

**Minutes of the Social Studies Endorsement Task Force  
Commission on Professional Standards in Education  
December 8, 2010**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Social Studies Endorsement Task Force met via conference video in Carson City and Las Vegas on December 8, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by Chair Brian Boothe.

Task Force Members Present:

Brian Boothe, Chair – Las Vegas

Dr. Marilyn Ford, recently retired from UNLV – Las Vegas

Herbert Thompson, representing the Geographic Alliance of Nevada – Las Vegas

Dortay Devenunzi, Washoe County School District, Human Resources – Carson City

Task Force Members Absent:

Dr. Margaret Ferrara

Karlye Mull

Andre Yates, Clark County School District

Staff Present:

Christina Harper, Secretary

Dr. Katherine Rohrer, Licensure Office

**REVIEW AND DISCUSS POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO NAC 391.1306 – MAJOR OR MINOR IN SOCIAL STUDIES TO INCLUDE GEOGRAPHY AS ONE OF THE CORE SUBJECTS TO RECEIVE SOCIAL STUDIES ENDORSEMENT AND AGREE ON A PROPOSAL TO SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION**

Chair Boothe outlined the goals of the Task Force:

- Review the current language for NAC 391.1306 – major or minor in social studies requirements;
- Review a proposal from a former Commissioner requesting that coursework in geography is a requirement in NAC 39.1306.

Dr. Ford suggested adding “economics” as a required course; as there could be an individual with a history degree with no coursework in economics, geography, or ethnic studies and that individual could receive a minor in social studies.

Dr. Rohrer reviewed how the Licensure office would process an application for an endorsement in social studies. Dr. Rohrer also reviewed the teaching assignments in social studies in Nevada classrooms:

283 – social studies

341 – history assignment

88 – political science

16 – geography  
20 – economics  
38 – psychology  
14 – sociology  
1 – ethnic studies

Task Force Member Thompson supported the proposal to add geography and economics as requirements to the social studies endorsement.

The Task Force discussed possible language amendments and agreed on the following proposed language:

**NAC 391.1306** Major or minor in social studies. (NRS 385.080, 391.019)

1. *36 semester hours of credit* [~~The Semester hours of credit~~] required for a major in social studies must include at least 3 semester hours in each of the following areas *(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) named in subsection 1 and 15 additional credits in areas (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) named in subsection 1.* [~~, 24 of which must have been in the areas named in paragraphs (e), (f) and (g).]~~
  - (a) Economics;
  - (b) Geography;
  - (c) *History of the United States;* [~~Psychology or sociology;~~]
  - (d) *History of the world;* [~~Ethnic studies;~~]
  - (e) Political science;
  - (f) *Ethnic studies; and* [~~History of the United States; and~~]
  - (g) *Psychology or sociology.* [~~History of the world.~~]
2. *24 semester* [~~The Semester~~] hours of credit required for a minor in social studies must include at least 3 semester hours *in each of the five areas (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) named in subsection 1; at least 6 additional semester hours must be areas (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) named in subsection 1; and at least 3 semester hours must be in areas (f) or (g) named in subsection 1.* [~~in any four of the areas listed in subsection 1, at least 16 semester hours of which must be in the areas listed in paragraphs (e), (f) and (g) of subsection 1.~~]

**MOTION:** Task Force Member Thompson moved to approve the proposed language for a minor in social studies to be submitted to the Commission on Professional Standards in Education, seconded by Task Force Member Ford. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Task Force Member Ford moved to approve the proposed language for a major in social studies to be submitted to the Commission on Professional Standards in

Education, seconded by Task Force Member Thompson. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE – IF NECESSARY**

There was no need to schedule a future meeting.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

#### **PUBLIC TASK FORCE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Chair Boothe thanked the Task Force Members for their time and effort in developing this proposal.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Boothe adjourned the meeting at 10:40 A.M.