

To: Board of Education

From: Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, leading, learning & technology
Dr. Jennifer Bessolo, director, curriculum

Re: Advanced Placement Human Geography Textbook Adoption

Date: July 23, 2018

Background:

Advanced Placement Human Geography is a new course proposed and approved by the School Board January 22, 2018 to serve our 9th grade students at both Lawrence High School and Free State High School.

The Advanced Placement Course Audit has a focused list of texts we are to use for the course. The textbook we are proposing for adoption is currently on this list as one of the recommended texts. A textbook is necessary to meet the requirements of teaching Advanced Placement, and our current practice is to adopt a 1:1 textbook due to the workload of these Advanced courses. Both teachers have attended formal conference training to teach this course which also included materials review.

Rationale:

A textbook review committee comprised of the AP Human Geography teachers from both high schools, Social Studies department chairs, and the Curriculum Director met in June to review four different AP Human Geography textbooks pre-selected by teachers that met the criteria list provided by the AP Course Audit. All texts were examined with a lens of cultural relevancy as primary criteria, along with quality of pedagogy, compatibility to students, presentation of content, integration of vocabulary, and multiple formatting options available for purchase (digital and hard copy texts). Additionally, this textbook is one of the most recommended texts from the AP Human Geography certification training.

The committee discussed the need for students to have access to a copy of the textbook outside of school hours. This publishing company only sells their AP textbooks in a digital and hardcopy bundle so a digital copy will be provided to each student and a classroom set will be purchased as part of this proposal. The digital eBook will be a 6-year subscription.

The approval and purchase of The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography by James M. Rubenstein will support the need to provide a resource for this new class offered, and fulfill the AP Course Audit's recommendation for an AP textbook.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends Board approval of the purchase of 60 hardcopy texts, 60 one-to-one digital e-books The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography, and 60 copies of the companion Study Guide from Pearson publications.

This is to be paid from the Student Materials Revolving Fund – Teaching and Learning Instructional Social Studies budget.

This quote which includes 60 Ebooks, 60 hard copy textbooks, 60 companion Study Guides, and 2 teacher editions is \$10,621.25.

Text:

The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography

Author: James M. Rubenstein

AP Edition 12th edition

ISBN: 9780134270197, 0134270193

Motion:

"I move that the Board of Education approve the purchase of 60 hardcopy texts, 60 one-to-one digital e-books of The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography, and 60 companion Study Guides from Pearson at a cost not to exceed \$10, 621.25