

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

No action taken on comments 1-591 by SD DOE prior to September 20th BOES meeting.

	First Name	Last Name	Which group do you represent?	Please use the space below to provide comments related to the newly revised South Dakota Social Studies Standards. Please be specific about which standard you are referencing.
1	Lisa	Forcier	Social Studies Standards Workgroup Member	This is a overall broad statement/question/comment: Why did the state have a diverse work group come together to then take what was worked on and change it back to what it was? The state is not looking for a solid diverse South Dakota social studies standards - they want the same thing we have always had and then we will get the same thing we have always gotten - a watered down, hide the truth because someone will be upset. AS long as it is not the politicians in the South Dakota or in DC - the rest of the United States needs to deal with it??? Wrong - the politicians work for the people - all the people. We as the electors need to demand that the truth be told. We need to stop sugar coating and learn from the mistakes of the forefathers so tragedy does not happen again. We need to stand as one nation with our families of all colors, religion and beliefs. We need to stop making excuses and build a better country for all of us. We need to teach our children what it means to be a good neighbor - regardless of who your neighbor is. If we are ever going to get to being one nation - it starts with the truth being told of all situations not just the ones some people are comfortable telling.
2	Durane	DuBois	Parent	It all sounds good to me. I just hope Native Americans are given the respect and recognition they deserve when it comes to the history of South Dakota!
3	Danyel	Doolittle	Parent	An accurate history provides students with facts. If you are afraid to provide facts then you condemn future generations to make similar mistakes. Let our children learn facts.
4	Christina	Nath	Parent	It is absolutely critical that students in SD learn the full history of our state including the history of the indigenous people who lived here first. History is not to be cherry-picked to leave out the inconvenient or embarrassing parts. We can't build a better culture pandemic country without acknowledging our past. If anything more indigenous history should be added to the curriculum.
5	Kristin	Loy	Parent	We need to learn more about Ingenious people. Do not take out the updates. History is important. The good, the bad, the ugly. Teach our kids to accept our history and learn to be better.
6	Tom	Raymond	Higher Education	An excellent example of how educators working together can produce a worthwhile document. Perhaps "the student will UNDERSTAND" could be re-phrased? could there have been moretribal educators or tribal government persons involved?
7	Kathy	Entwistle	K-12 Educator	Why in the world would you strip away education about Native American history? Why would you cancel such an important part of our heritage? Shameful
8	Jacob	Jellio	Concerned citizen	I am sad to hear of the watered down social studies standards. We need to learn all of our history not just what we are proud of. Also as it pertains to indigenous people in a state like south Dakota we must strive to learn more about our friends and neighbors not to learn less. They are valued and great members of our country with a proud history. Do better South Dakota. You're making us the laughing stock of this great country.
9	Laura	Cooper	K-12 Educator	I hope you will consider adopting the standards as the committee wrote them. Many years of expertise and hours of work are represented in their proposal, and the state standards should represent the workgroup's efforts. Thank you.

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				<p>I want the Indigenous section put back in the curriculum. See below from Argus Leader article, my recommendation is to put this back. How can all children understand the impact of the Native American community without the history? How can we provide understanding and empathy of different cultures if this is removed?</p> <p>Major removals of Indigenous topics Several of the standards on Oceti Sakowin were removed completely, including:</p> <p>In kindergarten civics, discussing the meaning of kinship to the Oceti Sakowin Oyate. In kindergarten geography, discussing the tribal nations of the Oceti Sakowin Oyate. In first grade civics, identifying symbols of the Oceti Sakowin Oyate, including but not limited to star quilt, buffalo and medicine wheels. In first grade geography, recognizing the nine contemporary reservations of the Oceti Sakowin Oyate on a South Dakota map. In second grade civics, exploring the concepts of the Oceti Sakowin Oyate, including but not limited to tribal flags, celebrations (powwows), beadwork, dreamcatchers, music and artwork. In second grade geography, identifying names and locations of Oceti Sakowin Oyate tribes within our communities and state. In third grade civics, learning how to describe tribal organizational structures (council, chairman, etc.) In third grade geography, researching the nine tribes in South Dakota In fifth grade, standards for learning about tribal sovereignty in civics class and how natural resources and migration affected the lives and culture of the Oceti Sakowin were both removed completely. In eighth grade history, examining major cultural traits and resiliency of the Oceti Sakowin Oyate throughout history In eighth grade history, critiquing significant primary sources, including Oceti Sakowin Oyate treaties, and their impact on events of this time period.</p>
10	Denise	Red Horse	Parent	
11	Victoria	Sherman	Retired social studies teacher/school administrator	The decision to eliminate several standards related to the Lakota people is blatant discrimination. In an era where race relations are at the forefront this sets South Dakota back 100 years. The entire social studies curriculum has been white-washed. All of our students deserve to be taught honest unbiased curriculum. People who are afraid of this type of honesty should not be involved in making decisions for our students and schools.
12	Angela	Stover	Church	SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

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13	Liz	Welch	Business and/or Industry	<p>These standards perpetuate the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state's history.</p> <p>It is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings-- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin (People of the 7 Council Fires) of South Dakota. "The hope is that citizens who are well educated about the Oceti Sakowin history and culture will be more likely to make better decisions in the arena of Indian issues and to get along better with one another." - Lakota Scholar, Dr. Craig Howe 2010</p> <p>Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated.</p>
14	Samantha	Peil	K-12 Educator	<p>I am responding both as a parent of children in elementary, middle, and high school and a South Dakota educator. Do not disregard the work of the dedicated team of educators and historians who collaborated on these standards. Seek public comment on the July draft of the standards from before your administration removed many references to Oceti Sakowin, Indigenous history, and critical thinking. The changes you made do not provide clarity.</p>
15	Mary	Haan	Organization or Agency	<p>Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose. We cannot adopt this standard without more input from the Oceti Sakowin tribes. This Social Studies Standard is Indigenous erasure and must not be adopted. There are so many things that need to be changed! I am so disappointed in this. As a business owner, concerned parent, and founder of a nonprofit community center, I had hoped for better for our beloved students.</p> <p>Definitions for the following need to be revised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Culture</li> <li>-Oceti Sakowin</li> <li>-Indigenous/Native American</li> </ul>
16	Amy	Nelson	Parent	<p>I am very concerned about these changes and feel they are being made for political reasons. Our children should learn all aspects of our history and not realize decades in the future that their knowledge is incomplete and crucial groups were not included.</p>

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17	Caitlyn	Shoulder	Concerned community member	<p>It is not only concerning to see the efforts and labor of the South Dakota Department of Education, a group entrusted with the task of developing out the Social Studies curriculum, being thrown to the waist side by State legislators and Governor Noem but to also see these leaders active and continued attempt at silencing and erasing the Indigenous and Oceti Sakowin narratives from our public education systems is problematic. If we want our youth to be cognoscente, critically thinking contributors to our community and society as a whole, the way that the State Legislators and Noem are going about this is wrong and creates distrust in their abilities to serve in their role as community servants. The shared history of this region and the basic understandings of social studies are being stripped away from our youth who deserve the chance to develop their own ideals about the US and its interactions with Indigenous Nations. Another area of concern is the issue of lies the legislation has voiced when it comes to the inclusion of OSEU on this round of curriculum updates. The blatant neglect to inform and get meaningful and maximum consultation with Oceti Sakowin tribes prior to this release shows the legislatures continued lack of inclusion and support of Tribal Nations. This new release feels more of a political agenda being pushed by Noem rather than a critical and caring assessment of what our youth need to become their best selves and contributing members of our community.</p>
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18	Dawn	Arkinson-Red Cloud	Parent	<p>The proposed draft:                  *Is not reflective of the consensus of the work group.</p> <p>*Meaningful and maximum consultation with Oceti Sakowin tribes was not conducted prior to the release of this proposal.</p> <p>*Perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state's history.</p> <p>*Perpetuates the sentiments of assimilation that were introduced with the boarding school movement.</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings-- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin (People of the 7 Council Fires) of South Dakota. "The hope is that citizens who are well educated about the Oceti Sakowin history and culture will be more likely to make better decisions in the arena of Indian issues and to get along better with one another." - Lakota Scholar, Dr. Craig Howe 2010</p> <p>*Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated.</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of any other forms of diversity represented in our state.</p> <p>+D24</p> <p>*Preface is consistent with the "The 1776 Pledge to Save Our Schools" proclamation, is partisan, and does not belong in content standards.</p> <p>*Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose.</p> <p>*Politics should not play a role in education.</p> <p>*Is an attempt at political indoctrination.</p> <p>*Endorses Governor Noem's personal and political agenda.</p>
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19	Tanisha	Pourier	K-12 Educator	<p>*Meaningful and maximum consultation with Oceti Sakowin tribes was not conducted prior to the release of this proposal.</p> <p>*Perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state's history.</p> <p>*Perpetuates the sentiments of assimilation that were introduced with the boarding school movement.</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings-- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin (People of the 7 Council Fires) of South Dakota. "The hope is that citizens who are well educated about the Oceti Sakowin history and culture will be more likely to make better decisions in the arena of Indian issues and to get along better with one another." - Lakota Scholar, Dr. Craig Howe 2010</p> <p>*Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated.</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of any other forms of diversity represented in our state.</p> <p>*Preface is consistent with the "The 1776 Pledge to Save Our Schools" proclamation, is partisan, and does not belong in content standards.</p> <p>*Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose.</p> <p>*Politics should not play a role in education.</p> <p>*Is an attempt at political indoctrination.</p> <p>*Endorses Governor Noem's personal and political agenda.</p>
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20	Treasure	Murphy	Parent	<p>The proposed draft is not reflective of the consensus of the work group. Meaningful and maximum consultation with Oceti Sakowin tribes was not conducted prior to the release of this proposal.</p> <p>*Perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state's history.</p> <p>*Perpetuates the sentiments of assimilation that were introduced with the boarding school movement.</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings-- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin (People of the 7 Council Fires) of South Dakota. "The hope is that citizens who are well educated about the Oceti Sakowin history and culture will be more likely to make better decisions in the arena of Indian issues and to get along better with one another." - Lakota Scholar, Dr. Craig Howe 2010</p> <p>*Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated.</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of any other forms of diversity represented in our state.</p> <p>*Preface is consistent with the "The 1776 Pledge to Save Our Schools" proclamation, is partisan, and does not belong in content standards.</p> <p>*Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose.</p> <p>*Politics should not play a role in education.</p>
21	Cierra	Sazue	Parent	<p>The Oceti Sakowin Community should be involved in this process and SD students should learn their true history which involves the people indigenous to this place.</p>
22	Happy	New Year	K-12 Educator	<p>this makes me sick as an educator. My degree is in global studies and history. We can't change the past but we CAN prevent it from happening again... but if we can't teach it, we can't learn from it... and it will keep happening.</p>

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23	Lyn	Tysdal	K-12 Educator	<p> The question is, WHY the last minute change!</p> <p>*Meaningful and maximum consultation with Oceti Sakowin tribes was not conducted prior to the release of this proposal. We have gifted and talented expertise that want to coordinate!</p> <p>*Perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state's history. Our indigenous and meaningful history is imperative to share with SD students!</p> <p>*Perpetuates the sentiments of assimilation that were introduced with the boarding school movement. Time to teach true historical facts, inclusive of treaties etc.....</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings-- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin (People of the 7 Council Fires) of South Dakota. "The hope is that citizens who are well educated about the Oceti Sakowin history and culture will be more likely to make better decisions in the arena of Indian issues and to get along better with one another." - Lakota Scholar, Dr. Craig Howe 2010 Combine this with SD curriculum!</p> <p>*Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated. So, let's get them updated!</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of any other forms of diversity represented in our state. Time for the SD curriculums to catch up!</p> <p>*Preface is consistent with the "The 1776 Pledge to Save Our Schools" proclamation, is partisan, and does not belong in content standards. NO!!!!!!</p> <p>*Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose.</p>
24	Riley	Johnson	Concerned South Dakotan	<p>Americans live on stolen lands, where our ancestors did commit horrendous acts against the Native American population. I hate that I did not get the chance to learn any of this in school. As a South Dakotan especially, we should be requiring Native American history to be a part of the curriculum. We have one of the largest populations of Native Americans in the U.S. Native American children and caucasian students deserve to know their history. It's not political, it's history that we've left out of curriculums on purpose. Germany studies their mass genocide in order to prevent it from happening again -- we need to as well. Please, please teach my future children all of American history.</p>



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25	Katie	Frieden	K-12 Educator	As an educator and parent of a student in the South Dakota public school system I am disappointed in the social studies standards revisions. The removal of references to Native American peoples, specifically the Oceti Sakowin people that currently inhabit South Dakota is wrong. I teach in a school where there is a significant Lakota population and the current materials are often foreign to the culture of my students. Without the effort of educators to include their culture and history, the only history they are exposed to is "white history". Surely we recognize that not everyone who makes up the nation or state is of European descent and that many different stories and cultures are represented in the State of South Dakota. I myself am Caucasian and can recognize the importance of teaching a comprehensive history of the state and nation. As educators we utilize Oceti Sakowin standards as approved by the South Dakota Department of Education but this same department is deleting similar references from other content standards, in spite of the hard work done by educators and a revision team to write comprehensive standards. This is inconsistent and incorrect. Support our students by continuing to implement teaching about the Oceti Sakowin people who live in South Dakota, work in South Dakota, and attend schools in this state.
26	Andrew	DeCoteau	School Administrator	I can't believe that we have taken out a major part of the history of South Dakota by removed Indigenous topics from the standards but yet you require us to take classes on the Indigenous people. It's sad enough that half the people in the state of South Dakota know little or nothing about Indigenous people and now they will know less! Indigenous People need to be part of our state standards!
27	Andrea	Stanosheck	Social Studies Standards Workgroup Member	First and foremost, the usual revision process did not happen. Changes were made without the consent of the revision work team.
28	Andrea	Stanosheck	Social Studies Standards Workgroup Member	The document looks as if the revision work team wrote it in its entirety. There are no other authors listed. This is unacceptable.
29	Andrea	Stanosheck	Social Studies Standards Workgroup Member	Over 50% of the references to Indigenous people were removed from the document. For example, this standard was completely removed from the 5th grade standards: Describe the impact other countries had on Indigenous Native Americans in North and South America through exploration, conflict, and colonization. Instead, this standard was added: 5.H.2.2 Describe the influence of other countries on North America through exploration and conflict. The 5th grade team had these two standards listed in the original document: Explain how events and activities in one place affect people living in other places using the 6 Essential Elements of Geography. Explain how natural resources and migration affected the lives and culture of the Oceti Sakowin Oyate. The above standards were combined into the following, with reference to the "Oceti Sakowin Oyate" completely removed. 5.G.6.1: Using the 6 Essential Elements of Geography, explain how natural resources, events, and activities, affected the various lives and cultures of the people in South Dakota. This is unacceptable.

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30	Andrea	Stanosheck	Social Studies Standards Workgroup Member	A political preface was added to the beginning of the standards. We had worked very hard to keep this document apolitical.
31	Andrea	Stanosheck	Social Studies Standards Workgroup Member	Each grade level wrote Inquiry standards. These were removed or moved to other areas of the document, although the Department required each of us to be trained in how to write inquiry standards prior to our meeting in Pierre. Here are some examples of inquiry standards that were deleted from the 5th grade standards: Use democratic procedures to make decisions about civic issues in the school. Use information about a historical source (including the maker, date, place of origin, intended audience, and purpose) to judge the validity of the source. This is unacceptable.
32	Robyn	Ventura	K-12 Educator	I am very upset that the standards were modified to take out so much Native American history. This is such a huge part of our state's past and we should be promoting unity between all cultures by teaching Native history as well.
33	Andrea	Stanosheck	Social Studies Standards Workgroup Member	I implore you to revert back to the original set of standards that the revision group submitted.
34	Cassi	Pietz	Parent	As a parent of 3 students attending school in the state of South Dakota, I am disgusted with the white washing of the SD social studies content standards. Just because history contains things and events that we are not proud of, does not mean that those things are not worth learning. Students deserve to learn about the culture of the people who first inhabited the lands that we are living on. It is a crucial and important part of their education. I want them to learn about the real history that landed settlers here. Without learning from history, we are doomed to repeat it. I urge you to fix the content standards and revert back to the decisions made by the work group before changes were made without their consent or knowledge. We owe it to the indigenous people of our state and to all children.
35	Carla	Douglas	Self employed	If critical thinking and understanding of the true history of this country and it's occupants, then civilization as we should come to know it as could be lost forever. Also, by omitting truths about the social constraints of society will only manipulate the minds of those to believe one way than to be able to give the understanding of true events by its actors. The Hitler era tried to whitewash the history of Germany's history and even burned the books that contradict the favored outcome of the Nazi regime. It seems the White Supremacists, KKKRISTI noem, and the republican party is going to do everything they can to whitewash the true history. If our future can't have the true understanding of the past. How are they ever going to stop the past from recurring again and to make our future more brighter.

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36	Matt	Kost	Parent	Please do not remove our Native history from the books, teach our children what really happened in our state and country. This is insane to remove from our schools.
37	Sheena	Welker	Parent	We need to teach our kids the truth of our wrong doing as a country against people of color. In addition we must learn about Native American culture and their history. Knowledge is how we learn tolerance and understanding. Redue the standards!
38	Cassi	Pietz	K-12 Educator	As an educator who spends copious amounts of time pouring over standards and planning lessons, I am completely disgusted by the changes made by unnamed sources to the content standards after the work group had approved them. This is underhanded and completely undermines any future committee work that you invite South Dakota educators to participate in. How do you expect educators to trust the DOE for future standard review and development? Why does it not indicate who made the changes? Why did the changes not go to the workgroup for review? The educators who were a part of the workgroup disagree with the changes and deletions that were made. They have also indicated that they were not made aware of changes which in my opinion are major changes to the language and wording of the standards. Can anyone explain why this happened? When I was a college student studying to become an educator, I was required to take a course on Indian education. Without that course, I could not be certified as an educator in the state of South Dakota. What has happened in our state that we no longer value students learning about the indigenous people that once populated our land? When did that become an unimportant factor in educating the youth of South Dakota?
39	Nicoli	Poitra	Community member	It has become increasingly worrisome how quickly those who are in charge of curriculum are striking and gutting all programs about native and indigenous peoples history. The erasure of human history to better benefit the ideals of bigots and racism is what seems to be happening here.
40	Melinda	Williams	K-12 Educator	I want to go on record that I am embarrassed for our state education department for gutting the standards proposed by your team of educational professionals. To remove focus on teaching about indigenous people who are integral in the history of our state and our country from the standards once again reinforces the misconception of inferiority. You have blatantly announced to the world that truth does not matter and that racism is alive and strong in South Dakota. Education should be to enlighten and open minds to truth and knowledge that facilitates discernment, growth and progress. Your intentional editing of an important component of SD--indeed, of the United States--is anything but that. We should not be threatened by what real and accurate history reveals; we should use it to help reflect upon how far we have come and where we need to go. I have spent a lifetime in education as a student and then a teacher for 40 years. For the first time in my life, I am ashamed of the educational leadership in SD. Think carefully about what lessons a move like this will teach our youth...
41	Ryan	Swanson	K-12 Educator	These new "revisions" and exclusions do a huge disservice to all of our students, teachers and citizens. We cannot erase the history, good or bad, from our state. We must continue to learn about all of our areas citizens throughout time and continue to grow our knowledge of how everything from the past has impacted our current situations. That is civics education, these new standards are an erasure of a group of people, and of a history we must learn from.
42	Beth	Severson	K-12 Educator	Please use the standards as decided on by the committee and not the ones revised by an anonymous source. The process to write them takes time and a very thoughtful process. Changing them to fit a political agenda is wrong.

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43	Tressa	Wedde	Higher Education	I am extremely disappointed in the way this has been handled. How do we expect teachers to teach South Dakota history with the the omissions that have been made. I also find it disrespectful to the panel of educators that worked on this and were disregarded without consultation. It seems reckless and sneaky.
44	Cody	Severson	Business and/or Industry	Please use the standards as decided on by the committee and not the ones revised by an anonymous source. The process to write them takes time and a very thoughtful process. Changing them to fit a political agenda is wrong.
45	Brooke	McLellan	K-12 Educator	<p>The SD Department of Education released a proposed new set of Social Studies Standards of which, the Standards Work Group stated, are not reflective of the consensus draft they worked on earlier this summer. One of the most notable cuts from their draft is content related to the narrative of the Oceti Sakowin.</p> <p>THIS IS NOT OKAY.</p> <p>The proposed draft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Is not reflective of the consensus of the work group.</li> <li>*Meaningful and maximum consultation with Oceti Sakowin tribes was not conducted prior to the release of this proposal.</li> <li>*Perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state's history.</li> <li>*Perpetuates the sentiments of assimilation that were introduced with the boarding school movement.</li> <li>*Is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings-- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin (People of the 7 Council Fires) of South Dakota. "The hope is that citizens who are well educated about the Oceti Sakowin history and culture will be more likely to make better decisions in the arena of Indian issues and to get along better with one another." - Lakota Scholar, Dr. Craig Howe 2010</li> <li>*Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated.</li> <li>*Is not inclusive of any other forms of diversity represented in our state.</li> <li>*Preface is consistent with the "The 1776 Pledge to Save Our Schools" proclamation, is partisan, and does not belong in content standards.</li> <li>*Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose.</li> <li>*Politics should not play a role in education.</li> <li>*Is an attempt at political indoctrination.</li> <li>*Endorses Governor Noem's personal and political agenda.</li> <li>*Definitions for the following need to be revised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Culture</li> <li>-Oceti Sakowin</li> <li>-Indigenous/Native American+D52</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>PLEASE. Honor the people who inhabited this land before us. Honor the educators who took time during their "break" and whose names are on this document, despite the changes they did not agree to. This is not okay. It's okay to learn, grow, and do better. Modeling for our children and scholars is not a realistic expectation if it doesn't start with our Department of Ed and other government programs that claim to offer "equity" and "honesty".</p>
46	Joyce	Schieffer	Retired teacher	The social studies standards do not represent the work the committee worked on and are only reflective of Governor Noem's political agenda. Please revise them to their original source.

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47	Cindy	Holzer	K-12 Educator	South Dakota social studies standards need to be more transparent in regards to Native American history and culture, not less as being presented now. It cannot be hidden the atrocities that were committed against Native American people in SD. Native and non-native people alike need to know the history that brought us where we are today. With knowledge comes power, we need to empower all students with every side of history so that they can learn from it. If this proposal is passed, it will set back relationships between state and tribes for decades. This is absolutely a step in the wrong direction and needs to be revised to reflect the input that was provided!
48	Jessica	Rogers	Parent	The removal of agreed upon standards related the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings is a political stunt, and is NOT in the best interest of our students. Standards like these teach our children to be afraid of facing hard truths. Our schools should be the LAST place to promote ignorance. I am simply appalled.
49	katherine	kemp	Student	it's wrong, stupid, racist, and it is an absolutely terrible idea and you should not be removing the Indigenous history !!
50	Ed	Stover	Parent	Native American studies and history are integral components to educating our children in the history of our communities.
51	Chanda	Spotted Eagle	Parent	I am referencing the entire document not being accepted in its original entirety as many educational professionals were paid by our tax dollars to complete over the summer.

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52	Michelle	Comeau	New to community	<p>My practicum a few years ago allowed me to ask 8th grade Indigenous/Natives what they wanted in their social studies. They said "start with the Thanksgiving Day lie and how about mentioning relocation of people to prison camps at the Eli Whitney Cotton gin boom." To not include Indigenous/Native history especially local history is an attempt to perpetuate a single supremacist narrative.</p> <p>*Is not reflective of the consensus of the work group.</p> <p>*Meaningful and maximum consultation with Oceti Sakowin tribes was not conducted prior to the release of this proposal.</p> <p>*Perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state's history.</p> <p>*Perpetuates the sentiments of assimilation that were introduced with the boarding school movement.</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings-- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin (People of the 7 Council Fires) of South Dakota. "The hope is that citizens who are well educated about the Oceti Sakowin history and culture will be more likely to make better decisions in the arena of Indian issues and to get along better with one another." - Lakota Scholar, Dr. Craig Howe 2010</p> <p>*Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated.</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of any other forms of diversity represented in our state.</p> <p>*Preface is consistent with the "The 1776 Pledge to Save Our Schools" proclamation, is partisan, and does not belong in content standards.</p> <p>*Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose.</p> <p>*Definitions for the following need to be revised:          -Culture          -Oceti Sakowin          -Indigenous/Native American</p>
53	Teresa	Engebretson	Citizen	<p>All removed references to Native Americans should be re-instated. It is not the job of the DOE to edit the recommendations of the review workgroup.</p>
54	Elizabeth	Renbarger	K-12 Educator	<p>We cannot get rid of any Oceti standards. We cannot ignore our Native American populations and history. Native American History IS South Dakota history. I am disappointed that we sent educators to work on standards and signed them, just for the state to throw out and adjust what they didn't like without consulting those who spend time in classrooms. Those who made the standards understand classroom and educational needs, and somehow the state turned it political.</p>
55	Jennifer	Millard	Parent & Paraprofessional	<p>I have the pleasure of working in a middle school and being involved in social studies classes for grades 6, 7, and 8. I feel these presented changes, many which go against the suggestions of the revision work team - a group of highly educated people sought out for that fact, will do the opposite of what the original groups goal was - to help the students of South Dakota. I fail to understand why such changes were made from the original recommendations. As a mother, it pains me to see plans that will stunt the educational growth of my child.</p>

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	56 Niklas	Peters	Organization or Agency	<p>The newly revised SD Social Studies Standards are a brazen attempt to inculcate our students with blind patriotism and ultra-conservative ideology. The proposed draft is not reflective of the consensus of the working group. This revision perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state’s history. It is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings -- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin. Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated.</p> <p>My first statement is most clearly demonstrated by the nonsense written in the Preface, which is consistent with the “The 1776 Pledge to Save Our Schools” proclamation, is partisan, and does not belong in content standards.</p> <p>Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose.</p> <p>Additionally the following definitions for the following need to be revised:          -Culture          -Oceti Sakowin          -Indigenous/Native American</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to a new revision that is consistent with the working group consensus and includes maximum consultation with Native educators and members of the Oceti Sakowin.</p>
	57 Ann	Jacobsen	Parent	<p>I thought of my son’s Recent Social Studies class immediately when I saw this. More importantly, I thought of the joy I had hearing about everything Ty learned about the Native American culture and our state’s history. Then, my cup ran over when he taught it to Wes, my 1st grader, who is still so intrigued.</p> <p>I do not support these changes and it hurts my heart to know the children of this beautiful state will not learn about its history as they should! You removed key activities and topics that are vital to their understanding of the culture and history.</p>
	58 Deb	Hinderaker	Former educator	<p>As a former educator I am appalled by how a few can ruin the work of professional educators. I have revised and updated standards when I was teaching and it is a lot of work. Teachers work hard to write standards that will meet the students’ educational needs. It makes me sad to hear this but I am not surprised.</p>

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59	Derek	Brenner	K-12 Educator	<p>Hello,</p> <p>As an educator in the state of South Dakota I am ashamed that these standards revisions are being introduced. The state workgroup did not endorse these decisions. As a state it is disgusting that we would work towards a less inclusive space. The Oceti Sakowin standards are essential for students to understand. Native American students deserve to know and understand their culture that has been taken away from them numerous times, while non-Native American students benefit from learning more about the cultures that used to inhabit these lands. Only through understanding and compassion will make steps forward. South Dakota is home to some of the poorest areas in the nation with some of those areas being on reservations. Ignorance will only serve to exacerbate these problems. Taking these standards out will hurt all students and is an obvious attempt by higher ups to politicize the k-12 setting. Schools should be a safe space for all and removing these standards will undoubtedly make them less so. Please stop politicizing k-12 setting. You are in all seriousness endangering student lives by taking away a sense of pride many Native American students take in learning where they come from and the obstacles they have overcome.</p>
60	Kate	Hogan	Parent	<p>Your revisions are underhanded and disrespectful to the people who worked so hard to draft the standards. Your revisions reflect how little you respect history. 30yrs ago Governor Mickelson devoted so much time to fostering relations with Native American tribes. We were the 1st in the nation to commemorate Native American Day. Your revisions spit on his legacy. they also do so much damage to current relations, and they disrespect the students of our state who deserve to know our history—the good, the bad, and the ugly. It breaks my heart that there are so many of you who are so insecure about our history.</p>
61	Mark	Woodraska	Parent	<p>The DOE should not be making large changes to a Social Studies curriculum submitted by the Social Studies Standards Workgroup. Put back the sections to teach our great South Dakota students about its true history and quit trying to whitewash history to remove any wrongs done to the indigenous or the ability to learn about the indigenous people of North America and their culture.</p>
62	Leah	Bothamley	Parent	<p>In a State who's teachers are paid the lowest in the nation, explain to me how spending \$900,000 to wipe out Native American history makes any sense at all. That... is fundamentally shameful</p>
63	Kurt	Huber	Parent	<p>They are terrible. You had a much better document that you didn't fully use. Stop playing politics and do better.</p>
64	Amy	Smith	Parent	<p>Why are standards relating to the history of the indigenous peoples of our state being deleted without approval of the review committee? White washing our history isn't teaching history. Sorry it makes you uncomfortable that our white ancestors did horrendous acts to the indigenous people of SD - ignoring the history doesn't mean it just goes away and didn't happen. Shameful, sneaky dealings here. SD will once again make the national news for all the WRONG reasons once again.</p>
65	Allison	Fluth	Parent	<p>It is disappointing as a South Dakota resident and parent to see the social studies curriculum be politicized into a curriculum that the reigning political party wants it to be rather than a meaningful education in social studies. To find out that the standards were changed without approval or notification of the committee is startling, and does not inspire faith in the South Dakota Dept of Education. If we want to attract and retain the best educators in South Dakota, we need to lead the way with quality curriculum standards, and that means leaving political theater out of the classroom. I do not think these new standards represent the best interests of students in South Dakota.</p>



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66	Brian	Plahn	Parent	<p>So in order to teach in South Dakota you are required to take a Lakota/Dakota Indian studies class but why are we white washing the history of the indigenous tribes.</p> <p>I use to teach 4th and 5th grade Social science and we talked about the tribes and contributions we did not cover things like scalping or casterating natives to be used as coin purses. This is a disgrace to South Dakota history and I can not believe things were removed without the committee's consent.</p>
67	Taylor	Wilkins	Student	<p>People need to learn about Native American culture. Because the native American people were here first. That would also mean if we took out learning about people we would not be able to teach about Wounded Knee which is a major event in history. So if you don't want to talk about a major event in history then we can take out Native American history. You want to talk about a major event in history then keep native American history.</p>
68	Stephanie	Nielsen-medeck	higher education/parent	<p>The newest draft changes to the social studies standards are simply put, a blatant attempt at political indoctrination caused by fear-mongering. It perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state's history, and to be frank with you, this may be the straw that broke the camel's back for my husband and I- we are both college/masters-level graduates, and if the SD schools continue on this sad path against critical-thinking, we absolutely plan on moving out of the state in the next few years prior to our child being old enough to attend public school in the state. Our child (and frankly, every child) deserves a well-rounded education where multiple viewpoints are presented, and unfortunately, I have very little faith that can be found in the state of South Dakota when actions like this are taken.</p>

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				<p>*Meaningful and maximum consultation with Oceti Sakowin tribes was not conducted prior to the release of this proposal.</p> <p>*Perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state’s history.</p> <p>*Perpetuates the sentiments of assimilation that were introduced with the boarding school movement.</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings-- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin (People of the 7 Council Fires) of South Dakota. “The hope is that citizens who are well educated about the Oceti Sakowin history and culture will be more likely to make better decisions in the arena of Indian issues and to get along better with one another.” - Lakota Scholar, Dr. Craig Howe 2010</p> <p>*Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated.</p> <p>*Is not inclusive of any other forms of diversity represented in our state.</p> <p>*Preface is consistent with the “The 1776 Pledge to Save Our Schools” proclamation, is partisan, and does not belong in content standards.</p> <p>*Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose.</p> <p>*Politics should not play a role in education.</p> <p>*Is an attempt at political indoctrination.</p> <p>*Endorses Governor Noem’s personal and political agenda.</p>
69	Josephine	Fire	Parent	<p>*Definitions for the following need to be revised:</p>
70	Martin	Dennis	Parent	<p>I am disappointed but not surprised that Gov. Noem’s Dept of Ed staff would change the Social Studies content standards without discussion with the standards work group. I am especially disappointed but out surprised that Dept of Ed staff removed so many references to Native American culture and history. History is not hagiography: whitewashing the complexities of European relations with Native Americans does neither our students nor the citizens of South Dakota any good.</p>

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71	Margaret	Swick	Very concerned SD resident	I think it is appalling that undisclosed individuals should be able to re-write/delete/adjust ANY of the SD Social Studies Standards proposed by a committee of very well qualified educators and citizens specifically called together for the purpose of writing/revising those standards. The standards should be presented to the public for comment in it's original form NOT in it's altered form. Any reasonable revisions/changes should then be made in response to what the citizens of SD want NOT what the SD government wants. (I particularly object to the removal of any of the proposed standards involving our Native American people)
72	Sadie	Bossert	K-12 Educator	I am appalled at the changes that were made to the Social Studies Standards by the DOE. Without consulting the team that created/adjusted the standards, you decided to completely omit or change the wording on several standards. Almost every mention of our Native American citizens was removed, and the preface was extremely partisan and politically motivated. We need to rely on the experts - EDUCATORS - and not politicians when shaping our state curriculum. This is a slap in the face to our current teachers, as well as to the Native American population in our state. Do better for our kids. This is absolutely ridiculous.
73	R	J	K-12 Educator	I feel all standards related to the Oceti Sakowin Oyate contained in the work group draft should be included as they were written. It is shameful that the state would reduce education about the indigenous people that reside here. Knowledge leads to understanding.
74	Jamie	Van Winkle	K-12 Educator	The fact that a large portion of the work that the committee completed was disregarded is a travesty. We have professional educators, that are working in the field, making informed decisions for our students and educators. To make significant changes to the South Dakota Social Studies Standards without sharing with the committee is nothing short of disrespectful. Return the standards to what the committee worked on or remove the names of the committee members and replace with the names of those responsible for making the changes. This is no place for politics or governmental overstepping. Shame on the DOE!!!
75	Rogene	Brown	South Dakota resident, Human being interested in equal education in public schools	I find it UNBELIEVABLE that in this time of trying to unify the United States, that you would dare to remove and basically whitewash the history of indigenous people, especially in our state, where we should be embracing the different cultures that can make our state wonderful in its diversity! Please reverse cutting those references in the historical studies for our students.

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76	Gwen	Skar	Former SD educatoe	<p>As a former SD educator, who left the state for better opportunities, I know how little the educators of SD are valued. Your actions in changing and removing parts of the social studies group's documents highlight that even more. Having been on a standards writing committee in the past, I know how strenuous the work can be. I also know how seriously the educators take the process. Despite being one of the lowest paid and most undervalued, SD educators still work hard. They still give it their best. They do this not for accolades but for their students. This document was written with students in mind.</p> <p>Not the governor or her agenda.</p> <p>In perverting their document, you are setting a dangerous precedent for future standard writing: "do as the governor says or we'll do it for you."</p> <p>What you have done is unethical. A student would be penalized for this action.</p> <p>Erasing a few lines doesn't erase the indigenous people of SD nor does it erase the long history of abuse and oppression against their culture (nor does it erase the abuse by governor Noem). It also doesn't give students the chance to learn from it and do better. Or make amends for what our state has done in the past.</p> <p>What you have done is wrong.</p> <p>The standards need to revert to the group's work.</p> <p>The person who made changes and made it appear as if it was the group's work needs to be held accountable. They should be fired or resign.</p> <p>If you choose not to do the right thing, at least the educators of SD can do it for you. Fortunately, educators know the difference between standards and curriculum, so they can still teach all the things you deleted.</p>
77	Kyla	Schuster	K-12 Educator	<p>The youth of South Dakota need and deserve to learn about the indigenous people who were here long before us. The students in my classroom who are descendants of those people deserve to learn about their ancestors. They deserve to feel seen in our classrooms, lessons, and standards. Please put them back! Politics and discrimination have no home in the choices for our children's education.</p>
78	Jamin	Hubner	Higher Education	<p>Ive taught as a professor at Western Dakota Tech and professor at several other universities, and served as an administrator in higher ed for many years. The intentional eradication of indigenous history in the 21st century - from South Dakota curriculum in particular, is unconscionable and a national embarrassment.</p>
79	Elizabeth	Lundquist	Parent	<p>I side with the workgroup and against SD DOE's needless revisions. I got excited when I learned my little kindergartner would hear Oceti Sakowin stories and that there would be (hopefully) substantial Native American culture and history taught in our schools each year thereafter. It's 2021 -- let's get with the (multicultural) program! Most parents can teach their kids about George Washington, Jefferson, etc., themselves. But how many parents can teach their kids who Sitting Bull was, or about the Oceti Sakowin method of banking, etc.? This paucity of Native American learning is embarrassing for our state, the SD DOE, and Governor Noem. Please go back to implementing the standards that the workgroup proposed. Thank you.</p>

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80	Shannon	Steckelberg	Parent	It is very disappointing to me that the DOE was obviously influenced by politicians when it comes to my Children's education. If we do not know or study true history how can we learn from the mistakes of our ancestors and grow as one nation? "When you know better you do better". Omitting information about history does not make it go away. It does not help teach understanding of others struggles, it does not teach empathy or compassion. It leads to one way of thinking and makes for a boring world. Please consider approving the original version our educators worked hard at drafting. Luckily even if these things are not taught in school I have already started teaching my fourth grader and kindergartener because I know longer trust the DOE to do the right thing and leave politics out of our schools.
81	Heidi	Galer	Parent	You can't teach SD history/social studies without indigenous history
82	Donna	Larvie	K-12 Educator	I am very saddened and disappointed that you wasted the 50 educators time of having them developed standards that were relevant to the majority of the students of South Dakota and changing them to fit you and the governors thinking! We Native Americans were here way before your people and we already know much if your narrative of the history of south Dakota. Our children need to know their own history which you are once again trying to erase. Put your name on it so we know who was really responsible for the omissions!!
83	Sean	Bradley	K-12 Educator	The preface was changed to more closely align with the 1776 Project that Noem is so in love with. References to Native Americans and their contributions were removed. You have dishonored and disrespected the hard work of the educators and dedicated professionals who gave up part of their summer to help make sure the students of the state of SD were truly prepared for the 21st century. How dare you.
84	Charlie	Solomon	K-12 Educator	As a South Dakota educator, I find it appalling that the standards surrounding Oceti Sakowin education are being removed. This is a massive part of South Dakota history, and to remove these standards is to completely disregard all the atrocities that were committed against Native Peoples in South Dakota and across our nation. While I'm not a social studies teacher, I've taken Native American studies courses and know the positive impact it had on my understanding of our state. Some history is unpleasant to learn; however, ignoring history is unacceptable. It is not only important for students across our state to understand Oceti Sakowin culture, but it is also important for all students to recognize the lasting negative effects violence, colonialism, boarding schools, and inherently racist public policy have had on Native Peoples in South Dakota and across the country. Please keep standards involving Native American studies in the state social studies standards.
85	Megan	Burgard	Parent	Cutting Native American History from the proposed education created by experts is absolutely ridiculous. Only telling half the story does little to support cultural growth in our children. It is a disservice to the people of our state and absolutely appalling that elected officials are not using the best evidence provided by experts in the field to guide decision making. The state should be ashamed that they bury the true history of our state from students.
86	Nick	Rotella	K-12 Educator	Please do your best to undo the recent censoring of indigenous standards that were removed. Listen to the teachers that were on the committee. You had them for a reason. Use their expertise.
87	Ronnettr	Johnson	Parent	Children deserve to learn about all cultures not just about white culture.
88	Glen	Meyer	K-12 Educator	I'm incredibly disappointed with the changes made after the work group finished. We have a right to know who made those changes. I would be ashamed to use these standards in my classroom.

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89	Shannon	Wright	Parent	The changes made to the Standards, most especially the erasure of references to indigenous peoples is absolutely unacceptable and reprehensible. The people of this state demand transparency in knowing the names of those who made the changes after the report had been submitted. The corruption of our state government knows no bounds and it is not acceptable.
90	Scott	Brink	K-12 Educator	I am disgusted by the underhanded, last minute omissions in the SD social studies standards related to indigenous peoples. I left South Dakota after teaching HS social studies for five years to teach overseas because of the low pay and respect teachers receive in the state. With Noem as governor and the omission of curriculum involving indigenous peoples, I have no desire to return to the state. I am ashamed at what is happening in the state where I grew up.
91	Lynda	Lee	Parent, grandparent, concerned citizen	The revision process was not followed. The people who served on the committee were not informed to the changes made on the document they submitted. The people who did make significant changes are not listed on the document. The new preface is a political statement. The original preface was apolitical and concise. We need our social studies curriculum to be inclusive of all people's that live within our state and our country. We need to teach our students that America is a great nation and we are all proud of our country. But we need to be aware of what we as a state and as a country did right as well as wrong so we don't repeat similar mistakes. History is the best teacher of that. Over 50% of any standards referring to the indigenous people of SD have been removed or generically watered down. That is unacceptable without discussion and consent of the revision committee and public knowledge. This smacks of rewriting history or leaving out the controversial parts for controlling our students learning and not allowing our whole history to be taught. There is no room for that type of authoritarian propaganda in our education system.
92	Maren	Fischer	Parent	My concern is for the overall disregard for the committee's agreed upon standards. Why does the department of education take it upon themselves to write standards? I also feel that the changes have a very political presence and that is not good for creating well-rounded and open minded citizens. Maybe that is the point, they don't want open minded students, they want to make sure everyone thinks like them and doesn't receive all information to form their own opinions. I am a mom first, educator second and I am concerned about the rhetoric coming from our government.
93	Danielle	Teigen	Parent	I am so disappointed to see so many references to indigenous people have been removed from these new standards. That is wrong. The process of removing them after the revision committee did its work is also wrong. Children deserve to get a full, well-rounded education not a whitewashed one. Let's educate our children to understand how marginalized groups have been treated in the past so they can be part of the solution to ensure that doesn't continue happening in the future. The Department of Education should have known better. Our children deserve better. Reinstate the references and implement the revised standards the committee you put in place recommended.
94	Tyler	Becker	K-12 Educator	Stop trying to censor history so feelings don't get hurt. What is wrong with you? South Dakota needs to remember that what happened to Native Americans was wrong and to help them now. Stop bringing politics and one's own personal ambition into the classroom!

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95	Genevieve	Klinkhammer	K-12 Educator	Each year I teach the Oceti Sakowin standards, I start with an ice breaker activity. Just last year I had my students write on sticky notes everything they know/think they know about American Indians. They all look around uncomfortably until I nudge them into remembering this is a safe space and before we can begin this unit we need to understand what's true and what's not. A few things I learned by going over these sticky notes is large amounts of students don't know - 1) they shop and wear clothing similar to ours 2) they have housing and running water 3) they live in communities 4) they get around in vehicles, bikes, and walking just like in our community. The students of SD have been versed in the thanksgiving supper but not the difficult feelings surrounding that. They don't understand that this culture has evolved and they are functioning modern humans that contribute to our world. They aren't the indigenous that ride ponies, shoot bows and live in teepees. With the standards being severely diminished - we are telling the state of SD that it's ok to not teach about our ancestors, that we can cover the past because it's to difficult for our non colored educators to face. The teachers of this review group have put in so much time and effort to represent our children as a whole. Creating a safe space for everyone to learn that we don't always do it right in the world, but through education and perseverance we can change our past notions that were covered up with fake feathers and Christopher Columbus stories. I urge you to adopt and release the standards they worked so studiously on. SD is native land - we can't cut out a group of people based on a level of comfort. South Dakota indigenous history needs to be heard, we owe them that much!
96	Christopher	Giorlando	School Administrator	I am referencing the general lack of standards regarding the teaching of indigenous history and culture in the present social studies standards of the state. This needs to be rectified considering the importance that Native Americans, such as the Lakota, have had in our state's history.
97	Kari	E Godfrey	family in South Dakota	I feel that the actions taken to remove the histories and impacts of the indigenous peoples from your curriculum is going to extremely and negatively impact not only your students now, but future students as well. It is common knowledge that many of these native people's stories and CORRECT histories are being erased as each new generation arrives and each new generation is met with racist and bigoted obstacles such as this new and revised social studies plan. It is truly heartbreaking to learn that an institution such as the DOE, feels it necessary to essentially erase entire races of peoples that first founded your "Great Faces Great Places" state, in order to revise some convoluted and completely erroneous academic agenda.
98	Asia	Johnson	Parent	How dare you sit on Native land & contribute to the erasure & therefore interwoven genocide of Indigenous people by getting rid of any references of Indigenous people & our history, which predates & intertwines with your white history of America. There are 9 tribes within South Dakota's borders alone. Dakota is an Indigenous name! If you don't want to talk about Indigenous history or people, good luck finding a spot on earth that wasn't ravaged & stolen. Maybe try some parts of Europe? This is completely disgusting.

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99	Ellen	Doerr	Parent	The changes made to the submitted standards if the workgroup are appalling, to add a politically charged preface and remove the references and work of the workgroup standards not only sets a dangerous precedent for a full edit of curriculum by unnamed authors, but it also deliberately ignores the history of our state by editing out the standards included by the workgroup to promote understanding of the cultural landscape of our state. I am disgusted that as a parent of children in the public school district, and a sister of several public educators. The state government is continually slapping our educators in the face with forcing upon them unacceptably edited teaching standards, politically charging classrooms and parent associations, and continually underpaying and overworking the current teaching staff while bragging about budget surplus and wondering why the best minds leave the state. This is reprehensible behavior far below what should be workings of the government. The workgroup did a thorough and thoughtful review and writing of the standards, which should immediately be reinstated in the place of this ghost-edited monstrosity.
100	Alison	Bowers	K-12 Educator	I am very concerned with the major removal of Oceti Sakowin standards and topics. The political preface to this document that was NOT written by the standards revision team who met in Pierre should be removed immediately. This is an apolitical document. Some specific standards that were removed included: Explain how events and activities in one place affect people living in other places using the 6 Essential Elements of Geography. Explain how natural resources and migration affected the lives and culture of the Oceti Sakowin Oyate. The above standards were combined into the following, with reference to the "Oceti Sakowin Oyate" completely removed. 5.G.6.1: Using the 6 Essential Elements of Geography, explain how natural resources, events, and activities, affected the various lives and cultures of the people in South Dakota. This erasure of indigenous culture and the OSEU is absolutely alarming. The person or persons who revised the work of the team of educators should be listed as a coauthor and their revisions should be noted with their names, at minimum.
101	Adam	Martin	Higher Education	The history of the Oceti Sakowin people is intrinsic to the founding of South Dakota and, moreover, the founding of the United States. Removing their history from the South Dakota Social Studies Standards would cause a rewriting of history taught to South Dakota's students. Without Oceti Sakowin history, these standards threaten to codify lying by omission in the classroom. Reinstate the learning standards for Oceti Sakowin history.
102	Rashaun	Potts	Resident of South Dakota	If you form a committee to create a Social study standard and then remove the very content they, (the experts in the matter) you need to answer the public who exactly took part in the erasure of elements in the document and why? You should send back your revisions to the committee and then let them counter your erasure of history topics and then proceed. Anything else is turning this matter into clearly a political one and looks as if you are erasing history to appease the current initiatives out of Noem's office.....



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103	Elizabeth	Day	concerned citizen of South Dakota	<p>First and foremost I want to express how disappointed and disturbed I am that any changes were made to the document without the input from and approval of the original group of people who were tasked with the project and whose names are on the document. I believe this is unethical and deceptive. Withholding the name(s) of the individual(s) who made the changes adds to the secrecy and underhandedness that now surrounds this issue.</p> <p>It is also upsetting to me that most of the changes appear to be the deletion of and changes made to content related to our indigenous people. This is ridiculous and upsetting especially since I believe one of the major tasks of the group was to include more of their culture and history. By limiting this content you are doing a disservice to these proud citizens who have had to live with the atrocities that have been committed against them and the history of abuse and oppression toward their culture.</p> <p>Please do not make our history even more criminal, immoral and abhorrent by trying to erase it or cover it up. The truth should be told; that is what history is, and it should include the history and culture of all of our citizens. I believe we can make our state and country proud by learning from it's past sins and righting it's wrongs.</p> <p>PLEASE SUBMIT THE ORIGINAL DRAFT TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH DAKOTA FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND REVEIW AT THE FUTURE PUBLIC HEARINGS, THE ONE THAT WAS CREATED BY THE ORIGINAL GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO WERE TASKED WITH THE PROJECT AND WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON IT!</p>
104	Lori	Hovde	K-12 Educator	<p>Good morning,</p> <p>I am trying to understand what is going on. Educators where given a chance to take an active roll in developing the new standards. After looking over the list of people who were involved in the revision process, it seems the group was well represented with people from different areas of our state and have diverse ideas when it comes to teaching our students. These individuals used there time and knowledge to prepare standards for our state. Why would "someone" change all their hard work without consulting them at all, after their work was submitted? My vote would be to keep the standards the way the group that was hired prepared their documents.</p> <p>Thank you, Lori</p>

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105	Ramona	Pourier	Higher Education	<p>I am referencing to the Social Studies standards that are to be revised:                      The proposed draft:                      *Is not reflective of the consensus of the work group.                      *Meaningful and maximum consultation with Oceti Sakowin tribes was not conducted prior to the release of this proposal.                      *Perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state's history.                      *Perpetuates the sentiments of assimilation that were introduced with the boarding school movement.                      *Is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings-- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin (People of the 7 Council Fires) of South Dakota. "The hope is that citizens who are well educated about the Oceti Sakowin history and culture will be more likely to make better decisions in the arena of Indian issues and to get along better with one another." - Lakota Scholar, Dr. Craig Howe 2010                      *Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated.                      *Is not inclusive of any other forms of diversity represented in our state.                      *Preface is consistent with the "The 1776 Pledge to Save Our Schools" proclamation, is partisan, and does not belong in content standards.                      *Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose.                      *Politics should not play a role in education.                      *Is an attempt at political indoctrination.                      *Endorses Governor Noem's personal and political agenda.                      *Definitions for the following need to be revised:                      -Culture                      -Oceti Sakowin                      -Indigenous/Native American</p>
106	Carol	Jobman	K-12 Educator	<p>I am writing to encourage the inclusion of the history of indigenous peoples in the recently reviewed South Dakota social studies standards. I have been an educator in South Dakota since 1975. Through those many years in public education I have an acute awareness of the importance of teaching a curriculum that accurately portrays the true history of all South Dakotans. By omitting the teaching of the history of the native South Dakotans, it appears that the SDDOE is in effect "whitewashing" the curriculum. This is nothing less than "curriculum genocide." Please reconsider!!!!</p>
107	Lenny	Hanson	Higher Education	<p>This is white supremacy trying to obliterate truth. Stop the cover up and allow the truths of our beautiful history to co-exist.</p>

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108	Amy	Blair	My children are grown but one day I will have grandchildren in school.	It is absolutely disgraceful that references and teachings related to Native Americans was erased from the new Social Studies standards. A reference here and there doesn't go far enough... especially in a state that has a larger population of Native Americans. My daughter is an enrolled tribal member and she (and every other Native student) should be represented in school. They and all other students should be taught about native customs, history, differences and similarities to others. Over and over we hear about South Dakota being inclusive and we should welcome everyone but by pushing this part of our communities to the side, they are essentially being told that you and your past doesn't matter. If we want to work on combating racism in this state, it would be helpful that everyone is represented and these children can learn about each other. Maybe then they will see they are no different from each other. I would hope that the DOE would put those references and teachings back into it's standards. The governor is not an educator and these standards were put together by a group of qualified educators and they would know best what our children should be taught. For a long time the Indigenous community has been marginalized and pushed to the side. In this day and age that should not be happening and those Native children shouldn't feel like they are less than because their history is just a casual mention a couple times through their school years.
109	Rachael	Anderson	Parent	I believe one of the most important parts of being a responsible citizen of South Dakota is learning about our first citizens, the Oceti Sakowin Oyate, and how their experiences of genocide and oppression should shape our experiences as a community. Erasure of actual groups with unique experiences and cultures into the melting pot of "general Native American" is not okay-we should expect our educators to rise to higher standards of actually understanding the history of which they teach. Please hold our teachers and students to a higher, and less racist standard, than what this exemplifies.
110	Janet	Olson	Concerned SD boter	How dare you eliminate the history of the treatment of SD Native Americans. Nazi like behavior.

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111	Taylor	Rodgers	K-12 Educator	<p>I am very concerned about the recent changes made to the “Proposed Social Studies Standards Draft.” It is my understanding that the SD DOE has made significant changes to the July 26th draft, proposed by educators, legislators, museum staff, and others. Furthermore, the proposed standards dramatically reduce the mention of Indigenous Peoples including the Oceti Sakowin Oyate (8.5% of the SD population is Native American, the majority of whom are Oceti Sakowin). Please reconsider the changes that were made to the document, and instead consult the committee who produced the original revision on July 26th.</p> <p>There is great concern and derision over the current “cancel culture” in our country. People are being canceled and their views and perspectives are being shut out and silenced. The removal of mention of Native Americans and the 85% reduction in use of “Oceti Sakowin Oyate”, in the Re-Draft represents a cancel culture. It is a continuation of South Dakota’s history of silencing or removing Native Americans from the state.</p> <p>The introduction of the July 26th Draft does include important key themes to be taught in social studies including:          Teaching the positive and negative aspects of our nation’s history while instilling pride in being an American          Foster appreciation for American principles of equality, liberty, justice, and self-government          Incorporate diverse perspectives</p> <p>The above themes are important to the teaching of social studies and history because they include a complete picture of people and events. However, the removal of Native Americans in the August 5 Re-Draft seems to shy away from the above themes. South Dakota’s history with Native Americans includes both positive and negative aspects. Furthermore, exclusion of Native Americans does not help to “foster principles of equality, liberty, justice, and self-government, and it does not “incorporate diverse perspectives.” To fully realize the goals of the July 26th Draft committee, Native Americans need to be part of the standards and curriculum of our state’s K-12 education.</p> <p>South Dakota would not be the only state to include Native Americans in the state standards. The Montana Content Standards for Social Studies includes in its introduction: “A study of Montana’s rich past and geographic diversity includes the distinct cultural heritage and contemporary perspectives of Montana’s American Indians and other cultural groups.” This statement marks the inclusion Native American identity in its Social Studies curriculum. It would do our state justice to follow the example set by Montana.</p> <p>Here in South Dakota, we must prepare our students to be citizens and leaders in their communities. Part of that preparation is to know the successes and failures of our nation’s past. To ignore some of the past will set up our students on a faulty trajectory, where they are doomed to repeat the mistakes of the past. After the space shuttle Challenger tragically exploded in 1986, NASA did a thorough study to find the cause of the fatal failure. One would hope that flight scientists and engineers learned the lessons from the study. To set up South Dakota students for success we must focus not only on their flight to the moon but also that they get there safely.</p> <p>Please reconsider the August 5 Draft revisions, and consult the statewide committee that created the earlier Draft standards.</p>
112	Jackie	Swanson	Higher Education	<p>Our governor is an embarrassment, the Social Studies revision being an example of Fascist behavior, manipulating the truth for her own political gain! She modified the Standards even after the educators revised. Removing Native American Oceti Sakowin Standards and removing other American Indian History are racist. This act shows her Bigotry and Hatred.</p>
113	Amy	McGovern	School Board Member	<p>I would like to see the content standards returned to their original content as written by the work group. Conversely, I’d like explicit answers as to who and why the content was change to gloss over the reality of South Dakota’s history.</p>

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114	Mary	Clawson	SD citizen	The exclusion of Native American education references is biased and bigoted toward the first inhabitants of the country. Additionally, there needs to be a frank and honest discussion of Native American history in this state and in the entire country, as well as African American history. This state and this country will never progress as long as our history is white- washed (pun intended).
115	Lori	Brunick	Parent	Who authored the revisions? The only names are from the original meeting but no names who made the revisions.
116	Karen	Haynes	School Counselor	I am deeply troubled by the deliberate erasure of historical and present day information regarding indigenous peoples. Educators made improvements to the curriculum and the fact that it was quietly altered and slashed by an unnamed group of people is horrendous. This cannot stand. These people have followed the governor's bidding, it would seem, and that is not acceptable in any sense.
117	Kathleen	Dewell	K-12 Educator	I have a general comment to make. I think if you are going to appoint a group of educators, who are already familiar with the actual curriculum, you need to listen to their advice and not get on some political platform!
118	Natalie	Stites Means	Parent	All of the standards revisions deviate from the professional educator recommendations and are a blatant politically ploy by politicians to harm the education of South Dakotan students especially Lakota and Dakota students whom are the majority-minority here in SD. We need the USDOE civil rights office to step in as well as their inspector general. This attempt To silence actual educators about educating our children is fascist and enacts white supremacy on full display. White pier will be equated to our social movements for justice and change under these proposed standards!!
119	Spring	Wright	Auntie	I am disappointed in my home state. You who profess freedom, are silencing the voices of those who have been silenced for way too long. South Dakota is a great state, but whoever made these changes in cowardice (because you didn't accept responsibility for the changes) continues to erode the greatness of this state in their desire to serve their false God of Kristi Noem as she offers of her sacrifice (the people of South Dakota) to her false God of Donald Trump and Fox News. My niece and nephew have Indigenous blood in them. When she was in upper elementary she had a project on Christopher Columbus. In that project she was given resources that said he was a great man that made friends with indigenous tribes and shared his wealth with them. And she believed that crap! And included it in her report! To this day, it breaks my heart that this sweet precious little girl was taught to believe lies about her ancestors (and that I did not correct it). When she learns the full truth, the mistrust and questions she will have in and for her educational system (and state leaders) will be many. But maybe that's the point of these 'standards' maybe the point is to keep lying to our kids so that instead of learning from the past they continue to make the same mistakes. Make no mistake, when my nephew is working on the same project-I will not hold back on who Christopher Columbus was and all the atrocities he committed against women, children, and indigenous people. I would say shame on you, but shame never brings about true change or repentance. I guess I'll just say that I hope the true educators will rise up and teach the curriculum the students of South Dakota deserve. And eventually those hiding behind edits in servitude to their false Gods will one day see their fault and apologize for the harm they have cause the children of South Dakota.
120	Bret	Swanson	Higher Education	Be honest, please. Distorting the truth is what dictators do.

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121	Dave	Dixon	Parent	<p>I have a 6th grader, 4th grader, and 1st grader this year in South Dakota schools. Social Studies is of particular interest to me as I have a BA in American Studies and an MA in History. When I reflect back on my public education, I wish I was more aware of the harm that the founding of the United States caused to indigenous and enslaved people. I am also troubled when I see that so many people cannot make basic connections to the plight that Blacks, Native Americans, and other historically marginalized groups face today to the policies or wars that of the past.</p> <p>I am saddened to see a draft erasing the Oceti Sokowin Oyate from the curriculum. History plays such a vital role in the shaping of a student's understanding of their place in society. To remove uncomfortable details from the curriculum does a disservice to the kids, and their ability to come to reckon with a more nuanced past than what they are typically presented with. Please teach my kids more about the indigenous history of South Dakota.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p>
122	Ashley	Rose	Parent	<p>The changes made to the social studies standards that refer to the Oceti Sakowin Oyate (that now no longer reference the Native peoples of South Dakota) is not removal of Critical Race Theory. Teaching about the Indigenous peoples of our state is important in understanding where we are today in South Dakota. Noem's banning of CRT does NOT mean most mentions of our Native brethren be erased from history books. If she were really banning CRT, she would be prohibiting the school of thought that our Native populations are the way they are today simply due to the color of their skin. It is highly important to teach about SD's Native population because they are our largest minority group and if there is not an understanding of their ways, it does not encourage togetherness and mutual understanding--further widening the divide between our peoples.</p>
123	Clay	Colombe	School Board Member	<p>Completely unacceptable that Oceti Sakowin and Native American references were deleted, especially without notice or consultation with Tribes. Another example of the State having terrible relationship with Tribes in South Dakota. I have lived in Colorado and Texas and have seen how other states such as Florida and Oklahoma that have great State history curriculum that include the Native American Nations that lived in the State for centuries before the State existed. South Dakota can learn from these States. Please do not bow to political pressure to delete the true history of our State.</p>
124	Kay	Koliner	South Dakota citizen	<p>It was not ethical for the Dept. Of Ed to delete the Social Studies standards that would provide instruction about the history, etc of South Dakota Native Americans after a committee of South Dakotan educators and even a state legislator agreed on their merit to be included. The Department of Education's action seems underhanded to me.</p>
125	Taylor	Wiese	Organization or Agency	<p>Erasing Indigenous history is a shameful approach to thinking about who we've been and who we are in South Dakota. I sincerely hope that this current proposal is revised.</p>
126	Kimberly	Clark	K-12 Educator	<p>I understand the Social Studies standards were revised, changed and in some cases deleted by DOE without the knowledge of the work groups involved. Inappropriate on so many levels.</p>
127	Jessica	La Fleur Malm	School Board Member	<p>Standards regarding the Oceti Sakowin Oyate should not be removed!</p>

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128	Barbara	Garcia	Parent	Do not remove Native American history in schools
129	Kelly	Williams	Writer	You cannot embrace erasure of The indigenous people. Not only does this ill-equip the youth of S Dakota for the future, but it makes them a danger to the larger society. Ignorance breeds hate.
130	Erin	Spry	Member of public	It is inappropriate to remove Oceti Sakowen history and landmarks from your curriculum. The Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota tribes are a fundamental part of South Dakota and its history. Removal of these people's history is an attack. Please continue to teach your children about the Oceti Sakowen; it would be a disservice to them to omit these lessons.
131	Erin	Evans	K-12 Educator	Erasing the History of Native South Dakotans from state curriculum standards is a truly terrible idea and hurts Native and Non-Native students alike.
132	Amy	Troske	Parent	<p>*Politics should not play a role in education.</p> <p>*Is an attempt at political indoctrination.</p> <p>*Endorses Governor Noem's personal and political agenda.</p> <p>*Definitions for the following need to be revised:                      -Culture                      -Oceti Sakowin                      -Indigenous/Native American</p> <p>Very poor taste to omit these items that were approved by the review team. Then the Dept of Ed won't say who removed them what a shame....</p>
133	Jennifer	Swier	Lived in SOUTH DAKOTA from birth until 3 years ago	I CANNOT BELIEVE this. HOW have we gone from being a State that sought Reconciliation through the office of the GOVERNOR to a STATE that teaches children to BLATANTLY IGNORE 9 Nations within its borders. This is RACIST propaganda and I have NEVER been more EMBARRASSED to say I lived there for 51 years of my life.
134	Kathryn	Smith	Indigenous ally	I am writing this against the newly revised education. It is important to learn about the indigenous communities history because it's American history kids are missing out on and later in life when the kids are interested in the indigenous topics and want to help, they will know the history needed to help the indigenous communities. Never forget Native Americans or their history.
135	Jadin	Moore	Higher Education	Do not remove indigenous education!
136	Mayra	Espinoza	American Indian	Removing native history
137	CHYANN	STANDINGWATER	A concerned citizen	Racist, modern day genocide. Teach real history!

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138	Ginger	Rogers	Concern citizen	I am advocating for Native American history not to be erased out of the K-12 curriculum.
139	Trang	Pham	K-12 Educator	This war on education needs to stop. The more history taught the better. Native and Indigenous erasure should be taught as it is still happening to this day.
140	Corden	Drift	Citizen	I vehemently oppose the standard of removing indigenous history being removed from the history curriculum. If anything it should be expanded. The idea of removing indigenous history while living in a state named after a tribe is a level of delusion yet to be seen. Stop trying to erase us.
141	Samuel	Reiley	Concerned citizen	The removal of Native American topics from the school's history curriculum
142	Jessica	Flores	K-12 Educator	How are we supposed to provided balanced education when the OE is omitting education about tribal nations
143	Katherine	Marsh	K-12 Educator	This deserves a public discussion. This completely erases the indigenous history of South Dakota, and these changes should not take place.
144	Ciera	Hansen	K-12 Educator	I find this revision deeply disturbing. The process was violated, and the changes recommended by the board were altered or removed without their approval or knowledge. We have the ability and obligation to share the rich history and culture of our state, and that is being stripped away. Our Native students deserve to learn about their own people, and we should acknowledge that this is the duty of our public education system--not only to honor Native Americans, but to prevent further racism and misunderstandings. If we want to continue to mend relationships, the removal of Oceti standards will only take us backwards.
145	Christine	Brunner	Parent	Removing indigenous history from the curriculum contributes to indigenous eraser. If anything, more indigenous history needs to be taught.
146	Denisse	Ortiz	Parent	Enough of the white washing of history
147	Grayson	Nagashoah	Parent	The removal or disregard of teaching Native American history, specifically Lakota/Sioux history in the curriculum in your area. Often time Euro-Americans are willing to fight tooth and nail for manifest history, glorifying colonialism and removing history that doesn't show the USA in a positive light.
148	Raven	Limpy	Higher Education	This is Indigenous erasure. Everyone needs to learn the true history of this country!
149	Tanner	Veo	Parent	It is wrong to remove Native American history from students curriculum. The Lakota people have been here for thousands of years, South Dakotans 150. We do not need more division from ignorance



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150	Donna	Krietlow	Taxpayer	It's obvious that the new revisions of the old "wording" being swapped out for new "wording is an influence campaign by Governor Noem to please Donald Trump and his white supremacy friends to change the history of our State and is being pushed and revised in every school in the United States. I'm not for the new changes that change the critical wording in the civics and history and geography revisions. Shame on you for trying to change our history and to try to influence that history going forward. Teaching should never be political which is creeping into every part of our daily lives, and now in the schools! We have 9 reservations in our State and they should be listed in the history books and on maps. White students and Native American students and indigenous students should start learning South Dakota history and our National history from the first day they become a student. Your standard revisions aren't up to the standards that our students deserve. We should also teach how the voting process works but we shouldn't try to influence the thinking while teaching it, this is very concerning when taught with politics. Example is the change in teaching about the Electoral College. Please don't pass the revised standards! You fell very short of what our South Dakota students deserve.
151	Cara	Bussell	Parent	Do not erase Lakota, Dakota history from schools
152	Marion	Landreth	Business and/or Industry	They did this in Texas! I might not be from the Dakotas but it is WRONG to erase indigenous history from a country where indigenous people live!  If you cannot bring your schools educate students about important history of people that originate from there then you need to dissolve the education system are start over.
153	Lea	Red Leaf	Parent	Native American history needs to be included in school academics not be cut out or limited
154	Noah	Hausman	Higher Education	Native American history colter.
155	Paula	Marzolf	Parent	I think Native American History and Culture should be taught in all schools.
156	Natalie	Lopez	Public	The teaching of Native American history in schools should not be something to debate about keeping or not. A large portion of American history includes the natives and excluding them would lead to not teaching the full and whole truth. Students need to learn the story of their states and who lived there first before America was founded. This includes their ways of life and significance. History should not neglect any side of the story. It does not have preferences and should be taught regardless of political or personal feelings of the matter.
157	Brandy	McClain	Parent	I do not agree with indigenous history not being taught in school. All BIPOC in The Americas history needs to be taught. Excluding this history is excluding The Americas, which includes the USA.
158	Jenisse	Lara	Parent	As a parent I know I have a say to what the councils members can pass for our children's . I ask that you allow to have public comments for these new changes removing education of the Oceti Sakowin people's. The community should have a say in the curriculum because our children are the ones being taught.
159	L	H	Citizen	Please don't omit native history.
160	Deborah	Britt	Community member	Would like to know why you are trying to rewrite history by removing indigenous history. Just because you don't like it or don't understand it doesn't mean it's not vital to the future of this country. You're just showing your racists roots. Do better.
161	Karyssa	Hensley	A Decent human being	The truth about the history of our people and the government needs to be told. You cannot continue to hide the truth and erase indigenous people

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162	Sara	Parkerson	Concerned Aunt	Removing indigenous history from our history books is the cowards way to deal with things they are afraid to confront. Teach children truth, not just the truth you're comfortable with.
163	Whitney	Bodle	Higher Education	I believe it is a serious failure of the SD public education system to even consider omitting essential historical facts about the Sioux nation, pre- and post-colonization. The Oceti Sakowin, the Sioux Nation, has a history on this land that deserves to be acknowledged as they continue to play an integral role in the history, culture, and social development of South Dakota and the United States of America. As a college professor myself at a South Dakota university, I cannot think of any justification for this gross omission in South Dakota is history curriculum. At the higher education level, we instructors often have to bridge gaps that occur from poor public school education. This is just another example of information that students should not be deprived of. Keeping them ignorant of this essential history puts them at a disadvantage when they pursue degrees in higher education. It is important that students understand the tribal history that is interwoven into the settler history of this nation. It is especially important that Indigenous students have access to their own history as they move through the public education system.
164	Cassandra	Mckay	Concerned indigenous person	My problem is with “new” social studies standards & the complete disregard on indigenous studies of the First Nation people. To make choices on what the state should teach the children of the future is really problematic. I hope that this changes & that you start teaching real history. I say listen to the indigenous community & talk with them and listen.
165	Cassandra	Mckay	Concerned indigenous person	My problem is with “new” social studies standards & the complete disregard on indigenous studies of the First Nation people. To make choices on what the state should teach the children of the future is really problematic. I hope that this changes & that you start teaching real history. I say listen to the indigenous community & talk with them and listen.
166	April	Sullivan	Parent	There needs to be public comment on these changes! You cannot erase Indigenous history in schools, especially in a state that is so largely founded off Indigenous people! Our entire country is stolen land, and we should be teaching our kids Indigenous history!
167	Kayla	Bolton	Parent	Please revert back to the original draft completed by your committee which include standards related to our indigenous communities. Trust that the educators/committee you had enlisted to do their job actually did it correctly. We, as South Dakotans, should not ignore a part of our community, because it is viewed different or not what we are used to. We cannot begin to mend relationships without acknowledging and learning from each other.
168	Tyler	Riggs	K-12 Educator	The erasure and omission of Oceti Sakowin peoples from the social studies standards is unacceptable for our children. Rewrite the standards to include Oceti Sakowin peoples
169	Amanda	Love	Concerned ally	Native & Indigenous History is CRUCIAL to education; to omit this would be deliberate ERASURE! This land was colonized & is currently occupied by all of us. Millions of Indigenous people have died because of white supremacist violence. Accepting this truth is necessary for reconciliation.
170	Erin	Evans	K-12 Educator	Erasing the History of Native South Dakotans from state curriculum standards is a truly terrible idea and hurts Native and Non-Native students alike.

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171	Christy	Tidwell	Parent	In standards K.H.2.1., 1.H.6.1., and 2.H.6.1., the vague language should be modified to include reference to Oceti Sakowin, Lakota, and/or Native American people specifically. Standard 3.H.1.1. should be revised to avoid making it sound as if settlers and Native American groups were in similar positions; when early settlers were struggling to build a community, Native Americans in the region had already long built theirs. Throughout, when there are references to various cultures of the region, Oceti Sakowin, Lakota, and/or Native American should be referenced specifically. This history has long been overlooked and will continue to be overlooked if it is not a direct part of the standards. I would suggest speaking with local Indigenous people to see what language they would prefer when you do reference them. Indigenous Native Americans is not a commonly used phrase and is unnecessarily vague.
172	Matthew	Stiner	Parent	Removal of tribal nations in kindergarten - did white people just show up and find everything empty? Removal of present day reservation location in first grade - understandable given you expect to teach it was empty land, but reservations are a fact and contemporary.  Removal of description of tribal organization in third grade civics - being able to understand how groups organized and governed themselves is a key part to understanding history in context. Are you also planning on removing mention of monarchy and representative democracy also? If the answer is no, then clearly you should re-examine your motives for this change.
173	Lynn	Ada	Parent	<b>DO NOT REMOVE INDIGENOUS HISTORY FROM SCHOOLS!!</b>
174	Sarah	Palma	Organization or Agency	It's unacceptable to take out any references to any indigenous tribes. As well as anything that has to do with indigenous people.
175	Sarah	Siddiqui	Higher Education	The removal of Indigenous topics from the social studies standards is beyond egregious. The omission of vital Indigenous topics and events from our history is the active erasure of truth and reality, and is a complete disservice to our true history and the next generation of children who will be impacting our country for years to come. The deliberate erasure of Indigenous culture and history will result in nothing else but ignorance and cause further harm and violence on their communities.
176	Katelyn	Moore	Parent	Do not erase tribal flags, powwows, beadwork, dream catchers, music, artwork, identifying names and locations of Oceti Sakowin within communities and state, tribal organization structures, researching tribes in South Dakota, how natural resources and migration affected lives and culture of Oceti Sakowin peoples from schools. It's important that children are aware of the history of the land they live on.
177	Laila	Locklear	Higher Education	Major removal of Indigenous history is cultural erasure, racist and revisionist. It's ridiculous this is even a topic of discussion. Teach our children real American history and not this white washed, white supremacist, revisionist nonsense. The department of education should be ashamed, but perhaps they're too racist to know what shame is.

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178	Paula	Dean	K-12 Educator	I am appalled by the removal of the standards that teach our students about the Oceti Sakowin people of South Dakota. They are a huge part of the population of our state and we can't omit their stories from our state history and geography. As I am an elementary teacher, I would like to see the following standards from the working group proposal put back into the social studies standards: KCG1, KG61, 1H61, 1CG1, 2H61, 2C61, 3H61, 3C61, 3G61, 4H42, 4H61, 5E41, 5C61, 5G62. I want my kids (my own kids and my students) to know the true history of all the groups of people who call South Dakota home. I do not want government officials deciding which parts of history, geography and civics our kids should learn about. They need to know it all! I want all of my students to know our true history and understand different groups of people in our state so we can combat racism and divisive thinking. Eliminating teaching about the Oceti Sakowin people is a huge step backward for our state.
179	Emma	Dezomits	Student	Erasure in other ethnicities and their cultures cause harm. Ignorance can be bliss for white people however it's not bliss for poc because our (I'm white) actions are higher in power and affect them more. My dad likes to say everyones sensitive but I think people most are just raised not to feel anything towards others and demonize anything different. It amazes me how selfish some people can be.
180	Katy	Jones	Supporter	Please do not erase the history of Native Nations from the curriculum. As an Indigenous Woman with an M.A. in Anthropology, seeing representation of oneself is crucial to lifelong confidence. Provide Indigenous students the benefits of representation. Help provide all children an opportunity at a brighter future garnered from an honest view of history.
181	Shannon M	Smith	Parent	The whole history of this continent is not as scary as our politicians seem to think it is.
182	Vanessa	Cruz	Artist	This is an outrage. The Native Americans history must be preserved and taught to our children. This is why we need CRT.
183	Joyce	Ruiz-Montemayor	Indigenous Ally	The proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards removing ANY mention of Native American people!
184	Wendy	Desjarlais	Parent	It is appalling that the school board would omit the history of indigenous peoples as the lack of information only encourages a lack of understanding of what indigenous peoples go through & encourages racism to fester. As a world we can no longer stand by and promote racism by a lack of information that is provided to the general public
185	Jadin	Moore	Higher Education	Do not remove indigenous education!
186	Haley	Henderson	Concerned citizen	The erasure of Native American topics and education from the curriculum
187	Kei	Kung	Adult	Omitting Native history. Wondering why this was thought of as a good idea? People in the US, our own country, already think we're extinct because they're taught that we were wiped out by colonizers hundreds of years ago. Nope, still here. You're severely limiting the younger generation's knowledge about their own country because we play a HUGE part. Other countries already mock us because our education system has failed us, and if you omit us from your lessons and history books it'll get even worse. Keep our history, and please teach it correctly.
188	Bill	Chott	Parent	Native history should not be erased. It's American history.
189	Faith	Morgan	Concerned white woman	Absolutely historical genocide. Shame.

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190	Nakina	Mills	Concerned community member	I do not agree
191	Alapay	Robles	Native tribal member	Don't erase Native history!
192	Harold	Manuelito	Student	Native history should not be erased from American history, especially if every generation has less knowledge than the generations before them, instead teach more of native American history, rather than teaching the same thing (White American history, World history) over over. One chapter in a textbook is not enough to educate who was here before.
193	Lashonna	Geter	K-12 Educator	The new standards need to change. Non Indigenous students need to know the truth.
194	Erika	Rollins	K-12 Educator	Native American Culture in the U.S.A NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT!!
195	Amanda	Rugen	Parent	South Dakota Social Studies Standards. Teaching of Lakota people and their true history should be taught.
196	Lee	Kay	Student	You NEED to include history of the Indigenous peoples of that area and remember to respect the land on which you are teaching this history.
197	Katie	Vyn	Concerned citizen	It is crucial that our children learn the history of indigenous people, and learn to respect and honor each other's differences across cultures. It is also vital that all students, all citizens, feel equally and accurately represented in our history and education overall. I ask you to make quick changes to ensure that the South : "Dakota Social Studies program includes indigenous studies, and that First Nations tribes are consulted and respected in the design and implementation of all programs. Thank you.
198	Mona	Ortez	Student	STOP TRY TO ERASE THE NATIVE AMERICAN FROM HISTORY, TELL THE TRUTH
199	Henry	Langstaff	Parent	My comments concern anchor standards 5.E.3.1, 1.G.1.2, 1.G.2.1, 2.G.5.1, and 5.G.5 and .6. My children are young and my comments are about standards for the first six years of education.  5.E.3.1 refers to the economic systems of the 13 colonies. That fails to capture the range of value forms and trade networks on the continent at the time  1.G.1 and 2 need to emphasize the ongoing existence and legal boundaries of reservations because of the profoundly different consequences for legal and economic activity  2.G.5.1 discusses adaptations to and uses of local resources. It omits explicit comparison between settler and indigenous populations. Making that comparison is crucial to understanding the principles of any such adaptations or uses by any populations.
200	Elizabeth	Whedon	Parent	This is erasing an important piece of our nation's history, and is unacceptable.
201	Jordan	Klein	Adult	Stop trying to erase indigenous peoples from education. Indigenous people are still here.
202	Karol Tatiana	Oviedo	K-12 Educator	teach the truth! no more silencing.
203	Kristian	Merchand	Museum Staff	In a social studies/history class, social studies and history in its full is to be taught. This country was built by POC on stolen land and that is fact. You cannot make history what you want it to be.

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204	Sophie	Eckert	Private citizen	I am writing to say that I do not support the changes to the Social Studies curriculum in South Dakota schools. This would be helping to erase the history of the indigenous people of South Dakota and that is not right. Students should learn about Native American history because they live in America and have lived in America before so called "Americans" did. To pretend they didn't exist would be ignorant and racist.
205	Crystal	Baker	Concerned Citizen	Our children deserve to be taught the true history of this country. That is the only way to end racism in America.
206	Tanya	Hogen	Parent	KEEP LAKOTA HISTORY AND CULTURE AS PART OF SOUTH DAKOTA EDUCATION! THIS IS OUR PEOPLE'S, FAMILIES', AND STATE HISTORY!
207	Shanika	Pittman	Native American Ally	Erasure of teaching Native American History in South Dakota schools!
208	Jessica	Weller	Concerned Citizen	It is incredibly disconcerting that you're removing indigenous history from the curriculum. Current climate requires children to understand our history so they can create a better future for themselves by omitting indigenous history you are robbing them of that opportunity and continuing to support systemic racism in education.
209	Audriana	Beattie	Student	It would be detrimental to further limit children's knowledge of the indigenous people of America. Without that knowledge, it helps to further spread apathy instead of empathy for those around us.
210	Wyatt	Bellon	Higher Education	I don't know how to get down to specifics because overall this is an absolute mess and erasure of United States History. K-12 should be learning what land they reside on and who resided there pre-colonization, they should learn which tribes currently occupy the state they are living in on the map as Washington State does, and they should be learning your state's history with those tribes including Standing Rock, Wounded Knee and more.
211	Ariel	Edwards	Higher Education	There should be no removal of subjects pertaining to indigenous peoples, they have always been a huge part of this country and are still fighting systematic issues.
212	Lisa Anne	Chasten	Concerned citizen	It is important to include Native American history in the curriculum, because Natives were the first Americans! Native Americans are a vital part of American history!
213	adrienne	arcilla	Higher Education	indigenous history needs to be taught
214	Darcy	Graham	Student outside of the US	It's been decided that subjects related to Indigenous Studies and History are to be omitted. This includes second and third grade geography, and second and third grade civics.
215	Marie	trennan	Student	educate children on the real truth. not yours. indigenous people have always been needed in this world. if you want to teach people information, teach them accurately.
216	Dougherty	Tilden	Student	South Dakota's removal of indigenous topics; for example, omitting references to the Oceti Sakowin, is erasure of indigenous history. Removing the history of the origins of the land and who's land these children are on is blatant disrespect and erasure to our indigenous friends, neighbors, teachers, educators, and protections.
217	Mary	Smith	Advocate of Truth in History	Teach the real history including all indigenous history.

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218	Matt	Craft	Citizen	We cannot erase history. We cannot ignore that Native American history never ceases because their history and culture has shaped our state, our towns, even naming our landmarks like Falls Park and Spirit Mound. Preventing schools from teaching American history is not Patriotic, nor remorseful, nor kind, nor does it show anything good about our state. As Americans, we must continue to represent their heritage, culture and history in our schools so it is not erased nor forgotten. We cannot throw out one part of American history while keeping how the government stole the land for gold in high honor. We must remember American History includes Native Americans as well.
219	Vale	Serrette	Student	I saw a video on the topic or the government wanting to erase the history of native people through text books
220	Abby	Mountz	Concerned citizen	The erasure of Native American history in k-12 schools is abhorrent. These are people whose lives and rich history have impacted our country and definitely the states of North and South Dakota in ways we still don't seem to grasp. This is an important part of American history, don't take history away from kids.
221	Linn	Sandblom	Student	Stop erasing indigenous history
222	Roger	Bailey	K-12 Educator	Give the people a voice for this terrible decision! Stop the erasure of indigenous people!
223	Maartke	van der Sanden	Student	Teach indigenous history please
224	Alyssa	Allen	Concerned Citizen	Do not erase history
225	Madisyn	Gowans	Higher Education	We must not erase the history of the Indigenous people. This will further erase them and their culture from mainstream schooling. Their history is United States history and needs to be taught.
226	yami	melendez	Student	Please teach more about native americans on our history and the genocide of native of americans back in history !!!! This stuff needs to be taught it's the truth and it reveals all of Americans true colors.
227	Marz	Marrero	Student	The revised standards are a blatant attempt to erase indigenous history and must be changed immediately. This is a vile display of racism and it cannot be accepted.
228	Dottie	Chandler	Higher Education	This blatant erasure of native American history will have consequences down the line. Children are going to be ignorant to the issues Native Americans face faced throughout history and to this current day. They are fighting to protect their rights and land, while you are trying to erase them from history. Shame on you.
229	Aidan	Buscher	Student	In kindergarten civics, discussing the meaning of kinship to the Oceti Sakowin Oyate. The removal of this standard is especially harmful when considering the removal of other standards such as: in second grade civics, exploring the concepts of Oceti Sakowin Oyate including but not limited to tribal flags, celebrations (powwows), beadwork, dreamcatchers, music, and artwork. Since these actions together, especially the former standard removal of which I mentioned (In kindergarten civics, discussing the meaning of kinship to the Oceti Sakowin Oyate) create many uneducated generations of people going forward (If no reversal of these changes has been done).
230	Margaret	English	Ally	Native erasure from textbooks, from history, it's not only disrespectful it's also an omission of the truth. This blatant racism. Do better.
231	James	Chief Eagle	Student	Please Do not erase Lakota history from the textbooks and classrooms.

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232	Aidan	Buscher	Student	In kindergarten civics, discussing the meaning of kinship to the Oceti Sakowin Oyate. The removal of this standard is especially harmful when considering the removal of other standards such as: in second grade civics, exploring the concepts of Oceti Sakowin Oyate including but not limited to tribal flags, celebrations (powwows), beadwork, dreamcatchers, music, and artwork. Since these actions together, especially the former standard removal of which I mentioned (In kindergarten civics, discussing the meaning of kinship to the Oceti Sakowin Oyate) create many uneducated generations of people going forward (If no reversal of these changes has been done).
233	Andrew	Allen	K-12 Educator	The children must be taught properly and taught true history of this land.
234	Caine	Baxter	Student	The erasure of Native History should be treated as the erasure of American History. Without learning about the genocide and the colonization of native people and the land that they stay in people will grow to have more ignorance than they already do.
235	Clara	Pappas	Concerned person.	The erasure of the native peoples of South Dakota in the curriculum is harmful to both them and the students as they will miss crucial parts of history.
236	Kamerom	Smith	Concerned citizen	Native history is important to learn this is their land that we are on and we should be required to learn about it.
237	Sydney	Perko	Student	they are trying to erase native history! this needs to be stopped!!
238	Gabrielle	Carpenter	Parent	Studying Indigenous topics is essential for every student. You should know the true history of the place you reside. The job of the school system is to educate our youth on the different important topics. The topic of indigenous history and culture is important because it is South Dakota's history as well.
239	alexandra	salazar	Student	.
240	Danita	Harris	Organization or Agency	Removing any and all reference to the Oceti Sakowin Oyate tribes is blatant in its discrimination and serves to erase the people and their contributions to the space we inhabit today. It is a cruel gesture and simply teaches our children to repeat the depth of cruelty that is actively erasing a people's who are still with us today.
241	Amanda	Bimalarajah	Concerned citizen	Why are you ERASING indigenous culture? This is very concerning. Are we not good enough to be mentioned? Absolutely appalling!
242	Jessica	Wall	Parent	Historical erasure is how the Holocaust will be repeated in America. This will put a future mass genocide blood on your hands. You refuse to teach of horrible things, at the cost of them repeating in the future. You can change this. You have the ability to make a good choice. Don't do your country and our children a disservice. Thank you.
243	Adrielle	Roache	K-12 Educator	You cannot silence Native Americans! You cannot continue to mistreat them! Please teach the truth and educate your students on the real history and what they can do to help/be better allies!
244	Erin	Cashin	Student	We need to teach everybody about every bit of our history no matter if it is messy because if we do not learn from the past we will repeat ourselves. plus we cannot let a whole group of people indigenous people be erased it is wrong and unimaginable. We've taken their land their, language, their KIDS please do not let us take their history to.
245	Charles	Diggs	Student	Stop erasing the history.



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246	Misty	Brave	School Administrator	The omission of crucial information (some of the Oyate Sakowin Standards) is very concerning. Our students, in the state, have the right to learn about the people who inhabited this state long before anyone else. Also, the Lakota tribes of this state are STILL HERE and their cultures and ways of being are important for state residents to learn and build understanding for. Lakota children should have access to instruction which honors the history and culture of their people as well. The attempted erasure of this information is insensitive, maladaptive, and an obvious political tactic which has no place in education. Please do the right and moral thing, reclaim the SS standards decided upon by the committee. Thank you.
247	Eriks	Humeyumptewa	Higher Education	As a professional of 25+ years in higher education, removal of indigenous history and current events from the curriculum cannot be tolerated and should not occur. American history should actively recognize ALL parts of American history. Stop erasing history that doesn't fit your narrative.
248	Erin	Cashin	Student	We need to teach everybody about every bit of our history no matter if it is messy because if we do not learn from the past we will repeat ourselves. plus we cannot let a whole group of people indigenous people be erased it is wrong and unimaginable. We've taken their land their, language, their KIDS please do not let us take their history to.
249	Sierra	Matthews	Student	Native American history should be required from schools. It is their land that we stole.
250	Fred	Burr	Citizen	One cannot erase history, especially in South Dakota. How will you talk about the Black Hills and the Silver Rush without talking about the Sioux? Or how the for Laramie Treaties that were broken that was supposed to protect their sacred lands? How will you talk about Bad Lands National Park? For over a year now we hear about how tearing down stairs statues will erase history. This will erase history, literally. The civil war will still be taught. So it'll still exist. Not taking about the indigenous people though, will erase them more than they already are.
251	Misty	Brave	School Administrator	*Oceti Sakowin
252	Harlem	Fernandez	Student	Removing indigenous topics from social studies is blatant native erasure. Our ancestors and current officials have and continue to oppress indigenous peoples in America, the least we can do is educate the next generations of the horrible things these people had to go through.
253	Kattie	Thalacker	K-12 Educator	All of them. Our children need to know the real history of the lands they live on and the people they interact with daily. We can't right the wrongs if we aren't educated on the wrongs that happened before. Our children deserve more and these standards can help make their future better and better educated. Most people have no idea of the real history and I only learned about it in one class when I went to college. I wish I would have known more when I was younger.
254	Rosa	Cubias	Parent	Against the erasure of indigenous history, as if, white Americans, as we know now, were the first and only humans on this continent. Republicans always claim to want independent thinkers, but push for the brainwashing, that works in their favor.
255	Edie	Barcelona	Student	It is the disgusting the amount of erasure marginalized groups like indigenous people are facing. It's crucial that students learn about all of history, not just the parts that will make them feel pride for their country. Every student should know the full truth so they have the ability to grow from it.
256	Sunem	Ramiro	Student	Dont erase native history

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257	Tracey	Chauvoux	Relative of grade school children	Native American History was a huge part of my development in school and opened the door for my love for Native American history. To take that away from the youths in school now and future generations, would be a disservice. Teach the true History of native Americans and native tribes still living. Thank you
258	Anastacia	Scoglio	Witness	Indigenous education
259	Clara	Pappas	Concerned person.	The erasure of the native peoples of South Dakota in the curriculum is harmful to both them and the students as they will miss crucial parts of history.
260	Zoel	Ybarra	K-12 Educator	Omitting the Oceti Sakowin is Native erasure. It is inherently discriminatory. You are doing a disservice to the students and to your citizens. Please do better. Native history IS American history.
261	Dottie	Chandler	Higher Education	This blatant erasure of native American history will have consequences down the line. Children are going to be ignorant to the issues Native Americans face faced throughout history and to this current day. They are fighting to protect their rights and land, while you are trying to erase them from history. Shame on you.
262	Jessica	Clark	K-12 Educator	This is in response to the various standards that have removed the history and current issues of the Oceti Sakowen. It is essential that children of all ages know and understand topics surrounding the first peoples of the land. These topics need to be part of the curriculum - please re-introduce them into your standards.
263	Grover	Patteson Hernandez	Student	The erasure of indigenous peoples in the 2021 curriculum is unacceptable. Do better.
264	Edie	Barcelona	Student	It is the disgusting the amount of erasure marginalized groups like indigenous people are facing. It's crucial that students learn about all of history, not just the parts that will make them feel pride for their country. Every student should know the full truth so they have the ability to grow from it.
265	Lea	Walker	Student	Hi
266	Melissa	McCormack	Parent	It is abhorrent to remove indigenous/native erasure from our children's education! The literal name of the state is derived from tribal nations, it is vital to the enrichment of our children's knowledge and understanding of their world to include the very people to whom our country owes its existence.
267	Geleni	Fontaine	Community member	Please don't erase indigenous history from school curriculum. This is another form of genocide.
268	Emma	Gage	Student	I believe that removing the education of indigenous history is very unjust and flat out wrong. It's wrong to indigenous people & it will only push back our learning as humanity as a whole. The only way to move forward is to learn and fix our past mistakes, and by removing this it will do the exact opposite.
269	Leilani	Soke	Student	You can not erase the truth from history books, people will be heard, and you can not silence the past. Gov. Noem is a racist and needs to be held accountable for such a dehumanizing act. Removing indigenous history specifically says it all.
270	Quilt	Sahme	Parent	Kristy Noem is a nazi . Dont be like her.
271	Madison	Merritt	Parent	It is appalling to witness the erasure of Native Americans in 2021 from our state's curriculum. re-writing history is what fascists do. Sickening
272	Ezequiel	Zuniga Camargo	Higher Education	The removal of indigenous topics from social studies standards is horrendous.

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273	Kristine	Seymour	Higher Education	It is morally wrong to remove the references to the education on the Oceti Sakowin people. Along with refusing to acknowledge the land that you are on and the indigenous peoples of your area. You are erasing history.
274	Dylan Samuel	Scoles	Citizen	It is racist and bigoted what South Dakota is proposing. The land is native American land and that should be taught in school. The history of native Americans is very important history and should be taught in school.
275	Rebecca	Carlson	Student	You should not remove Indigenous history from social studies standards! Native American history should not be hidden or erased!! Nobody's culture or history should be treated this way!
276	Julie	Garcia	Resident	This is In regards to the erasure of teaching land and Native History in k-12 classrooms of the Lakota, Dakota and Nakota people's. The true teaching of the lands history is a very crucial part of how this country was established hiding the truth with native erasure is a form of racism.
277	Leilani	Soke	Student	You can not erase the truth from history books, people will be heard, and you can not silence the past. Gov. Noem is a racist and needs to be held accountable for such a dehumanizing act. Removing indigenous history specifically says it all.
278	Danita	Harris	Organization or Agency	Removing any and all reference to the Oceti Sakowin Oyate tribes is blatant in its discrimination and serves to erase the people and their contributions to the space we inhabit today. It is a cruel gesture and simply teaches our children to repeat the depth of cruelty that is actively erasing a people's who are still with us today.
279	Austin	Thornton	Student	We should learn about our indigenous compatriots, which means, among other things, not removing things like the names and locations of Oceti Sakowin Oyate tribes from second grade geography.
280	irene	wan	concerned citizen	Native American history is already not taught enough in schools. To take it out of the curriculum would be erasing history.
281	Daniel	Ciau	Business and/or Industry	Why are you erasing the history of indigenous people?
282	Cassidy	Paulk	Student	You removed indigenous topics from social studies. If we want a better future and more progress this is the wrong decision
283	Michael	Douglas	Student	Indigenous history must be taught fully in schools and their voices must be heard!!
284	Ariel	Doyle-Geist-Hough	Parent	By eliminating the true history of this nation and its indigenous people from the curriculum you are continuing the long history of lies. This action dehumanizes the indigenous people continues to support the culture of indigenous genocide.
285	Daniel	Ciau	Business and/or Industry	Why are you erasing the history of indigenous people?
286	Trista	McCorkle	Higher Education	It's important that Native American history is taught in schools, so that students know the history of the people our land originally belonged to.

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287	Jessica	Reents	Parent	Our children should be learning as much as possible regarding Native American culture and history. All of it, both good and bad. As a white person who was educated South Dakota, I am ashamed and saddened that I never learned the truth regarding our state's history and Native American connections. Our Native American brothers and sisters deserve better. It is unacceptable to try erasing this vital and important history and cultural learning.
288	Catherine	Klein	Parent	It is shameful and disrespectful to erase the history of the people this land still belongs too. This is the type of behavior your Christianity prohibits, are you not Christian imagine if someone erased the Bible like you're doing now. May you feel the guilt writhe through your stomach every time you think about making a law or baking people who would seek to do harm to this land or its people. We must respect turtle Island and the history we have here before its too late.
289	Jennifer	Moore	Student	Just like they taught the holocaust, so history wouldn't repeat, but it already is..
290	Elise	Sherrill	Higher Education	All of it, the erasure of our Native peoples history is a-moral. Teaching children from a younge age to respect and understand our first peoples is vital to a cohesive and healthy society.
291	Faith	Carothers	Student	Be racist on your own time but stop erasing the true history of this nation and it's native people
292	Lisa	Steinken	K-12 Educator	OSEU standards are essential to helping students understand the history of our state so they can be informed citizens. Issues related to Native American history in this state impact all of us today, not just students with Native ancestry. Please put the OSEU based standards and language back into the proposed standards. We have a long established requirement for teachers to be certified in this content and it is what is best for kids.
293	Leslie	Rodriguez	Higher Education	Public comment
294	I	Paulo-Sambito	Student	All history is our history, this includes more than the good, it also includes the ugly. No one should omit history because this is how we learn from our mistakes. History is important to know but only if it's truthful, the lies we tell students is not educational, but sharing the honest truth is
295	Rico	Juarez	Parent	This entire revision is incredibly racist & Native American history deserves to be present in education.
296	Danita	Harris	Organization or Agency	Removing any and all reference to the Oceti Sakowin Oyate tribes is blatant in its discrimination and serves to erase the people and their contributions to the space we inhabit today. It is a cruel gesture and simply teaches our children to repeat the depth of cruelty that is actively erasing a people's who are still with us today.
297	Valerie	Silva	Native Americans	Native American students and staff should not be deprived a supreme and equal education program, due to unequal funding being withheld from areas where the population in the state consists of primarily Native/ Indigenous humans. Stop the discrimination now!
298	Gisselle	Orozco	Higher Education	I don't think indigenous history should be removed from the history curriculum. This is native erasure and will bring harm to the community.
299	Sam	Carter	Business and/or Industry	Teach the complete history of the USA to include actions and relations that involve the indigenous humans of the lands now occupied by the USA. I am a white,American, educated, voting, past teacher, business owner, male and I want an honest society. Open up this decision to public comment. Thank you Sam

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300	Julie	Pommer	Parent	I adopted a Native American and want her to grow up included, respected and understood. This is a blatant form of white supremacy in my opinion and any institution promoting this should have legal action taken for discrimination.
301	Melissa	Vogel	Student	The Indigenous History should not be erased for obvious reasons. We are taught that if we studied history that we won't repeat it ourselves but here you are trying to delete Indigenous peoples history when its the most important. Indigenous people are people, just as much as white people. Don't erase history.
302	Matthew	Austin	Parent	You should not try to erase history on native American people and their culture. I think it is unfair to my people Because people should know what happened to them and what is still happening to them till this day
303	Emma	D	Student	Children should learn about what terrible things America and white people have done to Native Americans.
304	Misty	Henrichsen	Parent	I want my kids to learn history! Cutting out more than half of the states history is not acceptable. The history of native tribes are an enormous part of state and U.S. history. Not that this SHOULD make any difference, but I am a white parent, and I have a big problem with the history of indigenous people being erased from school books.
305	Irene	Heinert	K-12 Educator	I am a retired educator appalled to read of the changes made to the work of your Social Studies team. More than undermining the work of your own committee, this behind-the-scenes rewriting disrespects & minimizes the role of our indigenous people in our shared history. Among the reasons for studying history is to learn from past mistakes. Rewriting history would be one such mistake would-be dictators have tried, lest we forget. I implore you not to give in to political pressures but rather to assure the integrity of this process &, most importantly, a truthful, factual social studies curriculum for our children.
306	Lukus	Hernandez	Student	The South Dakota DOE removed Indigenous topics from schools. I don't know if the government wants us to be fucking idiots because not teaching important topics doesnt make us look like the best country in the world, it makes us look like fucking baby's. Native Americans are the back bone of this country, their blood soaks the soil we walk on and we're trying to silence them? To erase their hardships and victories from our schools, that would be a huge miscarriage of justice and over all morally unethical. This is a disgrace to "land of the free", because we're erasing the the people who built this country.
307	DeAnna	Suazo	Student	Public comments from Native groups
308	rigzby	benz	Student	
309	Olivia	Brophy	K-12 Educator	Erasing indigenous history in the state of South <b>**DAKOTA**</b> (yes, emphasis intended) is an affront to the history of this land. Proposed changes should be open to public commentary and criticism and those who propose such changes must be held accountable for their despicable actions.
310	Patty	Martin	K-12 Educator	Why are you proposing to cover up History? We need to accurately teach the past so we can grow as a community and not make the same mistakes! The Indigenous people of our state deserve to be included in the history of South Dakota because they are and will be a huge part of South Dakota! I never thought South Dakota would even consider erasing this from the standards. Listen to the people of South Dakota and reinstate those standards!
311	Yocheved	Zenaida-Cohen	Organization or Agency	Erasure of Oceti Sakowin history via 1G12 and several other new standards is unacceptable. It disadvantages students in their comprehension of state history , and disrespects the original people of the land. As a general rule, don't ever downplay the importance Indigenous history.

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

No action taken on comments 1-591 by SD DOE prior to September 20th BOES meeting.

312	Lu	Diabetes	Student	The department of education in South Dakota has chosen to limit Native American history, and integral part of American history and its people. I would like the department to review this decision as it contributes to the erasure of a very important group of people still alive and will continue to be affected by this decision
313	Kiara	Daniels	Parent	Erasing the true history of the US is discrimination against indigenous groups all over the world. This is just another form of "Killing the Indian" and it's utterly disgusting and dehumanizing. The fact that it's the 21st century and indigenous groups are still pushed aside like we weren't the ones who walked this land before colonization, this shows the US is evolving backwards.
314	Jailene	Encarnacion	Citizen	The erasure of Native American history
315	Divine	Green	Student	The erasure of indigenous people in school curriculums is unjustifiable and a blatant attempt to deprive children of their necessary education while pushing an agenda of nationalism. This is not okay and we will not be silent about this. Mark my words those involved will not get away this.
316	Louis	Eagle Thunder	Business and/or Industry	K through 12 education is critical in creating the next generation of leaders. Omitting indigenous education which recognizes the unique and distinct peoples that were first here is critical and understanding the whole concept of how this country came to be.
317	Addisyn	Ackley	Student	do not erase native history!
318	Caroline	Thelen	Business and/or Industry	I am against the changes being sought. We must teach truth in a manner appropriate to age but never shall we ignore as we have in the past the truths of the history done in the past in this state and in this country. We are in a scary place that smells of the beginnings of how Hitler came to power. By fear, by promoting false narratives people followed .. Teach the truth, teach solutions , teach tolerance, teach acceptance
319	Charla	O'Dea	Retired SD Educator	Over my tenure of 40 years as a teacher in SD, I served on many curriculum committees and the Encate Certification Team for BHSU. Never once did an entity discredit our professional work by editing out critical portions of the product. What a slap in the face to the fine educators who spent many summer hours on this project. And one more kick in the gut to our Indigenous population. Shame on you.
320	Maureen	Allen	Defender of First Peoples, Opponent of Persecution, American	The standard(s) deliberately omitting or altering the facts of U.S. history are intolerable; the proponents thereof betray themselves, their "education" system and a nation ever striving for truth, equality, opportunity. They conspire to keep First People in abject poverty.
321	Monique	Dias	Concerned citizen	I am referencing the removal of Native American history from the standards which is absurd. Please consider changing your mind on this as its very important that children learn about the people of the land they are on
322	Kate	Mogard	Parent	I respectfully ask that the Board of Education Standards look at the full draft from the Social Studies work group as it reviews the standards for adoption. Thank you.
323	Crystal	Kezar	Parent	The standard should be written as the work group submitted them. It is wrong that the standards were changed after the group submitted them without identifying the editing authors. Our children should learn about indigenous Native American culture and the Oceti Sakowin Oyate culture in order to have a better understanding of SD history. Please change the revised standards back to the way the educator committee presented them. It is not right to take away the voices of our educators.

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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324	Tracy	Pfeiffer	K-12 Educator	The history of South Dakota's Indigenous People
325	Paige	Robinson	Student	Anything disregarding the truth and history about First Nations people needs to be taught and learned. You can't hide the history of the real natives that were here way before Europeans colonized America. History needs to be learned, truth shown, and not repeated.
326	Sandi	Kleeman-Ahrlin	Parent	Removing ANY history from a educational curriculum is not only discriminating, but harmful
327	Bethany	Hutto	Member of the Public	Regarding the South Dakota Social Studies Content Standards: The contents of these standards have omitted mention of Indigenous people and much of their culture. History of the Oceti Sakowin Oyate is a vital part of the South Dakota Curriculum since this entire region was taken through treaty, violence, and other means from Indigenous people. To leave out mention of the Oceti Sakowin Oyate is a grievous disservice to the history of this land and region and will only be detrimental to the children in this school system, who live on that very same land. The Oceti Sakowin Oyate still live and work here and to disregard their history, their impact on the land, and their very presence is an insult. It is grossly irresponsible to deprive children from learning more about the people who live here and their ancestors who have shaped this entire region. Please consider the inclusion of Oceti Sakowin Oyate stories, songs, history, and symbols for multiple grade levels K-12, not just a few.
328	Krystine	Reavis	K-12 Educator	Native Americans are a large part of South Dakota history. To take that out of the curriculum, it ignores the positive brought by the original people. Please bring that back into the curriculum. It will also help with the 4th grade social studies curriculum in South Dakota history and even why the current state is set into the areas it is.
329	Kaya	Lewis	Student	All revisions to the Social Studies Standards that blatantly erase the history of native peoples must be struck from the curriculum. It is imperative that the young children of the state of South Dakota are taught a complete and inclusive history, and must be learn about Native American cultures and communities, as well as their impact both in history and today.
330	William	Reavis	Substitute teacher /native American	Removal of Native American studies in South Dakota schools. They should not remove Native American studies from South Dakota curriculum. Native American history and culture are an integral part of South Dakota history and heritage
331	frank	b	spouse of K-12 Educator	While I don't expect to change your mind, be advised that I find South Dakota's attempt to erase history of the original natives of this land despicable and sad.
332	Sarah	Yee	K-12 Educator	I think that the original draft authored by the Social Studies work group needs to be reinstated as the submitted draft. The standards must address the history of South Dakota's indigenous people! The content suggested, which has been omitted in the submitted draft, included addressing the history and culture of Native Americans. It is essential that this information be put back into the new SD Social Studies standards.
333	Kimberly	Loftus	Concerned Citizen	It is not a complete course without the study of the Indigenous peoples of South Dakota. Removing this was a mistake and Indigenous topics should be put back into your standards.
334	Carlos	Rivera-Balderas	Student	IT IS SO FUCKED UP THAT THE GOVERNOR OF SOUTH DAKOTA IS TRYING TO HIDE INDIGENOUS HISTORY, AND TRYING TO HIDE THE TRUTH!

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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335	Lizzy	Wahl	School Administrator	Changes to the Oceti Sakowin are unfair and unfounded. By removing so many valuable lessons you are white-washing history, and allowing politics to dictate our children's education. You are perpetuating the sentiments of assimilation, therefore hurting native children. Classrooms are supposed to be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments, instead you are allowing our children to learn bigotry when they should be learning acceptance. This is an unfair attempt at political indoctrination that will only harm our children and our state in the long run.
336	Olivia	Brandl	Student	I'm deeply upset by the removal of all standards on Oceti Sakowin. It is nothing short of Indigenous erasure. How do you expect students to be able to empathize and bond with their Indigenous peers if what they know about their backgrounds is limited? Students deserve to learn the history of those around them. Students SHOULD learn the history of those around them. Also, learning about Indigenous topics is in no way harmful. There is no reason to act like it is and remove learning standards.
337	Connie	Noyes	Student	It is imperative that the history of indigenous people be kept in the curriculum, so that the country can properly understand where it stands today, and how it can do right by indigenous people living today.
338	Mary Jane	Chiles	Retired educator	Please adopt the original draft of SD Social Studies Standards as prepared with input from educators, historical scholars, and community members.
339	Robin	Vaudrain	Graduate student	Indigenous history is quintessentially American history! It is impossible to tell the story of the ground these schools stand on while omitting the Lakota people. We cannot rewrite history. This needs to be fixed!
340	Darla	Takes the Knife	Parent	I was not aware there was a public vote. I'm not happy with this. There are seven Lakota tribes in South Dakota. Tourists come to South Dakota to learn about the Great Sioux Nation.
341	Marie	Lopez	Higher Education	South Dakota is land of native tribes. It's important that students are able to know the history of the stolen land they are on
342	Sara	Silling	Student	I have heard that you have/are in the process of removed Native American topics; such as learning about tribal nations and native traditions, from your social studies and are trying to erase their history. This cannot happen. educating others on different cultures and peoples is extremely important to help folks of all ages become more well rounded individuals. Most importantly the natives of this land deserve to have their history intact. Please fix this.
343	Sopa	Herrera	Student	The erasure of indigenous history being taught
344	Chanda	Spotted Eagle	School Administrator	I am frustrated and disheartened that so many if not all of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understanding are being removed from any of the standards in the original draft. I work in a school with maybe only 5% native students, many other ethnicities, but mainly Caucasian students. When they participate in the lessons from the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings they light up, they get excited about learning, they want to know more. They want to know more about the Lakota people and read more of their stories, they want to attend powwows, etc. We are beginning to build a love and respect for the culture. I see the future of our communities coming together as we learn about each other and accept all of South Dakota history and it's people.
345	Daniel	Ciau	Business and/or Industry	Why are you erasing the history of indigenous people?
346	Clay	Wester	Concerned citizen	Indigenous and Native American history and issues need to be a part of the school curriculum.



**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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347	Tate	Locust	Parent	Stop rewriting history to try and make the injustices done to indigenous people unworthy of future generations time. History always repeats itself. Would you not teach about 9/11 because so many people died and it tends to make people emotional? No! People need to know what white settlers did indigenous people and people of color in the country. Our ancestors will not have died in vane just to sugarcoat your idea of your white ancestors. Sensitive much? Kristi Noem is a white supremacist and is going to far!
348	Tally	Monteau	Parent	Omitting the history of the Oceti Sakowin People would be detrimental to the actual & factual history of South Dakota. History needs to be told from all perspectives in order for students to have a world view and acceptance of different cultures and people. Telling history from a purely colonial viewpoint is a form of racism that impacts the social standpoint that feeds into oppression. Do our children really need to be taught that white supremacy is acceptable?
349	Meagan	Hovis	Higher Education	All of it. The erasure and whitewashing of our history is wrong. Never again. Stop making us say it.
350	cholena	Pourier	Parent	These changes are not inclusive to the Native American peoples. This school district is being ignorant and blind to the want and need of the students and parents wanting the correct and accurate teachings to be offered to not only our Native American children but all children in this district. We want our own voice not the district deciding what is best for us and our children.
351	Deb	Snyder	Parent	All knowledge should be taught
352	Curtis	Price	Higher Education	The many un attributed edits to this document have rendered it illegitimate. It should be discarded. The State DOE must immediately retract it because all the committee work has been destroyed by politicians.
353	Jaida	Smith	Student	By removing indigenous topics from Social Studies Standards, is trying to forget about what horrible things happened in the past, and that should not be forgotten. It also doesn't let the opportunity to learn about the culture, which should be taught if we are going to live on indigenous land.
354	Ender	Davalos	Student	Department of Education attempt to erase native history in South Dakota and i will not have that.
355	Sarah	Dacosta	Student	Native American history is a very important topic that should not be erased from the education system. We barely get enough coverage on it as of right now.
356	emily	olsen	Student	Do not erase indigenous education. The people of south dakota deserve true information and a good education.
357	Ashlynd	Griffith	K-12 Educator	Please include all standards related to the Oceti Sakowin standards that the district is already utilizing in the curricula. Native American history IS American history; this should not even still be a debate.
358	Angela	Smith	Someone who wants to help	The refusal to teach students about the history of the native peoples of South Dakota is disgraceful, and a disgusting erasure of the Oceti Sakowin. The standards relating to these peoples that have been removed from the K-12 curriculum must not be removed for the sake of preserving the history of the Oceti Sakowin and educating the younger generations. There is nothing to lose and everything to gain by teaching these topics.
359	Mei Yin	Steadman	Student	I have a complaint against the erasure of Indigenous people, land and culture within the new South Dakota Social Studies Standards. Already, Indigenous people are erased and misconstrued within the American school system and this new revision only perpetuates this. Students deserve the best education possible and that includes learning the facts about the land they live on. Please omit this erasure from your revised curriculum for the good of Indigenous people and their history as well as the education of your students.

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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360	Lisa	Short Bull Gerth	Higher Education	<p>You can't cut in half the references to Native Americans from the old curriculum. The essential understandings of the Oceti Sakowin took years to create. This curriculum isn't about critical race theory, which the Governor has no clue about anyway. I taught Intro to Native American Studies at Montana State University in Bozeman. Every student has to take it to graduate as most of the students will have jobs in the state of Montana. They have about as many tribes as we do. It's important for communities to understand one another in order to work together, in order to build together. This curriculum only makes us stronger. I have hundreds of papers written by my college students. I taught 100 students, 95 percent of who were not Native American who ALL said they appreciated learning the history and culture of Native Americans because they weren't taught anything at home. They said they will instill this new respect and appreciation in their own children. This is what we need as a society. What's wrong with that? Border towns are towns surrounding reservations. It has negative connotations. If you remove the borders, remove the isolation, remove the stereotypes, remove the idea that reservations are just places where the government put the Indians, you create a constructive learning environment that opens minds and teaches all students to think critically on how to improve race relations and supports improving the quality of education as a united whole. United states of America. Let's get with the program and create Native American supported Social Studies for k-12. North Dakota got on board. We will see other states growing in this direction too. The world is much bigger than South Dakota and the world wants to learn about us.</p>
361	Rhaya	Montoya	Student	<p>The 8th grade civics should keep the two grade-level standards on Indigenous topics: changing federal policy toward Indigenous Americans and comparing the U.S. government with sovereign tribal governments. These are important things for our young adults to be learning and should be retained.</p>
362	Chanda	Spotted Eagle	Parent	<p>I'm a parent, a property tax payer, and I have worked in education for over 20 years. Accept the original draft created by the team of professionals our \$900,000 in tax payer money funded. They are teachers, professors, and historians from multiple ethnicities, schools, and town across all of South Dakota. All of the revisions are not okay. Accept the original draft!</p>
363	Chanda	Spotted Eagle	School Administrator	<p>I am frustrated and disheartened that so many if not all of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understanding are being removed from any of the standards in the original draft. I work in a school with maybe only 5% native students, many other ethnicities, but mainly Caucasian students. When they participate in the lessons from the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings they light up, they get excited about learning, they want to know more. They want to know more about the Lakota people and read more of their stories, they want to attend powwows, etc. We are beginning to build a love and respect for the culture. I see the future of our communities coming together as we learn about each other and accept all of South Dakota history and it's people.</p>
364	Laurel	White	Substitute Teacher	<p>It is an utmost travesty to omit learning about indigenous culture and history from your textbooks and lessons. It is absolutely necessary for students to learn about this history and culture to better understand their country and where it came from, even the sordid parts of this history. Without this knowledge it will be hardest to properly change the inequality and pain many indigenous peoples face. These lessons at the least can breed empathy and understanding within the student body while also helping indigenous students feel more accepted and understood.</p>

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365	Ariel	Pozoeski	K-12 Educator	Deeply concerned by lack of Oceti Sakowin based standards- especially upon hearing of changes from the educator drafted original standard set. History must be comprehensive, nuanced and honest.
366	Brittney	Shepard	Indigenous relative	This is colonization you cannot erase our Indigenous history. You are trying to erase us. It's bad enough history books dont teach real history of us Indigenous it's even worse that your doing this to our people. Stop doing your ancestors work. This is colonizer mind set. You cannot erase our history!
367	Caroline	Thompson	K-12 Educator	The blatant disregard for the recognition of the indigenous peoples of SD is disgraceful. The standards set forth by the state are NOT the ones submitted by the working group. This is shameful and ignorant.
368	Dante	Cintolo	Student	The erasure of indigenous people
369	Caroline	Thompson	Parent	Not a single mention of SD's indigenous people occurs in any of the first grade standards. As a parent and an educator, that is concerning.
370	Arlene	Stoebner	Retired SD educator	The S.D. workgroup that was asked to work on the S.D. Social Studies standards spent a great deal of time generating standards that included the indigenous people of our state. They existed BEFORE the European Americans. This is the history of our state that MUST be in the teaching standards. If different thoughts arose through the review of the standards by the DOE, I would have expected that there would have been conversation between all parties before the DOE made this final decision. The workgroup deserves that much respect.
371	Laura	Thompson	Concerned citizen	Do not exclude indigenous topics from your curriculum. This is essential education. Consult with those who have lived on this land before we became America for guidance on what and HOW to teach this subject. Do not exclude it.
372	Andie	Miller	Student	These standards are disgusting, lying to students about the history of the land they live on is disgusting. How can the people who made these new standards call themselves educators while purposely omitting large chunks of history?
373	Carrie	Coleman	USA citizen	Please reinstate teaching public school students about the Sioux peoples. It is outrageous that this information was removed from textbooks. The Lakota people are an important part of the past, present, and future of the Dakotas and school students should learn about them.
374	Tia	Boscarello	Parent	Do not remove this history from the curriculum. Especially about WHOSE land you are residing on.
375	Kia	Barlow	Concerned citizen	Please reconsider your decision on not teaching native American history.
376	Robby	Paris	Higher Education	Native American history is the history of South Dakota
377	Daisy	Rodriguez	Higher Education	Do not erase history! It is vital for education, the good and the bad. If you erase this part of history because of shame or guilt, you are not doing them a favor. History needs to be taught so it is not repeated!
378	Elizabeth	Kelley	Student	The South Dakota Social Studies Standards need to be updated to include indigenous history as well as content in order for students to have a more thorough, well rounded understanding of this important facet of American life and history.

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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379	Aiden	Wilson	Student	The k-12 revision explicitly removes ant and all mention of the Lakato Dakota and Nakota people. This includes the removal of the meaning of kinship to the Oceti Sakowin as well as no longer recognizing the land that the indigenous people are on. This shows the school systems compliance with the violence that took place during the "founding" of America as well as the on going violence that our government places on indigenous people all over. To deny their existence is to accept genocide.
380	Renee	Dinh	Parent	It is to my understanding that South Dakota is working on removing most if not all reference to Native Americans from their text books. This is a terrible decision as it will result in increased hate crimes against indigenous communities. Ignorance is hate
381	diana	rivera	Higher Education	History is meant to be heard, not silence. Kids need to learn what their ancestors went through. without lies, without brainwashing. All we ask for is the truth.
382	Cypress	Chambers	Student	The removal of Native American history in class
383	Jessica	Estrada	Parent	Don't take out Indigenous history! We don't get to pick and choose what history these kids know just to make ourselves feel better. Invalidating and trying to erase Indigenous people's history and what this country's done to them is wrong on so many different levels.
384	Lillian	Moffett	Concerned citizen	Whitewashing history and committing Indigenous erasure is not a good look y'all!!! Do the right thing. Teach the factual history.
385	alex	melvin	Student	indigenous topics
386	Matthew	Dargen	American	Hello, I would like to comment on the exclusion of native american studies from the curriculum. It troubles me deeply to know that students will not be learning the true history of the land they live on. A history of the United States that does not include the history of its indigenous people is incomplete at best, at worst misleading, But damaging to our youth no matter what. Please reconsider this and include the Oceti Sakowin in the story we tell our kids.
387	Prince	Hess	Concerned American Citizen	Clearly the erasure of the lessons in Oceti Sakowin culture are an act of racism and hate against the indigenous people of not only the Oceti Sakowin collective but of all indigenous people in the United States. It is dire that the youth of today learns the malpractice of yesterday, it is the only chance we have at equality among future generations and further prosperity for indigenous Americans.
388	Dimitri	Herbin	Higher Education	The erasure of Indigenous and Native Americans in your education system
389	Lara	McLain	Student	Indigenous history must be included in the curriculum. Omitting indigenous history is a form of erasure and cultural genocide. Why don't you want to include indigenous history? Do you want to save people's feelings? I think it's far more important to teach children about the wrongs of the past so that they can create a better future
390	Maddi	Levine	Higher Education	I am shocked and disappointed by the blatant attempt to remove education on the Oceti Sakowin from the K-12 curriculum. I'm especially appalled by the decision not to teach Kindergarten through Third Grade classes about local tribes and their geography, as well as the removal of the Fifth Grade civics section on sovereignty and natural resources. Indigenous history IS American history, and students have a right to know about the land they live on.
391	Nonof	Yourbusiness	Student	.

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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392	Rayaan	Bajwa	Student	The Ommiting of Native American Culture and History from curriculums dangerously and grossly underestimates the significance of atrocities of present day and its past, despite Native Issues effecting their communities and outside communities to this day.
393	Jonathan	Snavely	Student	The social studies standards cannot omit any references to the Native peoples of South Dakota, such as the Oceti Sakowin. Omitting indigenous history from curriculum is a disservice to students and their learning. This blatant erasure of indigenous people is not okay.
394	ciani	clyburn	Student	The erasure of Indigenous history from South Dakota schools is blatantly wrong and ignorant. Every child deserves to know the full history of the United States of America without any bias and/or filter. We're denying these children this right and being hateful towards Indigenous people by erasing their history. The state of South Dakota fails to recognize that they are on stolen land just as the rest of us. Teaching the history of those whom we have stole from is only the bare minimum. Therefore by taking this step, South Dakota is simply putting the future generations in an endless hole of hatred and negativity. The Indigenous people of the U.S. have went through hundreds of years of torment and erasure. Teaching the next generation to give them the respect they deserve is only the beginning.
395	Larkin	Bravado	Concerned Citizen	Study of the Native and Indigenous people of South Dakota and the nation need to be included in all Social Studies curriculum. To remove it shows racism and an attempt to erase a part of local and national history that our young people need to know. Please put this back in the curriculum!
396	Lisa	Myhre	Parent	The removal of native american culture from sd schools is nothing more than retaliation from gov Noem, for the tribes locking down last year. A large portion of sd is native american, and native american culture and history is american history. We should not remove this from schools. To atempt to remove and whitewash a culture from the curriculum that has a significant impact on how this country was built, is incredibly dangerous. Pretending that the facts of the past dont exist is detrimental to your students, and frankly a reminder of the days when Nazis burned books to keep the public dumbed down. The only way for our society to progress is to learn from our collective past and grow from it.
397	Caroline	Baumker	Student	It is absolutely ridiculous that teaching the history of Native Americans is being banned to the point textbooks won't even mention the names of tribes. America's history is ugly but it is an ugly truth and you cannot just pretend these events and these people do not exist.
398	Taylor	Martindale	Student	The fact that the SD Social Studies Standards include refusing to tell students about the land they stand on, or about the culture and language of the Oceti Sakowin. I believe this move is harmful for both native and non-native students. Native students will not be able to connect to their culture, which is a practice that goes back hundreds of years and has caused irreparable harm to natives all over the world. Non-native students will be harmed because they will not be exposed to other cultures outside of their own, which will severely limit their world view. If the SD education system truly cared for their students, the action of censoring the Oceti Sakowin from their schools would not have been considered. But since it has passed, I refuse to believe that South Dakota has any care for their future generations.

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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399	Jan	Swank	Retired State employee	I am referring to the social studies standard. The teaching of the history and culture of the Northern Plains horse tribes (Lakota/Dakota/Nakota, Northern Cheyenne, Arapahoe) is essential to the understanding of the settling of South Dakota and contemporary race relations. Current tribal relations and urban race problems will confront students now and in the future. Ignorance of the history and culture of a race that represents 10% of our populace is a guarantee of continued administrative failure to address pressing problems. Ignorance is only bliss in politics.
400	Rebekah	Sawers	Parent	It is important fir schools and children to learn about Indigenous land, and share the gentle gift of working together.
401	Kristy	Gonyer	Soon to be parent, community member	I am very concerned about the Governor's administration's proposed cuts to social studies standards that would decrease the amount of Native American culture and history taught in schools. I believe that this history and culture is an integral part of a full education of the history of the United States and South Dakota in particular. As a SD high school graduate myself, I wish that my social studies education had included more emphasis on Native American history and culture. This was one of several gaps in my SD education that my colleagues from other states clearly have been better prepared to understand. I believe that it is important that students learn the full scope of our history, the good and the bad. I also believe that a full understanding of the history and culture of all people who live in the state and country is integral to maintaining and growing strong respectful communities and a democracy with fully informed citizens that can make their own decisions. What we choose not to teach is often much more harmful to children (and future adults) than what we choose to teach, because students will enter the world without critical perspectives and contexts that are necessary in a well-functioning society. Without full knowledge our ability to fight to protect the freedoms and rights that make the United States a special country is in danger. Without full knowledge our way of life is in danger of politicians and the government taking advantage of and manipulating the citizenry.
402	Niko	Peters	K-12 Educator	You have left out important teachings on local Indigenous people. This must be reversed as soon as possible
403	Ronni	Hunter	Concerned person	Removing teachings of the indigenous people from where you live is harmful to everyone, history should be taught in its full form, which includes the indigenous community.
404	Laurel	Davis Delano	Higher Education	I recently read about cuts to educational standards/goals focused on Native Americans. This is horrible! One of the primary reasons that Native Americans struggle (much more than average) in schools, the workplace, politics, health, etc. IS that most non-Native people do not know much about Native Americans (and often believe misleading information). It is especially important that non-Native people understand tribal nation sovereignty, and learn about both history and contemporary Native American peoples and tribal nations.
405	Annaira	Serratore	Other	Include Indigenous history in curriculums
406	Jennifer	Palmer	Business and/or Industry	Ignoring narratives and erasing history does nothing but to increase tribalism and vitrol. We should be honored to have a rich history here in South Dakota, and should honor that by teaching our children what has been, what is, and what could be. I urge the DOE to let teachers teach and let children learn. Our future is stronger when we acknowledge past mistakes and respectfully listen to each side of our story.

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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407	Marvin	Kelly	Concerned citizen	Concerning DOE social studies revision. Why are we trying to erase indigenous history? It seems to me that our state is trying to ignore our true history. Please listen to our native people and teach our past to future generations.
408	Mary	Tebben	K-12 Educator	I am truly concerned that the omissions made in the final draft of the social studies curriculum eliminating our states true history... including the history of our native citizens will create a environment of racism and hate. Please Please reconsider re- admitting those items the expert educators that worked so diligently to include in our children's TRUE curriculum be reinserted. Do the RIGHT thing.
409	Willow	Montgomery	Student	Not only the fact that getting rid of native history in schools is blatant racism and native eraser but will just creat a more ignorant generation. Teaching about different cultures is important and needed in schools and taking that away is not doing you or anyone any good
410	Melissa	Effling	Parent	The revisions made after submission of the social studies document are abhorrent. Native American culture and history is not ours to change or delete, and the cowards that did those revisions after submission should have their names released immediately, as well as never being allowed to revise a document again in the school systems.
411	Olivia	Passmore	Parent	Erasure of History of the people whose land you occupy will not be tolerated. We are on stolen land and the children and adults in your school system need to be taught and constantly reminded the histories that come with it; the histories that were taken from the people who this land truly belongs to.
412	Aryan	Tapia	Student	Taking away teaching kids about who's land theyre on is detrimental and erasure of native people, it allows kids to grow up without acknowledging native people
413	X	D	Student	Any and all new standards removing the history of native peoples of South Dakota needs to be revised IMMEDIATELY. There is no good reason for taking away the teachings of any group of people. In order for there to be more compassion for groups of people, there has to be accurate teaching of them. Native history is history of America and should be treated as such.
414	Shari	Davis	Parent	Do not remove ANY standards regarding Native American history or their people. South Dakota should be ADDING curriculum about it as part of the inclusivity and diversity movement. It is shameful that anyone would think that removing standards like this is remotely a good idea.

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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				<p>For starters, the Native Americans were &amp; are the real Americans. I have multiple issues with this attempted educational coup. The proposed changes, without consultation, to a previously bilateral consensus draft of the Social Studies Curriculum is just another back-stabbing example of the treatment of our Native Americans. Another cleansing of the historical content of the Oceti Sakowin. Typical. Also historical. Broken treaties. Broken agreements. This is an obvious manifestation of the Noem war on critical race theory. Trying to control what is or isn't taught; what you can or can't watch, see or feel. Akin to 1930's Germany. This is a continuation of a failed 170+ year old American doctrine of Manifest Destiny. GOOGLE IT- History.com. Boy does it fit. Its our own countrys' disease. Worse than Covid 19 or Delta w no cure. Our current State leadership, along with 74m other Believers of The Big Lie, have chosen the path of dishonor, low/no priciples or integrity. The curtain has been pulled back after 5 years of The Worst example of leadership, especially for Natives &amp; the exploitation of their lands &amp; cultures. There is a new boss in town now, with the First Native American Cabinet member!! A strong Navajo woman told the boot licking Noem - No to Mt. Rushmore fireworks (a photo op for a disgraced dictator); &amp; NO to THE XL PIPELINE!! This disgraceful behavior by the supposedly "impartial panel", whereas they hope to delete issues that were previously agreed upon, is another blatant example of South Dakota Manifest Destiny deviously at work. Another shameful piece of history is when the former/current Confederate states purged several areas of indigenous tribes for the sake of slavery &amp; cotton fields? The Trail of Tears to Oklahoma. That's real Southern Progress? I have an Osage friend that has stories. Or consider the Sand Creek Massacre in Colorado. The Colorado 3rd Cavalry descended on 2 tribe's led by Chief Black Kettle. The majority of the slain were grossly, cruelly mutilated women &amp; children. However, the people of CO didn't try to deny, hide or erase that history. It is a National Park. Unfortunately, there are dozens &amp; dozens of these Manifest Destinty examples runamuk from east to west coasts' in the US &amp; Canada.</p> <p>In conclusion, this white-is-right narrative is unacceptable. Right is still right; wrong is still wrong. The wrongs of the past are just that- WRONGS OF THE PAST. To be taught, remembered but not erased, so they don't happen again. The culture, language, &amp; history of decent, wise, good spiritual people needs to be taught, lived &amp; learned by ALL of us; indigenous &amp; immigrants (Europeans, etc) alike. To solve ANY PROBLEMS, we need to acknowledge &amp; identify together. Then, achieve a resolution...together. Lets remember, with respect. The Native Americans were here first. Manifest Destiny is outdated. Final quote by Chief Sitting Bull: I have 2 dogs inside me; one is mean &amp; evil, the other is good &amp; kind. They fight every day. As to which one is winning, it's the one I feed the most.</p> <p>This too shall pass, if we cut the bs &amp; quit feeding the mean dog with judgemental criticizing, devisive rhetoric &amp; demeaning rancor. Resolutions are needed. Talk it thru. Peace. Ya'll</p>
415	Marv	Rypkema	Parent	
416	Kelsey	Jacobs	Citizen	We need to teach children about indigenous people and the land that belongs to them. They deserve to know the history of the indigenous people.
417	Betsy	Revard	Concerned Native educator/social worker	I am not from South Dakota, but currently live in New Mexico. My tribe is from Oklahoma. I am not at all surprised that yet another state has chosen to erase native American history. I had thought that with the events of the last year and a half that we might be more included in curriculum. Clearly my hopes were unjustified.



**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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418	Harold	Sorknes	retired professor of education	I am responding to the proposed changes in the social studies standards. Because of a lack of knowledge about Native American history and culture South Dakota enacted a requirement for prospective teachers to complete an approved course on South Dakota Indian History/Culture as part of their degree program and required for certification. As a professor of education in the South Dakota University system I taught this class for approximately 15 years. Every semester I had numerous students comment, "Why didn't we learn this in elementary, middle school, or high school?" The most obvious answer was that there wasn't a lot of material in traditional textbooks about Native American history and teachers didn't have very much information to supplement those textbooks. One of the positive outcomes from my course was the comment made by many students throughout the course: "This class has changed my attitude toward Native Americans and I have a much more positive view of Native people. Understanding the history of Native Americans in the U.S. in general and in South Dakota specifically has given me a better appreciation for Native American experiences." Several studies have shown that when a group is "invisible" in the curriculum, whether it is women, African American, Native American, that group doesn't feel like they are important, that their history isn't important. However, when the curriculum includes the experiences of all groups everybody wins. I have had several students from different racial or ethnic groups in my classes and I have found that they have a much more positive experience which is reflected in their grades as well as their attitude and self-esteem. The mainstream students also have expressed appreciation for being given the opportunity to learn more about their neighbors. Removing the Native American standards will definitely be a huge step backward and I urge you to leave the standards as proposed by the workgroup. Thank you for your consideration.
419	Charlene	Barrick	Indigenous persons supporter	Children need to be taught about not only the history of their country , however also children need to learn about the land they live on , the cultural importance of indigenous people as well as the historical miss treatment of indigenous people by government's .
420	Charles	Baldwin	Business and/or Industry	We support SD Education Equity Coalition and please Governor Kristi Noem prioritize Native American education.
421	Danielle	Harding	Parent	Thank you for keeping Critical Race Theory out of the Standards. Looking at this document, the levels of knowledge are age and content appropriate for the students.
422	Chanda	Spotted Eagle	Parent	I'm a parent, a property tax payer, and I have worked in education for over 20 years. Accept the original draft created by the team of professionals our \$900,000 in tax payer money funded. They are teachers, professors, and historians from multiple ethnicities, schools, and town across all of South Dakota. All of the revisions are not okay. Accept the original draft!

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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423	Dorothy	Story	K-12 Educator	<p>I am writing this response both as an educator but also as a parent. It is essential for educators to avoid indoctrination, to teach students the entire story of our beautiful state, and our nation. That story includes conflict and resolutions, it includes contributions from different genders, different cultures and from people of all different beliefs. These differences are the very things that helped to shape our history, our geography, motivate our students to get involved in their citizenship, and make our country what it is. If we are proud of our country, if we are proud of our state, why are we hiding parts of our history? A huge part of our history and our current population are our Native relatives. Their history, their culture, their knowledge and their beliefs have influenced and continue to influence our state, our country and our understanding of the world. For reasons I cannot understand, this has been wiped from the current version of the standards we teach. Simply put, I feel strongly that ejecting Native American history is racist and dishonest. The original version of the educational standards were put forth by bipartisan educators, legislators, parents, community members, and other experts in their fields; experts who collaborated for long periods of time to create a document that is based on research, experience and collaboration. I helped to write the science standards and I know what it is your to spend weeks combing over each word, analyzing each verb, pouring over the research and arguing with others to try to create a document that would help guide educators towards best teaching practices. Knowing some of the members of this workgroup, I know they did the same. I cannot imagine the person, or group of people, who changed this at the last minute for public review had any more experience, knowledge, or research than this workgroup. This person or persons did not even have the confidence to attach their name(s) to the document. The changes made hide the very truth of our history. By doing so, I believe, is the very definition of indoctrination.</p> <p>The original standards as proposed by the workgroup were well written, age appropriate, and well researched. The standards that are now available for public review are racist, anti-American, and anti-South Dakotan. Without question, they need to include and represent ALL of the people that make our state great and give the entire story of what shaped it. I implore you, as an educator, as a parent, as a South Dakotan, to change the document back to what the original work group of experts wrote so that it may truly represent and reflect true history, not a revisionist version of it.</p>
424	Diane	Feller	Grandma	<p>I think our Governor should stay out of school business. She seems to forget the teachers when it comes to money. I think we need to honor the people who played a part in the history of our state., and the young people of today need to be told of the part that all these people played in our history.</p>
425	Ace	P.	Student	<p><b>STOP ERASING NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY, AND IGNORING THE FACT IT WAS THEIRS. TEACH THE CHILDREN ABOUT NATIVE AMERICANS, THEIR LIVES, AND WHAT THEY SUFFERED BECAUSE OF AMERICANS.</b></p>
426	Edward	Manzano	Parent	<p>i am quite pleased with STandards and focus on our Founding, Founders, documents, etc. I think more emphasis should be placed on dangers of communism to American way of life, showing how Red China, USSR/Russia,Cuba, Venezuela, etc became tyrannical dictatorships with no freedom for the people.</p>
427	Jackie	Waldie	Parent	<p>I am thankful the state stepped in and revised them. I am a former educator who has served on curriculum committees. The one these educators presented to the state were clearly biased and had an agenda. They were not objective and included language that implied revisionist history</p>
428	Dave	Sanderson	Parent	<p>The July 25th document (<a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cZl1nVcMiAzvuoRQAbjaDFwC0WkMcpOr/edit#">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cZl1nVcMiAzvuoRQAbjaDFwC0WkMcpOr/edit#</a> ) should replace the current one. Those standards better address the original charge and needs of the state.</p>

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429	Nick	Spiess	Higher Education	The erasure of indigenous history in K-12 schooling must be stopped.
430	Isabella	Gonzalez	Citizen of the U.S. advocating for the indigenous peoples of South Dakota	As Americans we CANNOT ignore our country's history, and that SPECIFICALLY includes the history of Native Americans. This land is NATIVE LAND. To not educate our country's students about Native American history would not only be morally wrong, but a disservice to our indigenous communities as well as a disservice to all our students. YOU CANNOT ERASE HISTORY. YOU WILL NOT ERASE THE HISTORY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE. Don't allow your children to grow up ignorant and uneducated, especially on the history of the people whose land you STOLE AND LIVE OFF OF. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ARE HERE!!!! YOU WILL NOT ERASE US!!!!
431	Naomi	Ng	Student	I am strongly against the removal of Native American history from the newly revised South Dakota Social Studies Standards. Native American history has already been strongly neglected for many years, this new standard however further seeks to erase Native American's and their struggles.
432	Jenny	Day	Student	Erasing indigenous history from schools is immoral and unjust to the education system. Kids need to know how much natives have influenced the history of America, their trials and tribulations. Only but the truth, please let indigenous people have their voice
433	Kathleen	Logan	Concerned individual	How can you live somewhere named after indigenous people & not give them any credit?!
434	Mandy	Williams	Concerned citizen	I object to the removal of the topics related to the indigenous populations in South Dakota. They are important so there is an understanding of native populations and what they have been through. Please add back the items that were removed.
435	Jared	Hulstine	K-12 Educator	I came to South Dakota from teaching in 2 other states. As part of becoming a certified teacher, I was required to take a native studies course. At first, I thought it was another hoop to jump through. Then after taking the course I realized how integral and important it is to have a foundational understanding of native history as part of our nation's history as well as recognizing current day indigenous people. It's one part of what makes South Dakota unique. Our students should have a similar foundational understanding. What the DOE has done (given what the revisions work group submitted) is purely political and doesn't serve the future citizens of this state. Please put the Oceti Sakowin standards and wording back in the document before board adoption.
436	Ryan	Young	Organization or Agency	Incredibly confused why the work that was completed by educators (experts in this area) from across the state was scraped at the 11th hour? To my knowledge there has never been a redaction of this scale related to the development of standards. I would like to know who made the decision to remove so many standards at the last minute and why?
437	Jess	Schneider	Higher Education	This removal is unjust and racist. By removing the education of indigenous people, you are removing history. As a white woman, it is important to educate our cultures racist and cruel past. We are doomed to repeat the past.
438	Brianna	Kemnitz	Parent	I think that what is in the history is history. And we should keep learning and talk about it. It's part of our life we need people to know what has happened to make who we are today. Coming from a mom of two that are mixed its very important that I know they learn about thier history and thier Ancestors.

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439	Kathleen	Dewell	K-12 Educator	I have a general comment to make. I think if you are going to appoint a group of educators, who are already familiar with the actual curriculum, you need to listen to their advice and not get on some political platform!
440	Greg	Rojas	Parent	The issue that concerns me is that the school district is trying to erase native American culture and history. FROM HISTORY. The past is the past and wether anyone likes it or not. IT HAPPENED AND MUST BE TEACHED TO EVERYONE.
441	Cormac	Bartlett	Civilian	All standards related to the representation of and education on the Oceti Sakowin. It is ESSENTIAL to educate our youth on the Native peoples of the land they live on. Do not erase their history.
442	Christine	Neider	Parent	I am pleased by two additions. The inclusion of anchor standard K-12 H.6, which runs throughout the grade levels, ensures content regarding the whole picture of SD history will be included. The inclusion of the Inquiry Anchor standards throughout the grade levels ensures that this and any other content will not become indoctrination because we are teaching children how to think critically about history and their own times. The exclusion of these additions promises a repeat of history, ideology trumping thinking for generations.
443	Lorraine Besme	Besmer	Grandparent and taxpayer	Critical Race Theory
444	Erica	Bell	K-12 Educator	The Department of Education needs to explain further why these standards were cut out. The process needs to be more transparent. The Oceti Sakowin play a major role in our state's history and consequently should be included in our K-12 curriculum. Federal policy regarding their land and tribal rights is an ongoing issue. If we are going to developed K-12 students into educated citizens, they need to understand the nature of these debates.
445	Lauren	Kloer	Veterinarian who treats animals on the reservations in South Dakota	With regards to:  3.H.2.2: "Explain the importance of famous American figures including but not limited to George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, and Rev. Martin Luther King Jr." -- I strongly believe students in the South Dakota school system should learn about prominent members and successful members of native peoples from all tribes in South Dakota.  • 3.H.1.1: "Discuss obstacles and successes of both the early settlers and Indigenous Native Americans in creating communities." -- Students should be taught about settler colonialism.  4.H.6.3: "Analyze the impact of significant historical events on the development of South Dakota's places and people. " --- this should also include the destruction or demise of Indian/Native American populations. Additionally, it should include a celebration of the more recent successes of tribes across the state.
446	Vic	Salgado	Lifelong learner	Do not erase indigenous history from your social studies courses. It is irresponsible and disingenuous to leave native folks of our historical narratives—indigenous history is U.S. History.

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447	Victoria	Salgado	Student	1.G.1.2. - The erasure of indigenous history is unacceptable. For teachers to leave out key Native American figures in their teachings is irresponsible and disingenuous to the true historical narrative. Indigenous history IS U.S. history. They will not be erased.
448	Trista	Flak	K-12 Educator	Common this is history, present day reality. Stop being racist abc start respecting indigenous peoples
449	Kimberly	Randall	Parent	All history needs to be taught. Good or bad it is history all our children need to understand.
450	Alexander	Warnke	An American who loves all history and knows all of our nation's history must be taught. For Russel Means and the Oceti Sakowin Oyate	Their new DOE standards engaging in native erasure.
451	Renee	Zhao	Student	Your standard to remove Indigenous history is harmful because it erases history. Students should be taught about settler colonialism and how the land they reside in now got stolen by numerous tribes forcefully. Bring back Indigenous history in schools.
452	Ida	Wheeler	Concerned Citizen	It is very critical that Indigenous History not be removed in educational curriculum. Their histories are our American Histories as well and attempting to erase it is to be complicit in silencing them. We do NOT stand for that. Keep their histories in the books and stop lying to these children by giving them only bits and pieces of American History.
453	Arielys	Hernandez	Student	i just think it's wrong to try to erases indigenous history. people NEED to be educated on things like this especially when they live on STOLEN LAND!!!
454	Daniel	Garcia	Student	Please reconsider removing the native history topics from your curriculum.
455	Tradition	Carried On	Native American Education	We want our native history taught in schools. We are tired of our history being erased by educational establishments to further erase us and our voices. 40% of the united states already believes native Americans no longer exists and you people seem to only wish to raise that percentage. It is irresponsible and immoral to not teach other Americans that we have survived so much and yet we are still here. We weren't even allowed citizenship when we fought in your wars and this is how we are repaid? With more erasure? We weren't granted religious freedom until 1978 and yet here we are, our old traditions continuing still today and you would erase that from the curriculum so that you don't have to explain the horrors our people survived? What is wrong with you people. It's disgusting that we are constantly having our existence stepped on. Teach the youth our history accurately so that the next generations know we are still here and we are still thriving and surviving.

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456	James	Myers	K-12 Educator and Parent	Why would the legislature even make an effort to remove Native American references in education when such a large number of our students are Native? It serves only to purposely alienate them and devalue their presence and culture. It's not hard to feel that was the goal. I would like a reply as to how it's a good thing.
457	Niki	Robinson	Concerned citizen	Your Social Studies curriculum should not omit the proposed indigenous subjects, as this is erasure of the people who have lived here for centuries.
458	Devin	Bailey	Ally	Students in the state and all other states should learn about the indigenous peoples that live there. It's shameful that they try so hard to erase their presence and influence on history especially since they were vital to it. It should be taught
459	Consuelo	Maldonado	Parent	Removal of Indigenous topics. You CANNOT remove such history from our childrens' curriculum when it was the basis of the birth of the United States! South Dakota is so rich with indigenous people and culture, the removing of such teachings would create a divide and an intolerance of our native population. It seems it is our younger generations who have become so more accepting of others who are different from them. They have recieved this education and strive to make the world better!! Do NOT reverse the progress we have made to make a better, united, nation. Not to mention it is the Native American government that the United States adapted - democracy.
460	Serena	OLIVER	Parent	Native history SHOULD be kept IN the curriculum. Why is Native history being erased even further? This is shameful. Keep history truthful.
461	Kaitlin	Marsico	OST tribal member I	Accurate, Indigenous history should be honored and protected. Stop white washing history to fit a narrative.
462	Kara	Barnett	Concern Citizen	It's irresponsible and racist to omit the history of Indigenous people from the social studies curriculum.
463	ana	charles	Student	i am signing because native american history does not deserve to be erased
464	Tara	Williams	Business and/or Industry	We can't erase people from history.
465	Stella	Merims	Student	I am outraged at the indigenous erasure in the curriculum. Indigenous people are a part of South Dakota and should be treated as such.
466	Anna	Ball	Former K-12 educator, parent of former student, concerned citizen	It is a travesty that Indigenous history and culture are being cut from state standards. Not only is this a failure for our Indigenous population, it is a failure for ALL of us. How can we "prepare students to be active, aware, and engaged citizens of their communities, state, country, and world" if our students learn nothing about ALL of the people inhabiting this state and especially about the very first people to inhabit what is now South Dakota. Please reconsider and include Indigenous culture and history in SD state standards.
467	Anh	Ngo	Rapid City resident	I hope that the curriculum to teach Native American culture will be kept in schools. The indigenous history is so important for our state, given the numerous tribes located here. It is important for children to learn the native history and culture because that is the history and culture of the land where they were born and are growing up. In learning, they will have pride in their roots and become better community members while gaining empathy and respect for others. These are important soft skills that will be invaluable for them as adults. Please do not cut this curriculum from schools!

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468	Seanne	King-Mosley	Parent	As a Dakota/Lakota and Ponca tribal member born and raised in South Dakota, I am disgusted that our governor and department of education officials think that less education of Native American history is better for our children.
469	Keilah	Stanley	Student	This is not fair we should know the truth and if native Americans history is taken out of our history books and our curriculum then we can not know the truth of our history we will not know how to fix the mistakes of the past and that doesn't help us learn it barricades us from helping in the fight of equality.
470	Amanda	Worman Holmgaard	Concerned citizen	I am concerned about the removal of Indigenous topics from social studies standards before the final draft. This is a step backwards and not forwards in this, the 21st century. Take responsibility, have humility and acknowledge the existence, excellence, history and attempted erasure of the sovereign Indigenous peoples of the Dakotas. We demand public comment!
471	Nic	Cooper	K-12 Educator	How can any State WANT, nay, DEMAND facts about non-Euro-white history to be excluded from curriculum?! Why would a publicly funded, educational entity brazenly choose to erase history? Its not educational at this point but buildings for white supremacy indoctrination. This SHOULD be embarrassing to EVERY person in SD & the USA, but instead is enabled & even treated as a respected "solution!" Are leaders & parents in SD scared of their children being better educated than them? Do they all need to start at Kindergarten & work through the grades again...it surely seems so. What a disgrace. An embarrassingly white supremacy disgrace.
472	Linn	Sandblom	Student	Stop erasing indigenous history
473	Adrienne	Hoffman	Tribal member	Your pathetic attempts to erase native people will not work. Kids know how to use technology and they know how to find out the real history. All you're doing by trying to erase native history is telling kids you are a-ok with lying and covering up the truth.
474	Sheri	Booze	Parent	I grew up in South Dakota and the new standards are a throwback to the information that I was taught. I felt this was a disservice to me and it is going to be a disservice to the present day youth of South Dakota. There are gaps in what I learned and I do not appreciate them and feel they have made me appear to be less intelligent. I am embarrassed by these gaps and I am embarrassed that the state I have always called home is trying to rewrite history to suit itself. When our students go to other states they will appear less intelligent because they were not given all the information - I feel we need to do what is best for our students and not what is best for our government!!!
475	Cassandra	Reyes	Higher Education	Native Erasure in K-12 education, no more whitewashing of the real US history
476	Mark	Kreie	Parent	I feel strongly that the standards written by the workgroup be re-implemented. I think it is important for the students of South Dakota to learn more about the Native American culture, as the workgroup had suggested.

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				<p>For ninth- to 12th-grade U.S. history standards, students to study the "impact South Dakotans, including Oceti Sakowin Oyate and other Indigenous Native Americans, had on U.S. and South Dakota History."</p> <p>There are too many standards to even mention here but eliminating the basics such as learning about our reservations and tribes, and the geography that exists in South Dakota is unconscionable.</p> <p>Indigenous Native Americans are the heart and beginning of South Dakota history. How can that be left out of our South Dakota children's education?</p> <p>I dislike addressing race issues but feel this is so important to all of our children and it especially hits home for my own family. I am caucasian (100% Euro DNA) but my own three children's ancestors are of Native American descent and have a long history of living in South Dakota for generations. My own children have already felt their social studies education classes have been white washed but are even more devastated to hear the news of their heritage being deleted from South Dakota history. I can't imagine what all the little Native children feel ... forgotten, not important, less than, etc. I think the revised standards deleting our Native histories in South Dakota is terrible and definitely a step back in our state's progress of reducing racial disparities.</p> <p>Frankly, I'm embarrassed and ashamed! How is a parent like me suppose to comfort my children who are being written out of history?</p>
477	Celisity	Cadotte	Parent	
478	Maribeth	Latvis	Parent	I disapprove of the last-minute erasing of Indigenous history from our curriculum. Especially in state where 10-20% of the people are of Native American descent, there should be a historically accurate portrayal of ALL peoples here. Even though my family is of European origin, I want my children to learn about the rich cultural background of South Dakota- including our Oceti Sakowin neighbors!
479	Rhys	Conoley-Marsh	Private Citizen	The blatant erasure of indigenous peoples and land acknowledgements is disgusting and harmful. Do the right thing and include indigenous peoples in your curriculum to amplify and uplift their voices instead of erasing them to uphold your own racist agenda.
480	Anthony	Fresquez	Higher Education	Those who control the government, control history. During WWII Nazis tried to dehumanize certain citizens of Germany with the intent of eliminating history of them and their contributions to their society and the world whether it was considered positive or negative. The USA and all the continent of North and South America is historically indigenous territory. Now, these continents are significant immigr
481	Erin	Schaffer	Parent	The fact that references to Native American was left out of the social studies curriculum is appalling. Our children need to be taught all relevant history related to this area. It is important for them to understand how we learn from history, and past battles. We should not have a governor that wants to cherry pick what is taught.



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				<p>Vision: All students will leave the K-12 education system college, career and life ready.</p> <p>This is your vision statement, and without Social Studies how can you meet this very simple vision?                  Many students will not have the positive prior knowledge needed to be a bias, students come to schools with what parents believe so if you have parents who are prejudice" the child will come in thinking they are better than all.. As a lakota elder and educator I'am at aw with the state WHY hide the fact that the native people have been mistreated since the birth of this state and nation. How can you build compassion, equality and respect for each and every one of us in the state. Education, as you all know, is to teach the "Whole Child" including issues no one is proud of, like discrimination. so the state should add more to Social Studies and not take it away. Mitakuye oyasin</p>
482	Audra	Baldwin	Parent	
483	Vicki	Vander Lugt	K-12 Educator	I am writing in reference to the standards being change regarding the indigenous peoples. What is the reasoning behind this? We cannot sugarcoat history. We need to learn to deal with it and prevent situations from happening again. Removal of history does not mean it did not take place.
484	Pamela	Platero	Indigenous community member	The removal of the Oceti Sakowin history from the school curriculum
485	Jamie	Lambaren	Higher Education	I do not stand for the education system completely omitting indigenous people from history book. It is important to recognize whose land we are on.
486	Sadie	Grigal	Student	Native American history should be at the top of k-12 learning standards. The largest genocide in recorded history is barley mentioned or talked about in the education I used to endure. Absolutely disgusting that it's an option to remove already watered down history.
487	Carleigh	Lamborn	U.S citizen	I would like for the education program to continue to reflect the history of the ownership of the land and the indigenous people's history regarding the land.
488	Robert	Bauman	Parent	The Native American story is South Dakota's story which must be taught from both perspectives.

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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489	Cody	Maynus	Organization or Agency	<p>As a clergyperson who is tasked with leadership in a faith community and who has parishioners enrolled in South Dakota Public Schools, I would like to make the following comments on the proposed draft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Is not reflective of the consensus of the work group.</li> <li>*Meaningful and maximum consultation with Oceti Sakowin tribes was not conducted prior to the release of this proposal.</li> <li>*Perpetuates the active erasure of the Indigenous narrative/perspective of our state's history.</li> <li>*Perpetuates the sentiments of assimilation that were introduced with the boarding school movement.</li> <li>*Is not inclusive of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings-- a state-recognized set of standards designed to be inclusive of the land, culture, language, and history of the Oceti Sakowin (People of the 7 Council Fires) of South Dakota. "The hope is that citizens who are well educated about the Oceti Sakowin history and culture will be more likely to make better decisions in the arena of Indian issues and to get along better with one another." - Lakota Scholar, Dr. Craig Howe 2010</li> <li>*Past legislative attempts at mandating the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) failed after assurances made by DoE that the OSEU would be incorporated when content standards were updated.</li> <li>*Is not inclusive of any other forms of diversity represented in our state.</li> <li>*Preface is consistent with the "The 1776 Pledge to Save Our Schools" proclamation, is partisan, and does not belong in content standards.</li> <li>*Classrooms should be safe, diverse, inclusive, accepting, non-partisan environments for students to develop their critical-thinking skills in order to discover their unique role and purpose.</li> <li>*Politics should not play a role in education.</li> <li>*Is an attempt at political indoctrination.</li> <li>*Endorses Governor Noem's personal and political agenda.</li> <li>*Definitions for the following need to be revised:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Culture</li> <li>-Oceti Sakowin</li> <li>-Indigenous/Native American</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
490	Valerie	Bautista	Student	The new standards for social studies in public school is a sad erasure of the native people of this land. Removing teachings about the Oceti Sakowin removes the respect that we should all have for the native people children will grow up not knowing what land they are on or the rich history and culture of that land in South Dakota
491	Kenya	Greathouse	Student	Do not erase Native Americans from our history. This will only groom bigotry
492	Jasmine	Jordison	Business and/or Industry	We need to keep indigenous history in the school books. By removing indigenous history you are erasing history and furthering the genocidal acts of colonizers before. Indigenous erasure is an act of genocide. Why would you remove indigenous history from the lesson plan? Indigenous history is important and necessary. Do the right thing and keep indigenous history in the books and lesson plans.
493	Asa	Conroy	Higher Education	This standard erases the history of the indigenous people of South Dakota. Children should know who's land they're on, the people it has been stolen from, and how they are still here. Stop trying to erase the stories and silence the voices of Native Americans.
494	Kassandra	Amaral	Parent	The erasure of native history which is completely unacceptable!

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495	Taira	Diaz Maldonado	Parent	To omit any teaching of any indigenous tribes is the removal of factual historical teachings and is prejudicial to any race same as removal of black history or any minority teaching it is the history of this land of this country and to omit is to oppress. And is Not a part of what America is to stand for and should not be taught to our kids in any educational standing. Prejudice is a huge problem already in the US and it should not be taught as an ok matter in our schools too. We have already taken away enough in our teachings in the educational system. Enough is enough!
496	Jessica	Lemieux	Parent	You cannot erase Native history. The truth needs to be told and the history these people needs to be shared.
497	Ariel	Eagle	Parent	In reference to proposed SD Social Studies standards, politics should not play a role in education. It is completely unethical to leave out parts of history.
498	courtney	jones	Person who cares	The removal of indigenous topics isn't ok! It's important and needs to be taught! Not taken!
499	Julie	Prasek	K-12 Educator	Native people are part of our histroy you can't pretend they were not here or what the white people did to them. I have a Native husband and children - we are proud of the Natives in SD. As a 4th grade teacher the students should learn how Natives were treated and what we can learn. It would be an outcry to change them.
500	saturn	eberle	Student	Oceti Sakowin needs to keep being talked about in schools, topics about indigenous peoples are vitally important. you're on stolen land so educating young people about that is the bare minimum.
501	Cecelia	BigCrow	Grandparent, Citizen	I am very disappointed with the SD DOE's decision to forego the work completed by the Social Studies Work Group. I feel that it is integral for the students of South Dakota to understand the TRUE history of South Dakota and the USA as well. By continuing to purposely omit Native history in the state school system, the State is encouraging the misunderstanding and ignorance of our Non-Native students. Also by deliberately excluding the history and contributions that our first Nation's citizens, the SD DOE is missing an opportunity to create healing and trust amongst the Native American population. I implore the SD DOE to revise the standards and include the arduous work that was completed by the Work Group for Social Studies Standards.
502	Kervin	Wyatt	Parent	And THIS is why we need CRT

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503	Erin	McBurney	Social Studies Standards Workgroup Member	<p>Thank you for the work on this project! It is great to see the number of 8th grade standards to be significantly less. The following list are concerns I have moving forward with the 8th grade U.S. History standards:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The 2015 8th Grade standards had a standard that read, "Describe the changing federal policy toward Native Americans after the Civil War." There is no discussion of the American government's interaction with Indigenous Native Americans or cultural aspects of major tribes in South Dakota in this presented draft of standards. Students should have an understanding of major cultural traits of local tribes and the Plains wars through a U.S. history class in South Dakota.</li> <li>2. 8.H.4.1. is repetitive of 8.H.4.2. The War of 1812, Texas Revolution, and the Mexican American war are all aspects of Westward Expansion and Manifest destiny. These topics would be taught in-depth, from multiple perspectives under 8.H.4.2. in a general education classroom. Because of this, 8.H.4.1. is not needed in the standards.</li> <li>3. 8.H.5.1. is not consistent with the wording of the other standards when discussing primary documents. Because the rest of the standards discuss a specific document (Example: 8.C.3.1. lists the U.S. Constitution, 8.C.3.2. lists the Bill of Rights), 8.H.5.1. should just discuss the Declaration of Independence to make it more specific, and the standard should remove "and other founding documents." To accommodate this, another standard could be added for students to examine the pros and cons of the Articles of Confederation. The specificity of the document to the standard is helpful for new teachers to plan curriculum and assessments, rather than a vague statement of "and other founding documents".</li> <li>4. 8.C.1.1. is repetitive of 8.C.2.1. Both standards discuss influence to the creation of the United States. 8.C.1.1 only focuses on European influence, where as 8.C.2.1. allows not only for influence from Europe, but also the American's own experience with the Articles of Confederation and Indigenous Native Americans like the Iroquois Confederacy. Because of this, 8.C.1.1. is not needed in the standards.</li> <li>5. The 2015 8th Grade standards had a standard that read, "Draw conclusions about the political, social, and economic effects of Reconstruction in the United States." For some reason, this standard was not added to the final draft, even though our table agreed to it. I have wondered if it was left off the final draft by accident. This standard should be added to this current draft. The skills involved for students to historically evaluate the impact of events from three separate areas of influence is a valuable necessity.</li> </ol>
504	Riley	Sullivan	College Student	Erasing any references to the Oceti Sakowin in K-12 standards for civics and geography classes is absolutely unacceptable.
505	Edith	Gozali-Lee	community member	Promote culturally-responsive education, including teaching students about Native American history and culture through the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings.
506	Nita	Clements	Higher Education	Disgusting
507	Alixandria	Beedle	Citizen	You are doing a disservice by neglecting the education of European descendants whom live on Native land. It will be embarrassing for the children as they grow into adults not knowing anything about the land they walk on.
508	Alison	Winter	Parent	We need to continue to include indigenous people into our curriculum. This is a significant part of our country and state's history and continues to be relevant to this day.

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509	Ava	VanWinkle	Student	Don't erase the history of natives. This is their land and their history should be taught.
510	Deb	Morrill	Citizen	Indigenous history is a vital part of US history. It needs to be taught in an honest and comprehensive way.
511	Nicole	Robinson	Member of the public	Removing references to indigenous history and land is not appropriate and appears to be racist.
512	Reina	Patrick	Concerned citizen	Please teach about indigenous and native american culture.
513	Chantille	Hamilton	Natives who stick together	Learn who's land you're on
514	Jessica	Pfitzer	Parent	I think it is imperative to continued connection and understanding that we do not cut any Native American based curriculum from our schools. I do not support cuts to our social studies curriculum.
515	Laura	Gandolfo	K-12 Educator	As an educator and a parent I am appalled by these changes made to the curriculum! If they are so embarrassed of the history they should take action to rectify it instead of trying to sweep it under the rug so to speak.
516	John	Dick	K-12 Educator	I'm a Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin tribal member and I work for our Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department as a School Community Relations Specialist. I learned of this happening through social media efforts and I am writing to express that I oppose the removals of the Civics curriculum referencing the Oceti Sakowin Oyate, whose people and their history are a vital part in American History as a whole. I feel both as a Native American and a citizen of the United States that all states should include the tribes within their states; their removals and history, in their curriculum to their students. I urge the state of South Dakota to reconsider this removal and to continue teaching this important part of history to your students. Thank you for your consideration.
517	Katelynn	Hintz	Student	I feel like it's important to understand and learn about the land that we live on and the people who lived on this land before us. By erasing whole entire culture from textbooks would be like erasing major events from textbooks
518	Liana	Kroll	Museum Staff	As a museum professional I work every day to improve the accuracy of our historical record and teach the public the truth of their importance and creation. By removing the teaching about an important and integral part of South Dakota's past and present you are removing truth and fact. This robs the students of accuracy and perpetuates the misinformation about indigenous cultures while denying those alive today the dignity of truth.
519	Clara	Fogarty	Student	The unfair treatment and erasure of indigenous topics.
520	Trista	Cullum	Parent	It's erasure of indigenous people and their culture.
521	Alexandra	Gray	Higher Education	People should learn all history of this land or it's all a lie.

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522	Michelle	DuBray	Native American Education Committee Chair	The attempt to erase the Oceti Sakowin from the South Dakota Social Studies Standards is horribly offensive to me as a Native woman and as the Chair of our local school's Native American Education Committee. After having a working group spend months working to improve Social Studies Standards and in turn increase Native history, being more inclusive of the rich history of Native people, only to yank their work and try to all but erase Native people from the standards is outright racist! Institutionalized racism! I agree it is hard to stomach what was done to the Natives in this country, but not talking about it doesn't make it go away, nor does it heal the racial divide which has become a vast cavern under the current Governor. South Dakota must resist these types of erasure attempts. Please do not let the Governor get away with playing politics with Social Studies Standards. A strong working group was put in place, keep their work, take their improvements and let's keep moving forward as a state despite the Governor and her national office and/or tv host ambitions. Please keep the version of the Social Studies Standards submitted by the knowledgeable working group. Thank you.
523	Nancy	LeBeau	K-12 Educator	The ones they propose to change..duh.
524	Maria	Flores	Student	South Dakota has removed Indigenous topics from the Social Studies Standards, which is Indigenous erasure.
525	Jackie	Seanson	Higher Education	What you have done Gov. Noem is try to erase the Indigenous people from South Dakota! Use a group of knowledgeable educators and slap them in the face. That is wrong and not your job!!!! It is fascist and sneaky!
526	Joanne	Anderson	Retired 6-9 educator	History of our Native American history needs to be included along with our citizens of color history. This is not an entirely "White" state. All ethnicities and cultures need to be in our social studies curriculum. The values and concepts of our peoples need to be considered in all the standards of the social studies curriculum.
527	Renee	Roland	K-12 Educator	Omissions of references to Native culture and Oceti Sakowin standards is disgraceful. The version proposed by The committee should stand.
528	Jana	Fuhrmann	K-12 Ed in Ohio	It is absolutely irresponsible & unconscionable to remove ALL native history from the K-12 curriculum. At a time when nationalism and racism is at an all time high, to remove integral information about native history, culture, current issues etc. robs students of the essential opportunity to learn about our country's true history, the oppression & challenges that indigenous communities still face today etc. and how they can be an ally to marginalized groups in the future.

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				<p>As a teacher of middle school (6-8) social studies, I am very disappointed with the "revisions" to the social studies standards for those grade levels. Many of the standards in my grade band have remained largely the same and therefore the same issues are still present. It is also gravely concerning that revisions were changed by the state at the final hour, doing damage to the work that had already been done by the workgroup. The preface and introduction contain multiple references to "the founders of our nation" in a way that is biased and borderline indoctrinating and should be removed. In my eyes the purpose of social studies education is to develop critical thinking skills and make connection between past events and present conditions rather than to foster a false sense of nationalism that may be harmful or at least misleading to many students in our state. Specifically the omission of the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings is upsetting in a state that has one of the largest Native American populations in the US. It is important for all students in South Dakota to understand the history of this state and especially have some comprehension of its first people, whether they belong to these groups or simply live alongside them. The 8th grade standards for "United States History" are particularly egregious in that there is only one reference to indigenous people despite the major role they played in the history of this country and state. This perpetuates rather than addresses the erasure of this history, which, again, is of particular importance in this state. In fact, the revisions actually remove two current standards (now 8.H.1.6 and 8.H.4.7) that slightly address these topics. The 8th grade standards are remarkably and rigidly specific, especially in contrast with the social studies standards for many other grade levels which allow for teacher flexibility in content delivered to reach the standards. I believe that this is an attempt to preach a flawed and incomplete narrative of the history of our country and obscure the diversity and truth of that history. I advise that the OSEU are incorporated more fully into state standards and that more consultation be done with tribal leaders and educators so that the work is representative of the entire state. Having a more diverse and culturally responsive set of state standards would go a long way towards healing the divisions within this state and educating children of all races and backgrounds.</p>
529	Liam	Wilson	K-12 Educator	
530	Jade	Marshalek	Student	I hate the new revised South Dakota social studies standards as it is Erasing history of the natives and it's really messed up
531	Fran	Linn	Parent	Please restore the Oceti Salomon as recommended by the original Social Studies workgroup. Knowing the history of all people of South Dakota is vital for our state

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532	Melissa	Petersen	Concerned Citizen	I believe the draft standards developed by the Social Studies Standards Workgroup and submitted to the state do much more justice to teaching the history and present-day struggles and triumphs of Native Americans than the revised draft submitted by the DoE to the public. I understand the justification of providing flexibility to teachers in what exactly they teach but I feel that in this case, it is most appropriate to specifically lay out what teachers should teach about indigenous cultures. Many teachers in South Dakota are not indigenous and are not taught these stories, symbolism, histories in the course of their education and have no personal knowledge of them either. Explaining Native symbology, practices, governance, histories, and honestly teaching students about the disadvantages and discrimination Native Americans have been subjected to, on purpose, by the government and white South Dakotans is critical to improving relations between all South Dakotans. We need to understand each others' perspectives. Glossing over injustices that we, as white people, have inflicted on others and might feel guilty about doesn't help anyone. We need to acknowledge the harm done so we don't continue to repeat it. The Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings & Standards was developed by Native academics and elders to provide guidance in what students (Lakota or otherwise) should learn about this culture. I believe the DOE should explicitly include the lessons and standards from the OSEUs into the state social studies standards to do justice to the teaching of these essential topics.
533	Jolene	Mittelstedt	Retired teacher	Please restore the original Oceti Sakowin committee recommendations. This is very important for students in our state.
534	Joel	Vockrodt	Business and/or Industry	Please use the original committee recommendations as South Dakotans should not hide from our history.
535	Rachel	Hemke	Parent	The standards agreed upon by the teachers prior to revisions by Governor Noem et al should be upheld. We owe it to our children to teach the parts of history of which we are not proud. Indigenous People have a rich history in our state and it should be taught at all grade levels. America is a fantastic country, but we are not perfect and that's okay. I want my children to understand that, as it is true for all of humanity. None of us are perfect, but we can work to make better choices and teaching this concept is more than just social studies- it's a life lesson.
536	Lynnette	Neace	Self	I oppose omission of Native American history in all schools.
537	Selena	Samuel	Parent	Put BACK Native American History!!!!!!
538	Karla	Krueger	Parent	Indigenous stories should be included in social studies curriculum. To not include it is so promote indigenous erasure and further promotes governor Noem's, and probably the rest of the state's, well documented anti-indigenous agenda. Do better.
539	David	Dullea	Parent	Removing all references to the Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota people is both unethical and a disservice to the great people of South Dakota. They were the original land holders and the land has a history that needs to be taught. It connects our society together with its past and helps form its identity especially considering the state was named for one of the tribes.
540	Esther	Gilchrist	retired K-12 Educator	We definitely need to teach all of SD's history especially the truth about how lands here in South Dakota were stolen from Native people--Paha Sapa/Black Hills in particular. Let the history be taught from many perspectives including from the mouths of Native American people. At 92 years old I am thrilled that people are revising SD's social studies standards to tell the whole truth and not just from European settlers.



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541	Holly	Banks	Parent	I want my child to have a full education and that can't be done I'd we erase Native American history from our schools.
542	Lacey	Lemmert	K-12 Educator	My objection to the revision is not about a specific standard, but what is now not found in the standards as a whole. The changes erase language that reflects our indigenous communities. The changes remove emphasis or acknowledgement of the importance of teaching tribal history. I do not believe that this facilitates presenting a "clear and truthful" narrative.
543	Caitlin	Clinebell	Parent	Unethical of the school system.
544	Chris	Larsson	Parent	Going forward, it is becoming more important than ever that everyone be aware of the history of their nation so that we can come together, all races and all creeds, and stand together for a stronger, more diverse future. This is why I am appalled that you would omit the history of the first peoples here, before the Europeans arrived, who knew to how to live off the land without destroying it. Please, stop acting like the colonization of the Americas by Europeans was the beginning of history.
545	Bri	McLaughlin	Parent	Removing Native American education for the school curriculum, not only is it erasing history, it forgetting the Native people that are still here today fighting to be heard
546	Maegan	Richardson	Student	They are attempting to erase Native American History.
547	Stephanie	Lenards	Parent	I would like to see the original recommendations followed through and incorporate a full spectrum honest transparent history taught including Native American culture, teachings, hardships.
548	Jacob	Bravo Contreras	Military	The erasure of History is abhorrent. Omitting the references to the Oceti Sakowin should not be allowed, the future generations should be taught the vital history of this country and how it was built.
549	Colleen	Zwirble	Concerned citizen	It is morally repugnant and intellectually reprehensible to remove Native History in South Dakota school curriculums and standards. Stop being afraid and teach our children the actual history of our Country especially the history of the peoples from the land they live on.
550	Emily	Cruz	Student	Indigenous topics
551	Liana	Yaukey	Student	You must teach Indigenous history. Erasing their existence is a dick move and you know it
552	Sarah	Lamar	SD citizen	Our children's education has to be based on facts and not on political views.
553	Theanna	Allen	Concerned person	The removal of necessary indigenous history from public curriculums is a continued cultural aggression against the people on whose land we live.

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554	Karen	Pettigrew	grandparent	<p>My daughters attended the RCAS K-12. In general they are both well-educated women; one has earned her PhD and the other is working on a professional doctorate. Despite the fact that they hail from South Dakota, they have been remarkably uninformed about the history of the Lakota people who live among us and whose land we occupy. This, despite short family trips to the Pine Ridge for pow wow and summer art shows at Red Cloud School, during their school years. I am concerned about a trend to NOT reveal the full account of how the Indigenous people of the SD plains were treated by the government, the US military and the settlers who came here or passed through these parts. I believe that there should be no shying away from our true history about those who settled and those who were displaced. Children will not "hate" their country because they know truth. Children can be helped to understand how we must value each other for who we are, and that we share common space and that we need to work forward for a better way of living together in respect. Young people want to know what is true. History reveals so much about human relations and the present. Please retain the recommended additions to the K-12 history standards.</p> <p>I would like my grandchildren to be better informed about their world that were their parents.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
555	Mary	Houska	Retired educator	<p>As a longtime educator, I am concerned about the revision of the suggested standards presented and drafted by the Standard's Work Group which the SD Department of Education chose to omit... the indigenous narrative of the Oceti Sakowin Tribes.</p> <p>How can we, as a proud and honorable state, ignore the amazing diversity we have here in SD? Such a choice to ignore their existence in the curriculum denies our young people the right to history, to the facts.</p> <p>Any choice to keep the truth from our young people is simply wrong. Our next generation of young people know the truths; and to withhold the truth in their educational process is simply wrong. They already don't believe much of what we as adults tell them because they see through us.</p> <p>The old adage, "The truth shall set you free," should be our endeavor in education. When that happens, we will learn to make a better future for our nation, our children, our world, and our children will respect us for our wisdom and truth.</p>
556	Alyssa	Hodne	Parent	<p>Trying to erase history is always dangerous. We can teach kids that we as a people were not perfect in the past appropriately, with out changing the history or ignoring it. It is ridiculous to me that erasing it is even considered and this survey even needs to be out there.</p>
557	Ann	Herrmann	Parent	<p>I am referring to the new standards removing historical facts about our indigenous people of SD. whitewashing history so America looks good is not a teaching of civics. It is brainwashing and takes away the cultural relevance of Native Amaericans.</p>
558	Carl	Petersen	South Dakota Resident, U.S. Citizen	<p>Please reincorporate and expand American Indian History into SD curriculum. Consider those standards proposed by the working group as a starting place to properly teach the history of South Dakota and the peoples who have lived here long before 1890 in all State Funded Schools.</p>

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559	Cindy	Lloyd	K-12 Educator	I strongly objective to the Oceti Sakowin standards being gone & to removal of Native American history & cultural information. Teaching children factual historical information should not be made into a partisan political issue
560	Ron	Redday	Parent	It is hard to believe in this day and age that this type of public racism is allowed by any group or entity, no less the D.O.E.. I guess this is SD though, where racism is loud and proud all the way to the state capitol. This is just another way the state government is trying to use their cancel culture to erase the atrocities/genocide that happened to the Native American of South Dakota. This state sit on million of acres of stolen land. there are 9 reservation is SD. The D.O.E. is saying that Native American do not belong in the history of our state. If that is the case why establish a group of experts in the education, and then totally ignore what they worked so hard on. If the D.O.E. wants to go this route, do not establish anymore groups of any kind, and have all new mandates come directly from Pierre on the governors letterhead. This way there will no mistaking the racial inequality in SD where it comes from. What is going be next on the chopping block? WWI, WWII, the holocaust? As a veteran this burns me, that SD can be so public in it white only mindset. I would like to thank the group that worked so hard to come up with the criteria to teach our young children, with the proper education racism and bigotry will someday become a thing of the past. Just not in SD I guess.
561	Anthony	Rush	Spiritual Allie	Everyone has a right to know and understand their history
562	Jill	Kessler	Parent	Our social studies standards need to reflect facts and the fact is the history of what is now called South Dakota existed prior to us becoming a state in 1889. The working group provided an excellent starting point for the history of our lands & people and should not be excluded, but expanded upon. American Indian History needs to be in the SD curriculum and taught in all state funded schools.
563	Nicole	Lynch	Private Citizen	Eliminating curriculum that teaches students about ALL history including Native Americans and their treatment, creates modern distrust of our government when those facts are learned later in life.
564	Scott	Stugelmeyer	K-12 Educator	I am referencing every standard that is being left out in regards to indigenous people of South Dakota for all grade levels. If the curriculum is revised to leave out crucial and critical pieces of SD's natural history with its indigenous people and exits that content from the state standards to be taught, you are committing cultural genocide through your privilege in the educational structure. We owe the indigenous peoples of SD the dignity and honor of teaching their practices both respectfully and truthfully. Please consider allying with them as opposed to oppressing their voices.
565	Justin	Herreman	Parent	Please reincorporate and expand the teaching of indigenous people's history into SD curriculum. The standards created by the working group are a great starting point to expand the minds of SD students and ensure a fair and balanced picture of history is taught in our schools. The working group spent a substantial amount of time on the suggestions and they are well thought out and very fair and reasonable.
566	Michael	Smith	South Dakota citizen	I grew up and went to school in South Dakota. Thankfully I am a life long learner and I have continued to look into American and World history after graduating from Watertown high school and obtaining a degree from Northern State University. I have realized that so much of the history taught to me was white washed at best-propaganda at worst. Through my studies I have gained a better understanding of our whole world. It breaks my heart the situation get even worse for our state's children.

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567	Jackson	Autrey	Business and/or Industry	The removal of indigenous people from education continues a centuries-long pattern of exploitation and white supremacy. Fix your curriculum and reincorporate indigenous history.
568	Sherry	Kavanagh		Although I don't live in your beautiful state, I am very concerned about news reports that there may be less history of Indigenous Peoples included in future school curricula. Our children must be taught the true history of our wonderful nation and not just what we are proud to claim. Thank you very much for considering the thoughts of a resident of Arkansas. Sherry Kavanagh
569	Helen	Craig		I am very disappointed to learn that officials from the South Dakota Department of Education this week scrubbed more than a dozen Indigenous-centered learning objectives from the department's new social studies standards before releasing the document to the public. The DOE hired a team of 46 educators from around the state to develop new social studies "anchor standards" representing what students are expected to know after completing each K-12 grade level. The standards apply to South Dakota's public schools, as well as state-certified and licensed private schools. The workgroup members were tasked with addressing key issues brought up in public testimony since the standards were last updated in 2015, including the "incorporation of more diverse perspectives, especially But ten days after the group submitted its final draft— containing 18 learning standards involving the Oceti Sakowin Oyate, or Indigenous peoples of what is now South Dakota—the department cut out all but one of those direct references. Other standards including tribal nations were changed to take a wider look at "various cultural groups."those of Indigenous Native Americans," according to the group's original drafted document submitted to the Department of Education on July 26.
570	Jon	Holdaway		Well, of course you dropped references to Native American culture from your new social studies standards. You are a bunch of MAGA-loving racists, are you not? <a href="https://www.yahoo.com/news/south-dakota-doe-removed-indigenous-234015347.html">https://www.yahoo.com/news/south-dakota-doe-removed-indigenous-234015347.html</a>
571	Sharon	Webster		As a retired educator it was very upsetting to hear the most important parts of your states history will no longer be taught. How would anyone think that the main indeginious people should be removed from the curriculum? Most importantly, little minds must know the truth. They must learn the importance of respect for one another as well as one another's culture. We want to teach children to get along with everyone, regardless of skin color, sexual preference, religion, etc. How sad to know that an integral part of South Dakota's history is being discarded like a piece of TRASH! <b>SHAME ON YOU FOR ALLOWING SUCH A TRAVESTY!</b>
572	Craig	Johnson		I was raised in SD and spent most of my life in Brookings and Sioux Falls. I have always been proud of my SD heritage but you guys have turned that around nicely. Since you can't change history you've decided to hide it. How pathetic!! The entire state government is suddenly psychotic - nothing to be proud of anymore.

**Proposed South Dakota Social Studies Standards Public Comment**

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573	Gale	Gors		<p>What has been done to the proposed social studies standards by the Department of Education is despicable. What you are doing, at the bidding of the governor, is wrong and you are short-changing the students of our state who deserve to have an honest and balanced social studies curriculum at all grade levels. I taught in this state for 30 years, and this is yet another reason to be disappointed in our state government. For Mary Stadick Smith to refer to the butchering of the standards as "certain adjustments" for "greater clarity and focus" is a joke.</p> <p>Disappointed once again,</p> <p>Gale Gors</p>
574	Monte	Harming		<p>I am an 81 yr. old lifelong resident of Brookings County S.D. I am writing this in 100% support of the speakout letter printed in the Brookings Register - 8-17-21 and written by Kathi Tuntland. I too am appalled at the response from our governor. Our history in this state has not always been pretty but it is what it is and should not be buried somewhere because we are not proud of it. Much time and effort was spent gathering true information for the draft and Native American history should not be redacted. I would hope that my grandchildren would be taught the whole story. True to the end.</p>
575	Roger	Campbell		<p>Board Members, I am writing to express my great concern regarding work done by the task force assigned to review and update the South Dakota social studies standards. The highly qualified professional members of the task force were badly treated by the governor and your board. Their recommendations were ignored by the governor who chose to play her political cards to enhance her national interests. She politicized the recommendations of the task force. As board members you</p>
576	Marie	Rickert	Higher Education	<p>I do not agree with the DOE's decision to remove Oceti Sakowin references/standards from the South Dakota Social Studies Standards. I totally disagree with Mary Stadick Smith that changes made eliminating most standards related to indigenous history and culture provide greater clarity and focus for educators. The standards that were added are much more vague. The lack of specificity in the new standards focused cultural responsiveness will likely result in the history and culture of our Native American people to be overlooked in classroom instruction. Being a life-long resident of South Dakota I am not proud to have to ask: What will it take for South Dakota to have a culturally responsive civics and history curriculum? Why should we not teach our students about the history and culture of our indigenous people?</p>
577	Sarah	Impeccoven	K-12 Educator	<p>I appreciate the emphasis on being a responsible citizen who is well-versed in the Constitution. I met a practicing lawyer who had graduated law school without ever having read the Constitution!!</p> <p>I also appreciate the removal of the work "aware." We don't need awareness we need knowledge!</p>
578	Rhiannon	Wright	Parent	<p>I don't think removing Native American studies/history from curriculum in South Dakota is beneficial to the people of South Dakota. There are several tribes in this state and I think it's important for residents to know ALL of the history of the place in which they live.</p>

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579	Meghann	Jarchow	Parent	As a parent of two children and someone who went through the SD public school system as a child, I am deeply disappointed (and angered) to see that rather than strengthening our youth's education about Indigenous people, we are further erasing them from history and presenting our children with a more "whitewashed" version of history. Rather than weakening our children's knowledge about our history, I would like to see our social studies standards strengthened - specifically with respect to teaching about Indigenous history and settler colonization.
580	Melina	Orengo	K-12 Educator	The revised standards do not promote inclusion or representation, of the dynamics of the student,s that attend public school in the state of South Dakota. Instead it promotes division, by not having, a very prominent part of that dynamic's history being taught or shared. This takes away from the indigenous population, of that dynamic, which also robs them of knowing their history, being seen, being heard, and being valued in the classroom.
581	Harlan	Strong		Removing or editing of SD history is not fair for those that remember or those that are being educated today.  History is history and we learn from it as well as Elders of Native American leaders.
582	Rachel	Owa		We should always study history The Indian nation exists Remember and respect our history
583	Sharon	Weber		The Native Americans were here long before the Europeans came over. I have a strong belief in there ways.  PLEASE don't take them out of the schools studies. That would be horrible what they have been thru in the past is a part of History.

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			<p>I am sending you a copy of my message to Governor Noem regarding her administration's drive to eliminate the history of Native American Lakota in South Dakota; a most arrogant and propagandist idea! Please consider this: "A Lakota friend has made me aware of your decision to eliminate all mention of their noble history in all forms of education material in South Dakota.          Seriously? Wasn't the original genocide sufficient? From where comes the birthplace of your supremacist stance? Why so fearful? Lack of understanding?          Consider this from Albert Einstein: "Concerning matter, we have been all wrong. What we have called matter is energy, whose vibration has been so lowered as to be perceptible to the senses. Matter is spirit reduced to point of visibility. There is no matter." (e.g. Earth vibrates at 7.8 HZ.)          The Lakota, nearly all indigenous peoples, are among the most spiritual people on earth! They know intuitively of what Einstein speaks and they practice that keen historical insight of quantum physics in how they live by showing reverence to all that is sacred; every manifestation of visible creation - including considering the effects on their people of leadership decisions made today projected out seven generations!          He who taught, "The kingdom of God is within" and "Build your treasures in heaven" would feel much at home with indigenous visions of how to live in a sacred way.          We all can learn much from these people.          Please! Reconsider your decision.          Thank you for your consideration of this request."          And I thank you, the DOE, South Dakota, for your serious consideration to reject the governor's initiatives.</p>
584	Robert	Hatch	<p>I'm writing to express my concern that the Governor is attempting to rewrite history by erasing the Native American or misconstruing the truth. This is wrong, wrong, wrong.          Stop it! Shame on your Governor.</p>
585	Elaine	Barr	<p>Kristi Noem's intention to remove Native American history from the schools is outrageous!! You cannot tell American history without including the integral part that Native Americans have played, and continue to play, in our culture.</p>
586	Mary E	Cardyn	<p>This move is racist and damages the education of our children. This cannot stand!! SHAME ON YOU!!!</p>

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				<p>South Dakota's proposed social studies content standards have been in the news recently. These standards cover history, civics and government, geography, and economics, and are set by the state so that students cover the same high-level topics as they progress through school. Curriculum – that is, what is taught each day and what textbooks and materials are used – is decided locally by school boards, administrators, and teachers.</p> <p>The current standards were written in 2015. This summer, a committee of educators prepared a new draft. The Department of Education revised that draft and released a new proposal a few weeks ago. Much of the media coverage so far has focused on the changes the Department made to the summer draft, specifically relating to Native American history and culture.</p> <p>I have reviewed all three versions of the standards and, although I appreciate the summer committee's work, I can understand why the Department made changes.</p> <p>The study of American history needs to include Native American history. In South Dakota, students need to learn this history, and they also need to learn how our tribal communities fit into the state today.</p> <p>The current 2015 standards make specific mention of Native American topics 6 times, by my count. That doesn't seem like enough, although my count doesn't include standards that likely lead to discussion of Native American topics – for example, when 5th graders are asked to "describe the role of trading in early U.S. History," it is very likely that the curriculum will include a discussion of trade with the tribal nations.</p> <p>The Department's 2021 proposal improves on the current standards by increasing the number of specific mentions of Native American or tribal topics from 6 to 28, again by my count.</p> <p>The summer draft standards mention Native American or tribal topics 63 times. This is far out of proportion to other topics. For comparison, the summer draft mentions topics relating to the U.S. Constitution 24 times; the American Revolution 8 times; the Declaration of Independence 5 times; the Civil War 5 times; the abolition of slavery 1 time; and the Second World War 4 times.</p> <p>I will admit that merely counting references to a certain topic is a crude and imprecise way to evaluate the standards. Having read all three versions of the standards, though, I can say that the summer draft makes Native American and tribal topics the single most prevalent topic in the entirety of K-12 social studies.</p>
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				<p>I would offer a more specific example to illustrate the same point. The summer draft includes only four specific standards for 1st Grade History: "Demonstrate chronological order using events from students' own lives," "Examine historical records and artifacts to learn about family and school life in the past," "Connect people and events honored in commemorative celebrations and ceremonies," and "Discuss the Oceti Sakowin Oyate creation story, including correct chronological order of the story." The last standard is far more specific than the others, and it seems odd in any case to require that a history class cover the creation story of one particular religious tradition.</p> <p>This heavy emphasis is hard to understand, given that South Dakota already makes available to every school the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings and Standards, a set of specific Native American K-12 standards that were written with tribal involvement and adopted in 2018.</p> <p>The summer draft has other problems. It adds a requirement that 8th graders learn about "The Constitution as a living document," a view of the Constitution that is rejected by many lawyers and judges and should not be taught as settled fact. The draft also removed specific reference in 3rd Grade history to George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln, and instead just says that should "compare and contrast historical American figures." The Department draft fixed both problems.</p> <p>The Department's proposed standards are an improvement. Compared to the current standards, they increase coverage of U.S. history and government and of South Dakota-specific topics. They emphasize the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the structure of our federal, state, local, and tribal governments, and key historical events like the Revolution, the Civil War, both World Wars, and the Cold War. As I already described, they greatly increase coverage of Native American topics, including tribal history and government.</p> <p>Yet, there is always room to improve. The Department will be soliciting feedback in the coming months, in writing and during four in-person hearings, starting this week in Aberdeen. I would encourage you to read each version of the standards for yourself and make your own judgments. We owe it to our young people to get this right.</p>
587	Tony	Venhuizen		
588	Carl	Perry	SD State Legislator	<p>As long as we stay away from CRT (Critical Race Theory) I'm okay. Social Studies , Geography, Math &amp; English are all important to growth.</p>
589	Michael	Bentivegna		<p>It has come my attention that Governor Kristi Noem is attempting to remove the history of natives peoples from the schools curriculum. I also believe this cannot be done with out feedback from the public. I wish to offer strong objection to any efforts to rewrite history, especially if it is of actions in the past that we are not proud of. There are many examples but slavery and the treatment of Native peoples of North America need to be taught in our schools as we need to face our difficult past as much as the past that brings us pride. The only way we can learn from history is if know about it. I am very concerned about the efforts to remove the history of native Americas in South Dakota and the United States as a whole in the states schools curriculum.</p>
590	Nickey	Larson		<p>I have concerns that if the history of South Dakota does not include the role of the Native Americans peoples, that the children in school today will grow up and be angry adults because they will have been lied to by the very people teaching them, whom they had trusted. Omission is lying. Minnesota and South Dakota share a lot of history, what you teach, how you teach, as well as what you leave out has an impact on all of us. Please tell only truths, all the truths!!</p>

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591	Windwalker			<p>How terribly lopsided it is to leave out the massive amount of history regarding the many tribes in the USA. You can't tell just a piece of the story. PLEASE DO THE RIGHT THING AND TELL THE COMPLETE HISTORY.</p>
592	Matthew	Erb		<p>I am writing in opposition to Kristi Noem's continued efforts to try to erase the reality of US history. I will spare commentary on her other backwards and disgusting efforts to undermine public health for a separate letter. This country was built on genocide. Colonialism and capitalism partnered with racism and is alive and well in Kristi's governance of South Dakota. I have spent years working with and in tribal communities in South Dakota, have parents who lived in western South Dakota for many years, and believe strongly that we must not sugar coat the blood that remains on the hands of the United States and state by state government. We are currently dealing with an epidemic of political duality that is disguising the true agenda with morally righteous attitudes. Allowing such nonsense to trickle into education is the worst kind of perpetuance of these dynamics. I urge the SD DE to do what is right and just - own the true history and shadow of this country, and stop pushing political agendas that reek of religious dogma long removed from the truth of those religion's origins.</p>