

Curriculum: ***American Heritage***

American heritage in the curriculum—

Classes, including American History, in which the subject matter is relevant, shall include thorough study of the following historical documents and principles such as:

1. the Declaration of Independence;
2. the United States Constitution;
3. the Iroquois Constitution;
4. George Washington's Farewell Address;
5. selected passages from the Federalist and Antifederalist Papers;
6. the Articles of Confederation;
7. speeches of Frederick Douglass;
8. the Lincoln-Douglas Debates;
9. speeches of Abraham Lincoln;
10. the Seneca Falls Declaration;
11. the Letter from Birmingham Jail;
12. the Utah Constitution; and
13. other essential documents from American constitutional history.

Instruction in American history and government shall include study of forms of government (such as a republic, a pure democracy, a monarchy, and an oligarchy), political philosophies (such as socialism, individualism, and free market capitalism), the fundamental role of religion in United States history and the primacy of religious liberty to American constitutional government, the United States' form of government (a compound constitutional republic), the roles and responsibilities of government officials (including state and locally elected officials), the voting process and election laws of Utah, including the caucus and convention system, the purpose and benefits of the Electoral College system in presidential elections, the eligibility requirements to run for elected office at the federal, state, and local levels, and the elected officials who represent students at each level of government.

[Utah Code § 53E-4-205.2\(3\) \(2026\)](#)

[Utah Code § 53G-10-302\(3\)\(c\), \(4\) \(2026\)](#)

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-475-4\(2\) \(August 7, 2024\)](#)

Posting American heritage documents—

Schools may post copies of American historical documents or historically important excerpts from these documents in school classrooms and common areas as appropriate. If a school decides to post an excerpt from a particular document, the portions omitted should not be deleted for the purpose of censoring religious or cultural content.

[Utah Code § 53G-10-302\(5\), \(6\) \(2026\)](#)

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-475-3\(4\) \(August 7, 2024\)](#)

Display of the National Motto—

The national motto of the United States, which is declared by federal statute ([36 U.S.C. § 302](#)) to be “In God we Trust,” shall be displayed in one or more prominent places within each school building in the District, as provided for in Utah Code § 53G-10-302.

[Utah Code § 53G-10-302\(7\) \(2026\)](#)

Pledge of Allegiance—

The pledge of allegiance to the flag shall be recited once at the beginning of each day in each public school classroom in the state and, led by a student in the classroom, as assigned by the classroom teacher on a rotating basis.

Each student shall be informed by posting a notice in a conspicuous place that the student has the right not to participate in reciting the pledge.

A student shall be excused from reciting the pledge upon written request from the student’s parent provided at least once per year.

At least once a year, students shall be instructed that participation in the pledge of allegiance is voluntary and not compulsory; and not only is it acceptable for someone to choose not to participate in the pledge of allegiance for religious or other reasons, but students should show respect for any student who chooses not to participate.

A public school teacher shall strive to maintain an atmosphere among students in the classroom that is consistent with the principles described above.

[Utah Code § 53G-10-304 \(2020\)](#)

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-475-5 \(August 7, 2024\)](#)

Parental Notice and Information—

The District shall make information available on its website about the flag, respect for the flag and civility toward any during patriotic activities. This information shall include notice about lawful exemptions to the requirement for students to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance, the right of students not to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance, that participation in the pledge of allegiance is voluntary and not compulsory, and not only is it acceptable for someone to choose not to participate in the pledge of allegiance for religious or other reasons, but students

should show respect for any student who chooses not to participate. It shall also notify parents that a student may be excused from reciting the Pledge of Allegiance upon a written annual request of the student's parent.

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-475-4\(1\)\(c\) \(August 7, 2024\)](#)

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-475-5 \(August 7, 2024\)](#)