



National Council for the Social Studies

NCSS STRATEGIC PLAN

Approved by the NCSS Board of Directors on November 30, 2016

Priority #1 Collaboration

NCSS collaborates and engages with stakeholders to prepare students for civic life.

- a. Engage social studies professionals in identifying, exploring, creating, adopting, and implementing high quality, research-based social studies educational practices.
- b. Collaborate with all internal NCSS entities, including institutions and individual members, to provide leadership and support for social studies educators.
- c. Convene, collaborate and support governmental entities and non-governmental organizations, such as policymakers, educational agencies, for-profit, non-profit, professional organizations, parent organizations, and others to provide leadership, service, and support for social studies education.

Priority #2 Communication

NCSS communicates best practices in content knowledge and pedagogy to support social studies educators and prepare students for civic life.

- a. Improve and increase the variety, accessibility and quality of print and digital resources to promote best practice, research, and advocacy for social studies.
- b. Produce and disseminate digital and print publications focused on best practices and high quality research in social studies.
- c. Expand opportunities to share information, resources, and research among members, media, policymakers, and others that promote empirical best practices and high quality research in social studies education.
- d. Broaden and deepen public understanding of the purpose and critical importance of social studies as part of a well-rounded education of a civically engaged member of society.

Priority #3 Innovation

NCSS responds to challenges and changing needs through innovative practices, policies, and solutions to prepare students for civic life.

- a. Identify changing needs and challenges faced by constituents and stakeholders.
- b. Assess existing policies and practices regularly to ensure alignment with challenges and changing needs.
- c. Engage in innovative approaches and solutions to address challenges and changing needs in an informed, responsible manner.

Priority #4 Inclusiveness

NCSS encourages, promotes and ensures inclusiveness that reflects society and strengthens civic life.

- a. Provide opportunities for multiple viewpoints to be shared, supported and respected.
- b. Develop and regularly review policies and practices to ensure opportunities for underrepresented groups to actively participate in NCSS.
- c. Support efforts that ensure the social studies teaching profession is inclusive and diverse.

Priority #5 Influence and Leadership

NCSS leads by example and seeks to influence educators, researchers, communities, and policymakers to strengthen civic life.

- a. Provide high quality professional development, resources, and materials that influence teacher effectiveness and student learning.
- b. Lead and support advocacy efforts for social studies in policymaking and educational settings.
- c. Increase community awareness of how a well-rounded social studies education prepares students to engage in the practices of citizenship.

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Five Priorities



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