

**Social Studies Advisory Committee 2023-2024 Recommendation (DRAFT 2.23.24)**

**Recommendation:** The Social Studies Advisory Committee (SSAC, see Appendix A) recommends that the School Board hire a full-time elementary school specialist in Social Studies

- Providing professional learning opportunities for teachers, experiential learning opportunities for students, and aligning curricula to standards set by the Office of Academics
- Reviewing textbooks for classroom use by elementary school teachers, and acquiring social studies materials for elementary school teachers that align with Virginia Standards of Learning
- Encouraging and effectuating peer-to-peer learning among K-5 teachers

**Budgetary Implications:** The permanent budgetary implications for this would be \$105,000 per fiscal year, inclusive of the incumbent's salary and benefits.

**Strategic Plan Alignment:** This request fulfills APS's [Strategic Plan](#). In addition, [research has shown that integrating social studies curricula into other subjects like reading and math can improve student performance in these "core" academic areas](#). When students apply mathematical or literary knowledge in a social science context, the application reinforces their knowledge, and demonstrates the utility of what they have learned.

## **Appendix A: 2023-24 SSAC Members and Leadership**

**Liaison:** Terrell Fleming

**Chair:** Caroline Rogus

**Vice Chair:** Nathaniel Green

**Members:**

Allan Carey

Brandon Clark

Anjy Cramer

Yahya Fouz

Janet Hayes

Mariam McClure-Simonyan

Melanie Vela

**Appendix B: Social Studies Advisory Committee 2021-2022 Recommendation**