

### **Standard 1 – World in Spatial Terms and Uses of Geography**

*Students organize information and solve geographic problems using geographical tools, representations, and technologies.*

- WG.1.1 Describe the impact of technology on the study of geography and gather geographic information using technological tools
- WG.1.2 Explain Earth’s grid system, using latitude and longitude to locate key places and to answer geographic questions about that place
- WG.1.3 Compare and contrast various types of maps and map projections and evaluate distortions associated with each map projection
- WG.1.4 Use geographic representations to locate the world’s continents, major landforms, major bodies of water and major countries and to solve geographic problems

### **Standard 2 – Physical Systems**

*Students answer geographic questions about Earth’s physical systems to explain ecosystems and natural processes.*

- WG.2.1 Describe and categorize elements of the natural environment as belonging to one of the four components of Earth’s physical systems: atmosphere, lithosphere, biosphere, or hydrosphere
- WG.2.2 Identify and locate world climate regions and evaluate the impact of the Earth/Sun relationship, ocean currents, wind currents, and elevation on each climate region
- WG.2.3 Compare and contrast regions of the world by analyzing the plant and animal life indigenous to the region (ecosystems)
- WG.2.4 Explain and give examples of natural and human processes that shape Earth’s surface and identify specific locations where these processes occur

### **Standard 3 – Region**

*Students examine the unifying characteristics of a given region and determine the challenges and opportunities created by the development of that region.*

- WG.3.1 Analyze how cooperation, conflict, and self-interest impact the cultural, political, and economic regions of the world and relations between nations
- WG.3.2 Determine the unifying characteristics that regions possess and explain changes that they have experienced over time
- WG.3.3 Explain how human and physical characteristics facilitate or hinder regional interactions

### **Standard 4 – Place**

*Students will identify the physical and cultural characteristics of a particular location and investigate changes to it over time.*

- WG.4.1 Determine the physical and human characteristics that comprise the identity of a given place
- WG.4.2 Analyze the distinguishing physical characteristics of a given place to determine their impact on human activities
- WG.4.3 Identify and analyze distinguishing human characteristics of a given place to determine their influence on historical events
- WG.4.4 Evaluate the impact of historical events on culture and relationships among groups
- WG.4.5 Examine the relationship between social, economic, and government systems and describe how each system has changed a given place over time

### **Standard 5 – Human Systems**

*Students examine the movement of human populations, information, ideas, and goods throughout history and its impact on human settlement and the economies of various countries.*

- WG.5.1 Describe and classify reasons for human migration in terms of push or pull factors to determine the changes and similarities in these factors over time
- WG.5.2 Use population pyramids, geographic data and maps to analyze the current impact of population growth and to predict future population trends
- WG.5.3 Describe and illustrate specific examples of economic interdependence in various regions
- WG.5.4 Determine the factors that contribute to a country's standard of living
- WG.5.5 Explain how changes in technology have contributed to the spread of ideas and information throughout the world

### **Standard 6 – Environment and Society**

*Students analyze ways in which humans adapt to, modify, and depend upon Earth's physical environment.*

- WG.6.1 Describe technological advances that have allowed humans to modify the environment and analyze the impact of these advances on the environment
- WG.6.2 Identify challenges posed by the physical environment and evaluate strategies that will allow humans to more effectively deal with these challenges
- WG.6.3 Analyze the distribution of resources and describe their impact on human systems (past, present, and future)
- WG.6.4 Assess the role of government and business in preserving or consuming natural resources and protecting or destroying the physical environment