

The Idaho Legislature has declared that the primary purpose of the state's system of public schools is to equip the youth of the state with the virtue and intelligence necessary for self-government through a liberal program of education that inspires love of nation, fellow countrymen, and common history and culture. Accordingly, all secondary students within the district shall receive instruction that ensures upon graduation such students:

- Exemplify the cardinal virtues necessary for self-government and human flourishing, including: prudence, justice, fortitude, moderation, and patriotism;
- Understand the fundamental principles of the nation's republican form of government, including those identified in Idaho Code §33-1602(2)(b); and
- Understand the content, history, meaning, significance, and effect of key historical documents, including those identified in Idaho Code §33-1602(2)(c).

Such instruction and activities will be incorporated into the existing curriculum.

Instruction in citizenship, the Constitution of the United States, the fundamental principles of America's republican form of government, and the virtues necessary for good citizenship will be provided in all elementary and secondary grades. Additionally, instruction in the American flag and national colors will be provided in all elementary and secondary grades. American history coursework in district schools will include instruction on:

- The American revolution and the American founding, with attention given to the topics described in Idaho Code §33-1602(4), at a minimum;
- How totalitarian ideologies, such as communism and fascism, are antithetical to the fundamental principles of America's republican form of government, with attention given to the topics described in Idaho Code §33-1602(5), at a minimum; and
- The topics described in Idaho Code §33-1602(6), to ensure that students understand the fundamental principles of America's republican form of government as outlined in Idaho Code §33-1602(2)(b).

Schools within the district will also include instruction in secondary English language arts or communications coursework that incorporates, when appropriate, primary documents and literature from or about the American revolution, American founding, or early republic, provided that such materials align with the criteria provided in Idaho Code §33-118C.

Instruction relating to citizenship will include lessons on the role of a citizen in a constitutional republic, how laws are made, how officials are elected, and the importance of voting and of participating in government, as well as the importance of obeying and respecting statutes lawfully enacted by the Idaho Legislature and the United States Congress.

Instruction relating to the American flag will include the proper use, display, and history of and respect for the flag and national colors. Additionally, the instruction will include the pledge of allegiance to the flag, and the words and music of the national anthem and of “America.”

### **DISPLAY OF UNITED STATES FLAG**

The board encourages all district schools to display historical portraits of George Washington in a conspicuous place in each classroom that is used for history, civics, or social studies instruction and in each kindergarten through grade 5 classroom. Such portraits will be selected by the state superintendent of public instruction or designee.



### **LEGAL REFERENCE:**

Idaho Code Sections

33-118C – Curricular Materials – History and Civics

33-512 – Governance of Schools

33-1602 – United States Constitution; National Flag and Colors; National Anthem; “America;” Citizenship; Civics Test

33-1612 – Thorough System of Public Schools

IDAPA 08.02.03.103 – Instruction Grades 1-12

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