

Executive Summary

The Global Education Advisory Council to the Massachusetts State Board of Education (GEAC) and Global Education Massachusetts (GEM formerly MIIS) are pleased to offer resources designed to assist principals and superintendents in taking steps, without great expense, to infuse global education into existing school programs.

In this packet of resources you will find **materials to share with teachers and administrators** in the fall:

1. Global Education: A Call to Action Position Paper of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS)
2. Global Competencies and program exemplars
3. International School Exchange Programs: Initiating a Program
4. Organizations for International Exchange and Travel
5. Curriculum examples to distribute to curriculum coordinators, teachers, specialists, and department chairs that contain K-12 curriculum samples [Global Education Curriculum Exemplars]
 - ▶ Grades 3-5 science and technology
 - ▶ K-12 English/language arts
 - ▶ Grades 6-7 global economics infused into social science
 - ▶ Grades 6-7 integrated curriculum
 - ▶ High school interdisciplinary model (biology, English, and history)
 - ▶ High school digital China study modules and travel program
6. Global Studies Professional Development Opportunities

All curriculum models are consistent with state standards and engage students in learning about the world they live in by enriching existing curriculum. The samples provide websites to the full curriculum resources.

Providing a more global perspective in our schools is very much a matter of focus, mindset, and encouragement—not about creating still another department in school districts. Superintendents are in a unique position to provide time and resources, and to encourage staff to prepare themselves to teach an enriched and engaging globally focused curriculum.

The Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators Association (MSSAA) and the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) are leading the way:

- ▶ MSSAA conference **“A World View”**, July 23-25, 2008
 - Commissioner Mitchell Chester, keynote speaker

- ▶ MASS conference **“Leadership in a Global Economy”** July, 2007
MASS Committee on Global Education:
 - Organized a joint MASS-MASC November conference with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees titled **“Education Without Borders”**
 - Drafted a position paper on global education
 - Sponsored a series of professional workshops on global education during the past school year

The stage is set and the time is right in Massachusetts to expand and enrich the focus on English/language arts and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) with global literacy. Educational reform, due to globalization and impact of telecommunications, is a challenge faced by all educators. Massachusetts is one of the states leading the way to meet this challenge:

1. Massachusetts won the 2006-2007 Goldman Sachs State Prize of \$25,000 for Global Education in recognition of the work of the Massachusetts Initiative for International Studies (MIIS), the Global Education Advisory Council (GEAC), and the support of the State Board of Education and Commissioner Driscoll.

2. The Massachusetts Initiative for International Studies (MIIS, now GEM) sponsored four annual state conferences on global education held at the Kennedy Library and at UMass Boston that brought together leaders in business, policy, and education, that made the case for urgency and that demonstrated what global education looks like.

3. The Global Education Advisory Council has worked closely during the past four years with MIIS and the DOE to advise, and to provide resources to support global education offered in this packet.

4. A law sponsored by Representative Kay Khan to require global education was passed June 27, 2006, by both the Massachusetts House and Senate. Efforts continue to obtain an appropriation for the fund established with this law.
5. Commissioner Driscoll's vision statement of October 2006, states that it is the goal of our schools that "All students will be prepared, be productive and contributing members of our democratic society and the global economy."
6. Governor Patrick's Readiness Project leadership team is crafting an implementation plan to support the Governor's vision of global education excellence.
7. Paul Reville, Secretary of Education, has appointed an advisory task force to recommend steps to implement Skills for the 21st Century.

Effective citizenship for all citizens includes global awareness, knowledge, and understanding. Increased interdependence between the U.S. and other nations brings an international dimension to many public and civic issues, such as the environment, trade, and public health. The preeminent position of the U.S. in global affairs calls for globally competent public leadership and service. Within Massachusetts, globalization is driving a demand for an internationally competent workforce. The time is now for our public schools to meet this challenge.

With respect and appreciation,

The Global Education Advisory Council
Global Education Massachusetts