

BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
SOCIAL STUDIES LEARNER OUTCOMES
Current Issues
Grade 11-12

What students should do:

1. *Gather information on past or contemporary issues*
2. *Identify relevant questions or a range of points of view*
3. *Summarize relevant background information*
4. *Examine information from each source for bias and intended audience*
5. *Identify areas of conflict, compromise or agreement among various groups concerning the issue*
6. *Evaluate multiple positions and proposed solutions for the issue:*
 - a. *analyze conclusions, arguments and supporting evidence*
 - b. *identify motives of groups or individuals*
 - c. *analyze feasibility and practicality*
 - d. *identify impact on policies*
 - e. *compare alternative solutions*
 - f. *project consequences*

District Learner Outcomes:

- I. American Political Institutions
 - A. Evaluate and compare each position on the political spectrum.
 - B. Evaluate and compare the basic beliefs of the Democratic and Republican parties.
 - C. Understand the role and functions of American “third” parties.
- II. The Federal Government
 - A. Understand the role that each of the three branches of the federal government plays in dealing with contemporary issues.
- III. Domestic Policy Issues
 - A. Gather and summarize relevant information on selected domestic issues.
 - B. Identify relevant questions regarding each issue.
 - C. Identify areas of conflict, compromise or agreement among various groups concerning each issue.
 - D. Evaluate multiple positions and proposed solutions for each issue.
- IV. Foreign Policy Issues
 - A. Gather and summarize relevant information on selected foreign policy issues.
 - B. Identify relevant questions regarding each issue.
 - C. Identify areas of conflict, compromise or agreement among various groups concerning each issue.
 - D. Evaluate multiple positions and proposed solutions for each issue.

V. Current Events

- A. Identify several significant news events each day
- B. Summarize the relevant information concerning those news events and verbally present that information for the class.
- C. Analyze the significance of each of those news events in terms of public policy.