August 1, 2019

I want to extend an invitation to you and your K-12 Social Studies peers to participate in the 2019-2020 DESE Social Studies Professional Development Series, Social Studies Colloquia IV: Assessing like a Social Scientist.

This year’s three-part professional development series brings together Missouri educators who have an interest in Social Studies with a focus on developing high quality assessment to both inform instructional decisions and to evaluate student learning at the end of instruction. Designed for K-12 educators, we will explore ways to both guide and gauge Social Studies assessment built on critical thinking rather than in a ‘gotcha’ mindset. Sessions will focus on constructing meaningful classroom assessments and developing school grade-level or course assessments as well as meaningful preparation for large-scale assessments, including state level tests.

In addition, each colloquium includes DESE updates tied to developments in implementation of standards and assessment. This year is the first year of the operational EOC exams in Government and in American History (optional) tied to the Missouri Learning Standards Expectations adopted by the Missouri State Board of Education in 2016. It is also the year DESE will pilot optional social studies assessment resources for grades 3-8 developed by Missouri educators to be accessed and managed at a local level. These innovative resources are aligned with the MLS Expectations, built on complex texts, rooted in reading and writing and founded on critical thinking skills parallel with ELA and Science expectations. Each colloquium will include updates on these and other DESE developments.

2019-2020 Colloquia dates and focus

Tuesday, September 24, 2019  What did we learn about Missouri student skills and understanding from the EOC field test? How can we use that information to positively impact teaching, learning and assessment in our K-12 classrooms?

Tuesday, November 12, 2019  What are the attributes of high-quality assessment? What tools do we have to support educators as they create high quality assessments in their classrooms or across their grade-levels?

Tuesday January 14, 2020  How can we translate data from assessments into meaningful information for decision-making in the classroom and beyond?

Details:
Costs: none to participants
Times: 9 a.m.---3 p.m.
Lunch: on your own
Location: Jefferson City, Missouri

Registration:  https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-20-k-12-social-studies-content-meetings-tickets-67255303423

Space is limited.
As we move closer to each session, you will receive a reminder/confirmation with additional specific details, including sites and room numbers.

As always, please feel free to email or call with questions. My responsibility is to support you in the challenging work you do and to provide resources and guidance as you request. My pleasure is to know and learn with you.

Regards,
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