

## Taft School

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Science Goals

*As a result of their schooling, students will be able to . . .*

State Goal 14: Understand political systems, with an emphasis on the United States.

Learning Standard 14A: Understand and explain basic principles of the United States government.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals:

- Describe the principles of popular sovereignty, checks and balances, limited government, federalism, individual rights, and separation of powers and describe the location of these principles in the U.S. Constitution.
- Analyze important Supreme Court decisions and explain the justification of these decisions as they relate to constitutional principles.
- Summarize the Preamble and its stated goals.
- Describe the specific powers granted to Congress and how a bill becomes a law.

Learning Standard 14B: Understand the structures and functions of the political systems of Illinois, the United States, and other nations.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals:

- Describe and analyze the relationship between state and federal power as it is described in both the U.S. and Illinois constitution.
- Summarize the systems of checks and balances within the federal government

Learning Standard 14C: Understand the election processes and responsibilities of citizens.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals:

- Explain the role of citizens in the federal government including both civilians who hold federal office and those who do not.

Learning Standard 14D: Understand the roles and influences of individuals and interest groups in the political systems of Illinois, the United States, and other nations.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals:

- Describe the relationship between the progressive movement and women's suffrage in the first two decades of the twentieth century.
- Explain the connection between grassroots action and political change, focusing in particular on the Civil Rights Movement after World War II, the counter culture movement in the 1960s, urban political machines in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and the progressive movement.

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Learning Standard 14E: Understand the United States foreign policy as it relates to other nations and international issues.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals

- Identify the reasons why the United States became an imperial power.
- Explain how the United States became a power in the Pacific.
- Describe the transformation of America's role in world politics throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- Analyze how American power in the Pacific was related to conflict with Japan in the 1930's and 1940's.

Learning Standard 14F: Understand the development of United States political ideas and traditions.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals

- Describe the transformation of federal power from the Articles of Confederation to the current government in place under the Constitution.
- Describe the transformation of voting rights that took place with the passage of the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> amendments.

State Goal 15: Understand economic systems, with an emphasis on the United States.

Learning Standard 15A: Understand how different economic systems operate in the exchange, production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.

Learning Standard 15B: Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by consumers.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals

- Identify the origins of tenement housing in the United States and explain its relationship to supply and demand.

Learning Standard 15C: Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by producers.

Learning Standard 15D: Understand trade as an exchange of goods or services

Learning Standard 15E: Understand the impact of government policies and decisions on production and consumption in the economy.

State Goal 16: Understand events, trends, individuals, and movements shaping the history of Illinois, the United States, and other nations.

Learning Standard 16A: Apply the skills of historical analysis and interpretation.

Learning Standard 16B: Understand the development of significant political events.

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Learning Standard 16C: Understand the development of economic systems.

Learning Standard 16D: Understand Illinois, United States, and world social history.

Learning Standard 16E: Understand Illinois, United States, and world environmental history.

State Goal 17: Understand world geography and the effects of geography on society, with an emphasis on the United States.

Learning Standard 17A: Locate describe, and explain places, regions, and features on the Earth.

Learning Standard 17B: Analyze and explain characteristics and interactions of the Earth's physical systems.

Learning Standard 17C: Understand relationships between geographic factors and society.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals

- Identify the connection between North American geography and the settlement of the continent by European powers.

Learning Standard 17D: Understand the historical significance of geography.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals

- Explain the role of geography in the western migration and settlement patterns of the United States.
- Explain the role of geography in the settlement and expansion of Chicago in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Identify the economic opportunities the geography of North America offered to European countries in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.

State Goal 18: Understand social systems, with an emphasis on the United States

Learning Standard 18A: Compare characteristics of culture as reflected in language, literature, the arts, traditions, and institutions

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals

- Identify the major religions of the world and their role in American social history.

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Learning Standard 18B: Understand the roles and interactions of individuals and groups in society.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals

- Describe the impact of rural to urban migration on the popular culture of the United States.
- Identify the historical patterns of immigration to the United States and the conflicts that migrations caused.
- Analyze how the transformation of women's place in the United States impacted their role in the family, the community, and in society as a whole

Learning Standard 18C: Understand how social systems form and develop over time.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals

- Analyze the role of the Columbian Exchange in American History.