

MEMORANDUM

To: Government Operations & Audit Committee

From: Shannon Malone, Director, Division of Learning & Instruction

Date: July 15, 2022

RE: K-12 History-Civics Grants

During the 2021 legislative session, Gov. Kristi Noem proposed \$900,000 of funding to strengthen history and civics education in South Dakota’s K-12 schools. The South Dakota Legislature approved the funding, and the Department of Education dedicated a portion of the funds to provide grants to public school districts.

The purpose of the grants was two-fold: to invest in state standards-aligned history and government programming and to support educators in their professional development in this area. The department conducted two rounds of grant application periods and awarded a total of nine grants to public school districts. The projects awarded funding demonstrated commitment to strengthening quality instruction in history, civics, and government in areas of need for each district. The grants will be complete by June 30, 2023.

All grant awards were made prior to the issuing of Executive Order 2022-02 on April 5, 2022. Since that date, grants that have been amended for carryover now include language attesting that all activities carried out under the amended agreement will be conducted in alignment with the executive order.

In the first round of history-civics grants funding, six school districts were awarded grants. A total of 16 applied. The chart below shows the school district that applied, amount requested, and amount awarded, along with a brief description of the project.

Round I -- History-civics grants funding

Applicant	Request	Award Amount	Grant Purpose
Dell Rapids	\$11,439.75	\$11,439.75	Develop high school civics course, purchase instructional materials, provide professional development for teachers
Madison	\$18,059.54	\$18,059.54	Develop high school civics course, purchase instructional materials, provide professional development for teachers
Mitchell	\$15,525.00	\$15,525.00	Purchase supplemental instructional materials for students in 1 st through 8 th grades
McIntosh	\$9,645.00	\$9,645.00	Middle school students to participate in National History Day and engage in field trip

			and guest speakers to build knowledge of Native American history and culture, provide professional development for teacher
Chamberlain	\$3,228.80	\$3,228.80	South Dakota WWII Fallen Heroes Biography project
Vermillion	\$17,160.00	\$17,160.00	Purchase high school curriculum materials for a new course on the history of the Great Plains and Native American tribes
Brookings	\$18,500.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
West Central	\$7,100.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Lake Preston	\$3,499.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Sioux Falls	\$2,275.20	\$0.00	Application not selected
De Smet	\$10,437.60	\$0.00	Application not selected
Estelline	\$95,793.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
George McGovern Middle School, Sioux Falls	\$9,759.59	\$0.00	Application not selected
Alcester-Hudson	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Tri Valley	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Mobridge	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Totals	\$261,422.48	\$75,058.09	

In the second round of history-civics grants funding, three school districts were awarded grants. A total of nine applied. The chart below shows the school district that applied, amount requested, and amount awarded, along with a brief description of the project.

Round II -- History-civics grants funding

Applicant	Request	Award Amount	Grant Purpose
West Central	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	Implement Project Citizen (8 th grade) and We the People (9 th grade) programs, purchase supplemental materials to teach 9/11, professional development for teachers to implement Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings, and expand the selection of history and civics books in the K-12 libraries
Arlington	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Purchase supplemental instructional materials on South Dakota history and geography for 4 th grade students
Deubrook	\$11,014.85	\$11,014.85	Purchase curriculum materials and library resources on history, civics, and government

			for K-12 students
Black Hills Special Services Cooperative	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Oglala Lakota	\$87,300.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Estelline	\$25,103.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Smee	\$43,641.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Mitchell	\$19,247.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Bowdle	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	Application not selected
Totals	\$299,305.85	\$19,014.85	