Bringing Social Studies Alive for El Ed

Solid teaching
Agenda

Introduction

Good teaching

Good social studies

Imperative

Conclusion
We need social studies to stick

Most Elementary ed majors have taken gen ed classes and credits but do not retain or remember information.

Most Americans find social studies boring

Many Americans cannot determine real news from fake news

Paradigms indicate that personal believes are more important than sources to many people.
Why doesn’t it stick?

As America becomes more diverse and information is more available, we need better practices for teachers.

Social studies has been deemed

Irrelevant
Un interesting
Un knowing
In opposition to beliefs and values
NYSED and Regulations

Require social studies

- Mandate that students must have been taught information on citizenship, economics, history and geography grades Prek-12
- Most elementary teachers are instructed to focus on ELA and Math.
- Most of NYS materials for ELA does NOT align w/ the NYS social studies frameworks
- Local communities have established THEIR values as the be all and end all for local schools.
Elementary Social Studies teachers have BIG JOBS
Many teachers do not remember basic research skills, or content knowledge.
All groups including Library of Congress, many museums and archives have placed significant resources on the internet for lesson plans and resources.

Teachers indicate they are overwhelmed with looking for and using research and resources because they do not have planning time, or the ability to address so many different areas.

C3 Inquiry Design Model has created an opportunity to allow teachers high quality lessons which utilize higher order thinking skills in their classroom.

Place based learning models allow local knowledge and experience to interweave into larger national events.

The use of genealogy gives students a sense of their family’s place in history.

Living history days allow teacher candidates to learn and to see how to document learning with students.
Resources!

Local Historical societies
Otsego and Chenango County Historical Society
Catskill regional teacher center

Thinking about Teaching
A Rural Social Studies Teacher's

Edumatch Publishing
Place based work
Thank you!

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