



**KENOSHA UNIFIED DISTRICT NO. 1
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES**

**MOST ESSENTIAL BENCHMARKS
SOCIAL STUDIES
GRADE 8**

STANDARD A: Geography

A-1.8 Use a variety of geographic representations (e.g., political, physical, topographic maps, atlases, and globes) to gather and compare information about the growth of the United States.

A-6.8 Describe the movement of people, ideas, diseases, and products and analyze the ways in which people in different regions interact with their physical environment through vocational activities and development of cultural values (e.g., the Columbian exchange and the territorial expansion of he United State).

STANDARD B: History

B-1.8 Interpret the discovery of the new world and the development of he United States, by using a variety of sources, (e.g., biographies, diaries, journals, artifacts, eyewitness interviews, and other primary source materials), and evaluate the credibility of sources used.

B-2.8 Create cause and effect to demonstrate how significant events and people have influenced the past and the present United States.

B-3.8 Describe the relationships between and among significant events (e.g., the causes and consequences of freedom, democracy, equality, and justice embodied in the Charters of Freedom).

B-4.8 Explain how and why events, pertaining to the historical development of the United States through the Civil War, may be interpreted differently depending upon the perspectives of participants, witnesses, reporters, and historians.

B-5.8 Analyze important political values (e.g., freedom, democracy, equality and justice) embodied in the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights

STANDARD C: Political Science and Citizenship

C-5.8 Describe and explain how the federal system separates the powers of federal, state, and local governments in the United States, and how legislative, executive, and judicial powers are balanced at the federal level as set forth in the Constitution.

C-6.8 Explain the development of the federal system and political parties.

STANDARD D: Economics

D-2.8 Identify and explain basic economic concepts (e.g., supply, demand, production, exchange, taxation and consumption), as they pertain to the historical development of the United States.

STANDARD E: Behavioral Sciences

E-5.8 Describe and explain the influence of status, religion, ethnic origin, race, gender and age on the interactions of individuals in the development of an American identity.