

# **Social Studies Curriculum**

(revised February 2012 school year)

## **I. Introduction**

- A. Foundational Statements key to all curriculum strands include the school's:
1. philosophy of education as articulated in the CSI publication, The Beginning of Wisdom;
  2. statement of purpose;
  3. principles of instruction;
  4. mission statement.
- B. The role of teaching Social Studies in our Christian school is to equip students to research the past, investigate present global events, and respond with Christ-like actions in preparation for the future.
- C. The five core Social Studies content areas include: behavioral sciences, economics, geography, history, and political science/civic literacy.
- D. The social studies curriculum is addressed individually for the sake of definition. All curricular area (e.g. science, language arts, music, math, computers, social studies, etc.) must be taught in an integrated manner whenever and wherever possible.

## **II. Philosophy**

Since God has revealed Himself to us through Scripture and His creation, students at Sioux Center Christian School will come to an understanding that God is Lord of the past, present, and future. Therefore, our students will be challenged to develop relationships within their families, communities, our nation, and throughout the world. We will provide opportunities for students to work in God's world as stewards of His creation. We will encourage our students to be responsible citizens, reflecting Christ's example. Our students will investigate the past in order to respond with justice and discernment today and in the future.

## **III. Social Studies Standards for K-8 Students**

1. **Behavioral Sciences:** Students will develop an understanding of the interaction and relationship among people and their cultures, and their beliefs and experiences.
2. **Economics:** Students will develop an understanding of the concepts for the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.
3. **Geography:** Students will develop an understanding of the interaction between people and their environments, which includes location, place, relationships within places, movement, and regions.
4. **History:** Students will develop an understanding that the past provides context for the present and implications for the future.
5. **Political Science/Civic Literacy:** Students will develop an understanding that political science/civics includes the principles of democracy, the form and function of government, and responsible citizenship.
6. In light of God's Word, students will actively respond to this world by demonstrating justice and discernment.