

TEXAS EAGLE FORUM TORCH

September 2014 • Volume 27 • No. 6



College Board Rewrites U.S. History

By Honorable Ken Mercer,
Texas State Board of Education Member, 7/18/14

On July 4th, we witnessed nationwide patriotism honoring our Founding Fathers and the sacrifices of our courageous men and women in uniform.

This must have annoyed David Coleman, the chief architect of the controversial Common Core national standards, and many of his

College Board (CB) colleagues.

After drafting the Common Core English language arts standards, Coleman became president of the CB. He immediately moved to implement his Common Core standards into the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT).

Coleman then announced the 34 Advanced Placement (AP) courses that high school students take for college credit will be aligned with Common Core.

This fall over 450,000 high school sophomores and juniors, including at least 46,000 from Texas, will enroll in new AP

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Progress Through Preservation of Traditional Values

College Board Rewrites U.S. History

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U.S. History (APUSH) course. This will be their last high school course ever in United States history.

The College Board has traditionally provided APUSH teachers with a detailed 5-page Topical Outline that presents a reasonably balanced view of American history. In practice the APUSH course has always supported the history standards passed by your state's legislature.

This fall, APUSH teachers must ignore state standards and teach the CB's new 98-page "Framework" that defines "the required knowledge of each period."

While claiming "flexibility" for educators to study other events and persons required by state curriculum guides, the CB website clearly states that "all questions [on the AP exam] are derived from the course's stated learning objectives." In other words, teachers don't waste your time—we (CB) decide what is important in U.S. history.

This means that Coleman and his unelected College Board become the de facto legislature and board of education for each state.

How bad is the new AP U.S. History Framework? Here are a few key items verified with Larry Krieger (retired teacher and author recognized by the CB as one of the best AP teachers in 2004 and 2005) and Jane Robbins (Senior Fellow at the American Principles Project):

- In the period of the **American Revolution up to the 1787 Constitutional Convention**, almost every Founding Father is omitted—no Jefferson, Adams, Madison, or Franklin. The Framework excludes Lexington, Concord, Bunker Hill, Valley Forge, Saratoga, and Yorktown. The commanders and heroes of these pivotal battles are all omitted.
- The lessons on the **Civil War** omit the Lincoln-Douglas debates, the Gettysburg Address, and the assassination of President Lincoln. The Framework once again omits crucial battles, key commanders, and the valor of common soldiers.
- The lessons on **World War II** omit "The Greatest Generation," Truman, Hitler, D-Day, Midway, the Battle of the Bulge, and every military commander, including Dwight Eisenhower. Inexplicably, Nazi atrocities against Jews and other groups are "not required." The CB concludes its treatment of WWII with this blunt statement: "The decision to drop the atomic bomb raised questions about American values."
- The lessons on the **Civil Rights Movement** do not mention America's first African-American President. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Cesar Chavez, Rosa Parks, the Navajo Code Talkers, Tuskegee Airmen, 442nd Infantry Regiment, and Barbara Jordan's famous speech on the Constitution are all omitted.

A word search of the entire 98-page document will not find one military commander or one Medal of Honor recipient.

"This unelected body is rewriting United States history and promoting among our students a disdain for American principles and a lack of knowledge of major American achievements."

Our best and brightest students will thus learn nothing of the heroism and sacrifices of Americans in uniform.

The CB instead presents an overwhelmingly negative viewpoint of U.S. history that will only please America-haters such as former Illinois professor Bill Ayers.

This unelected body is rewriting United States history and promoting among our students a disdain for American principles and a lack of knowledge of major American achievements.

History is a dramatic story which, if taught well, allows students to study both the good and bad of America. The new APUSH Framework purposely stresses the negative while dismissing America's positive contributions.

If we do nothing, this radical AP U.S. History course will enter our high schools this fall.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: The Texas school board won't consider a new rule to force AP history instruction to follow state standards until it meets in September. Concerned Texans spoke out against the new AP U.S. history curriculum at a July 18 meeting of the Texas school board. A Texas teacher with 30 years of instructional experience told the board, "If parents...knew that this is what would be taught to their children they would be rising up in droves against it."

Contact your Texas House and Senate members and State Board of Education and ask them to rebuke the College Board for promoting an unbalanced, far-left agenda, and reject the new 2014 APUSH Framework and Exam. Educators can continue with the previous APUSH course and exam until Congress investigates and demands a new course built by professors who understand balance, honor our military heroes, and love America.

Comparison Of Texas Republican & Democrat 2014 Platforms

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY	REPUBLICAN	DEMOCRAT
Oppose burdensome regulations Abolish the EPA Climate Change is a political agenda used for control and evidence is not conclusive on cause		Support EPA's regulations and federal environmental oversight Climate change is real and a serious threat likely due to human activity and requires urgent action
EDUCATION		
Abolish the Department of Education Parents may choose to educate their children in ... home schools and parochial schools, without gov't interference Return to traditional basics of reading, writing, arithmetic and citizenship		Federal government should fully fund all federal education mandates Strengthen state oversight of home schooling Ethnic studies classes, environmental education programs, multi-language, substance abuse education...
ELECTIONS		
Strongly support the Electoral College Protect Texas Voter ID law Repeal all Motor Voter laws Re-register voters every 4 years 30-day registration deadline		Require presidential electors to cast votes consistent with the popular vote Return to previous voter ID requirements Improve Motor Voter Registration process Automatic, lifetime registration at 18 Same day registration
GUNS		
Oppose all laws and regulations that infringe on the right to bear arms		More federal and state regulations and "sensible" gun control laws
HEALTHCARE		
Demand immediate repeal of the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act		Support full implementation of Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act at the state level
IMMIGRATION		
No amnesty US border must be secured immediately No driver's license issued to anyone not legally in country No welfare benefits or in-state tuition to those who cannot prove citizenship		Continuation of Texas DREAM Act and passage of the federal DREAM ACT Oppose any effort to expand existing border fence... All Texas residents allowed to obtain driver's license Healthcare, in-state tuition, and housing benefits for illegal immigrants
JUDICIAL SYSTEM		
Direct election of State Judges Support capital punishment		Judges nominated Abolish capital punishment
LIFE		
All innocent human life must be respected and safeguarded from fertilization to natural death Restrictions on abortion		Product of a joined egg and sperm has no independent status, standing, entitlements or rights that would usurp the rights... and decisions of the mother or woman No restrictions on contraception or abortion
MARRIAGE		
Marriage only between a natural man and a natural woman		Oppose any attempts to deny freedom to marry to same-sex couples
HOMOSEXUALITY		
Homosexuality is a chosen behavior Family should not be redefined to include homosexual couples		Homosexuality is a normal, natural and positive variation of human sexual orientation Support adoption of children by loving qualified parents regardless of marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression...
TAXES		
Support "Fair Tax" and Flat Tax		Affirm support for progressive tax system

NOTE: The entire comparison of Texas Party Platforms is on our website: texaseagle.org. Share these stark differences with others and make sure you and your family and friends are registered to vote. The last day to register for the all-important November 4th election is October 6th.



Eagle Cliff Notes

Eagle Council XLIII

If you really want to make a difference, this is the place to be! Eagle Forum's annual Eagle Council will be held September 19-21 in St. Louis with keynote speakers Rep. Michele Bachmann, former UN Ambassador John Bolton and Rev. Rafael Cruz (Sen. Ted Cruz's father). Experts will be discussing important issues facing America today, including Common Core, life, immigration, IRS, marriage and an Article V Constitutional Convention. For more information or to register, go to eaglecouncil.com.

NEA: Global "Gay" Children & Gender-Free Restrooms

The National Education Association wrapped up another radical convention early in July. The delegates in Denver focused modestly on education and a lot more on far-left issues like pushing homosexuality on kids, defending the influx of illegal immigrants, and supporting breastfeeding teachers while staunchly maintaining the organization's advocacy to abort children. The good news is that some teachers may be re-thinking the NEA. Perhaps the one-sided indoctrination is wearing thin, because NEA membership continues to decline. While NEA is losing teacher/school staff members, ironically the union actively promotes the loss of future students through its adamant pro-abortion policies....

SOURCE: Linda Harvey, barbwire.com, 7/26/14

New School Food Regs Hit Fundraising Sales

Tougher nutritional requirements will be hitting a school tradition this fall: daytime bake sales and fundraisers. According to *The Wall Street Journal*, most schools taking part in federal school meals programs will have to adhere to more stringent rules this fall. The 2010 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act was pushed by first lady Michelle Obama and her "Let's Move!" effort, and already has affected school lunch meals and items sold in vending machines. Now, sales of cookie dough, candy bars, and the like will fall under similar guidelines, meaning they likely can't be sold during school hours. The rules also have the unintended consequence of preventing homemade items from being sold because their nutritional information isn't labeled. Instead, items that are sold now are even more likely to be processed foods.

SOURCE: Newsmax, 8/4/14

Abortion Costs U.S. \$16 Trillion In Federal Revenues

Recent research shows the devastating economic impact abortion-on-demand has had on the American economy. Mark Olson, a former liberal activist, found that more than \$16 trillion in federal revenue, roughly the size of our national debt, has been lost due to abortion. "The figure of 55 million persons aborted, typically reported by pro-life groups, is a significant undercount," says Olson, now a pro-life political consultant. "Abortions did not magically begin in 1973 [when the Supreme Court allowed them], yet that is when everyone starts counting." Using pre-Roe v. Wade estimates, Olson's research additionally accounts for the compounding nature of population by including the generations of offspring that would have been born to those persons otherwise aborted. The result: The U.S. has suffered a population loss of over 125 million persons due to abortion. When the per-capita individual federal tax burden for each respective year is applied to the population loss model, the result is a statistically significant correlation between our current national debt and federal revenue loss due to abortion.

SOURCE: Big Health Report News, 8/3/14

Great American Quote

"The president's pledge to effectively govern alone is alarming but what is most alarming is his ability to fulfill that pledge. When a president can govern alone, he can become a government unto himself, which is precisely the danger that the Framers sought to avoid in the establishment of our tripartite system of government...."

Gary Bauer,
American Values, 7/17/14

Founding Father Quotes

"The best means of forming a manly, virtuous, and happy people will be found in the right education of youth. Without this foundation, every other means, in my opinion, must fail."

George Washington
December 15, 1784

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