

Public Hearing on American Civics  
Monday, January 10, 2022 7:00 PM  
Notice of the meeting was posted in the  
Henderson News on January 6, 2022.

Conference Room  
1501 Front Street  
Henderson, NE 68371-8929

## **Agenda**

1. Preliminary Procedures
  - 1.1. Call to Order
  - 1.2. Public Notice of the Hearing
  - 1.3. Roll Call
2. Public Input Regarding the Teaching of American Civics
3. School Board American Civics Committee Report
4. Adjournment

Heartland Community School Board  
Committee on American Civics  
Summary of Annual Review  
January 10, 2022

The American Civics Committee met on November 8, 2021. The board committee consisted of Steve Stebbing, Tyler Newton and Lacey Gloystein. The purpose of this meeting was to determine if there is evidence that Heartland Community School is meeting the curriculum required by Nebraska State Law. History material and textbooks were provided to the committee, for all grades. Also provided was the Nebraska State Board of Education's Social Studies Standards adopted November 8, 2019. And a summary of how the school addresses what's in the standards.

Material and textbooks included, but not limited to; Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Library of Congress, Smithsonian Institution, National History Day, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the Organization of American Historians, History Channel, [history.com](http://history.com) and many more. We also confirmed that the High School takes 2 written tests a year, in accordance with state law. A minimum of two courses to teach American Civics is also required in High School. One hour per week of instruction is taught for grade levels below sixth grade. And a set amount of time is included to teach American history for grade levels fifth to eighth grade. Heartland will conduct appropriate patriotic exercises for eight of the major holidays. We confirmed the curriculum stresses required patriotic themes. This curriculum is available for public inspection. Upon comparison of standards required and standards taught, the committee found no discrepancies. More time was needed to do a comprehensive review of the textbooks.

The committee is genuinely concerned about the direction politics have influenced teaching material. We found an abundance of excellent content in the textbooks. The board trusts the material contained therein will continue to be taught from an unbiased perspective representing our unchanging American History that our communities know and love.