other year. In the interest of being fiscally responsible, I am requesting that the 150 licenses needed for the MACAT students only be purchased before the fall of the year in which those licenses will be used. Please see below:

- MACAT students will be studying and learning about the **seventh grade (World History)** social studies standards/content during the **2027-28, 2029-30, and 2031-32** school years. Because of this, between July 1st and the start of each of these three school years, the person in the role of the 7-12th Grade ELA & Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator will need to contact Cengage Publishing and request a one-year quote for 150 digital licenses for that particular school year to give the MACAT students and teachers access to the seventh grade curriculum and resources.
- MACAT students will be studying and learning about the **eighth grade (US History)** social studies standards/content during the **2026-27, 2028-29, and 2030-31** school years. Because of this, Between July 1st and the start of each of these three school years, the person in the role of the 7-12th Grade ELA & Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator will need to contact TCI Publishing and request a one-year quote for 150 digital licenses for that particular school year to give the MACAT students and teachers access to the eighth grade curriculum and resources.

Created Date 4/28/2026  
Expiration Date 10/30/2026

Quote Number 00147108

Prepared By:  
Stefanie Morris-Doucette  
stefanie.morris@cengage.com

Presented To:  
Lindsay Rousseau  
7346792187  
[lroussea@livoniapublicschools.org](mailto:lroussea@livoniapublicschools.org)

Bill To:  
LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ship To:  
LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
15125 FARMINGTON RD  
LIVONIA, Michigan 48154  
United States

Product	ISBN	Quantity	Sales Price	Discount (Percentage)	Total Price
K-12 Product Training	9781337466196	1.00	USD 3,150.00	100.00%	USD 0.00
National Geographic Learning World History Great Civilizations Ancient Through Early Modern Times, 2nd Edition, Teachers Edition	9798214359441	9.00	USD 230.00	100.00%	USD 0.00
National Geographic World History Great Civilizations: Ancient Through Early Modern Time, 2nd Edition, Essential Package (Student Edition + Digital) 6 Years	9798214640389	360.00	USD 153.00		USD 55,080.00
National Geographic World History Great Civilizations: Ancient Through Early Modern Time, 2nd Edition, Explore (6-year access)	9798214359571	545.00	USD 122.00		USD 66,490.00

Sub Total USD 126,790.00  
Total Price USD 121,570.00  
Processing Fee USD 7,607.40  
Grand Total USD 129,177.40  
Total Savings USD 10,291.60

Accept Quote

Order Creation Link <https://cengageorg.my.site.com/Service/s/k12-order?orderId=00147108>

Terms & Conditions

This quote shall be deemed accepted by Customer upon Cengage receiving (i) any written confirmation indicating acceptance, or (ii) a Customer purchase order. Any terms or conditions contained in any written confirmation or Customer purchase order will have no force and effect and will not amend or modify this quote. Once confirmed, an invoice will be sent on the start date of Customer purchase. Notwithstanding anything in the Terms (defined below), invoices are due and payable within thirty (30) days from receipt of the applicable invoice. This quote shall be governed by the terms and conditions for Products and/or Offerings found at <https://cengage.widen.net/s/glsqhrqfbd/ngl-online-sales-terms--jan-2025> (the "Terms"), except (i) where Customer has a written sales agreement executed by Cengage for the Products and/or Offerings referenced herein, in which case such written sales agreement will govern, or (ii) as otherwise set forth herein.

If Customer wishes to negotiate terms, please reach out to Cengage to obtain the proper agreement. All information embodied in this document is strictly confidential and may not be duplicated or disclosed to third parties outside recipient's organization without prior written consent of Cengage.

Additional Information

Comments

Processing Fee – Similar to a handling fee for print products, the Processing Fee covers the costs of safely and efficiently onboarding K-12 students into our digital product whether through rostering, LMS integration, Google Classroom integration, self-registration or code-delivery. Specifically, the fee covers the careful handling of data to ensure privacy and accuracy along with the updating and handling of onboarding systems.

Created Date 4/20/2026  
Expiration Date 10/29/2027

Quote Number 00145438

**Prepared By:**  
Stefanie Morris-Doucette  
stefanie.morris@cengage.com

**Presented To:**  
Lindsay Rousseau  
7346792187  
[lroussea@livoniapublicschools.org](mailto:lroussea@livoniapublicschools.org)

**Bill To:**  
LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Ship To:**  
LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
15125 FARMINGTON RD  
LIVONIA, Michigan 48154  
United States

Product	ISBN	Quantity	Sales Price	Total Price
National Geographic World History Great Civilizations: Ancient Through Early Modern Time, 2nd Edition, Explore (1-year access)	9798214359526	150.00	USD 36.00	USD 5,400.00

Sub Total USD 5,400.00  
Total Price USD 5,400.00  
Processing Fee USD 540.00  
Grand Total USD 5,940.00  
Total Savings USD 0.00

**Accept Quote**

Order Creation Link <https://cengageorg.my.site.com/Service/s/k12-order?orderId=00145438>

**Terms & Conditions**

This quote shall be deemed accepted by Customer upon Cengage receiving (i) any written confirmation indicating acceptance, or (ii) a Customer purchase order. Any terms or conditions contained in any written confirmation or Customer purchase order will have no force and effect and will not amend or modify this quote. Once confirmed, an invoice will be sent on the start date of Customer purchase. Notwithstanding anything in the Terms (defined below), invoices are due and payable within thirty (30) days from receipt of the applicable invoice. This quote shall be governed by the terms and conditions for Products and/or Offerings found at <https://cengage.widen.net/s/qisghrqfot/ngl-online-sales-terms--jan-2025> (the "Terms"), except (i) where Customer has a written sales agreement executed by Cengage for the Products and/or Offerings referenced herein, in which case such written sales agreement will govern, or (ii) as otherwise set forth herein.

If Customer wishes to negotiate terms, please reach out to Cengage to obtain the proper agreement. All information embodied in this document is strictly confidential and may not be duplicated or disclosed to third parties outside recipient's organization without prior written consent of Cengage.

**Additional Information**

**Comments**

Processing Fee – Similar to a handling fee for print products, the Processing Fee covers the costs of safely and efficiently onboarding K-12 students into our digital product whether through rostering, LMS integration, Google Classroom integration, self-registration or code-delivery. Specifically, the fee covers the careful handling of data to ensure privacy and accuracy along with the updating and handling of onboarding

NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC  
LEARNING



Cengage Learning  
ATTN: Order Fulfillment  
10650 Toebben Drive  
Suite A, Independence, KY 41051  
(888)-915-3276

systems.



**Quote #: 00043801**  
 Date: 2026-04-20  
 Expires On: 6/16/2026  
 Prepared By: Matt Moorman  
 Email: mmoorman@teachtci.com  
 Phone: (800) 497-6138 ext 126

**Quote for:**  
 Livonia Public Schools  
 Lindsay Rousseau  
 lroussea@livoniapublicschools.org

**Ship to:**  
 Lindsay Rousseau  
 Livonia Public Schools  
 15125 Farmington Rd  
 Livonia, MI 48154  
 Ship to district warehouse

**Holmes Middle School** 16200 Newburgh Rd Livonia, MI 48154

Product Code	Product Name	Product Type	List Price	Customer Price	Quantity	Extended Price
TB-1518-6	HA! US Through Industrialism: Student Bundle (6 Yrs)	Bundle English	\$111.00	\$111.00	80	\$8,880.00
<b>Holmes Middle School Shipping:</b>			\$444.00	<b>Holmes Middle School</b>		\$8,880.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>						

**Frost Middle School** 14041 Stark Rd Livonia, MI 48154

Product Code	Product Name	Product Type	List Price	Customer Price	Quantity	Extended Price
TB-1518-6	HA! US Through Industrialism: Student Bundle (6 Yrs)	Bundle English	\$111.00	\$111.00	80	\$8,880.00
154-9	HA! US Through Industrialism: Teacher's Guide	Print English	\$149.00	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
145-7	HA! US Through Industrialism: Placards	Print English	\$149.00	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
<b>Frost Middle School Shipping:</b>			\$444.00	<b>Frost Middle School</b>		\$8,880.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>						

**Emerson Middle School** 29100 W Chicago St Livonia, MI 48150

Product Code	Product Name	Product Type	List Price	Customer Price	Quantity	Extended Price
TB-1518-6	HA! US Through Industrialism: Student Bundle (6 Yrs)	Bundle English	\$111.00	\$111.00	40	\$4,440.00
154-9	HA! US Through Industrialism: Teacher's Guide	Print English	\$149.00	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
145-7	HA! US Through Industrialism: Placards	Print English	\$149.00	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
<b>Emerson Middle School Shipping:</b>			\$222.00	<b>Emerson Middle School</b>		\$4,440.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>						

**District Office**

Product Code	Product Name	Product Type	List Price	Customer Price	Quantity	Extended Price
MS-SS-SL-06	Middle School (6-8) Social Studies: Student License (6 Yrs)	Digital	\$92.00	\$92.00	715	\$65,780.00
MS-SS-SL-01	Middle School (6-8) Social Studies: Student License (1 Yr)	Digital	\$32.00	\$32.00	150	\$4,800.00
MS-SS-TL-06	Middle School (6-8) Social Studies: Teacher License (6 Yrs)	Digital	\$1,840.00	\$0.00	11	\$0.00

MACAT

Product Code	Product Name	Product Type	List Price	Customer Price	Quantity	Extended Price
District Office Shipping:			\$0.00	District Office TOTAL:		\$70,580.00

<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>						<b>\$92,780.00</b>
------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--------------------

Shipping (5%) \$1,110.00

<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$93,890.00</b>
--------------------	--------------------

**Gratis**

Gratis offer and/or customer pricing are valid for this quote only and contingent upon purchase order total matching or exceeding the quote total. Gratis items must be included on your purchase order.

Gratis Total \$20,836.00

## Terms and Conditions

**Business Terms**

TCI's Business Terms apply to all orders. View details at <https://www.teachtci.com/tci-business-terms>.

**How to Order**

Please include a copy of this quote with your purchase order to expedite your order and ensure you receive the pricing quoted above. Adjustments cannot be made after the order has been fulfilled. Place orders online at <https://shop.teachtci.com> or send using one of the following options:

- Email: [info@teachtci.com](mailto:info@teachtci.com)
- Fax: 800-343-6828
- Address: 3790 El Camino Real #1224, Palo Alto CA 94306
- If paying by check, send payment to PO Box 6004, Whittier CA 90607

Download a copy of TCI's W-9 at <https://www.teachtci.com/w9>

**License Contact**

Set-up information for all licenses purchased will be sent to the contact email above unless otherwise noted.

**Shipping**

Shipping and handling fees do not apply to teacher and student license-only products.

**Print Subscriptions**

If your order includes multi-year subscriptions to print materials, you must receive delivery of the full annual quantity for the duration of your subscription. Any adjustments below the annual quantity cannot be used as a credit for future year shipments. Changes that exceed the original annual quantity must be accompanied by a new purchase order.

**Student Journal Bundles**

If your order contains fewer than 20 multi-year student journal bundles for any program, journals for the entire duration of the bundle will be shipped to you upfront.

**Sales Tax**

If applicable, sales tax will be assessed when your order is processed. Actual amount will be calculated and added to the invoice based on the delivery address.