MEMORANDUM

To: Principals and Superintendents

From: Ms. Robin LeClaire, Director of School Improvement
       Mr. J. Matthew Walsh, Curriculum Specialist

Date: May 31, 2019

Re: Senate Enrolled Act 132 - Civics Test and Holocaust

Background:

The Indiana General Assembly recently passed legislation pertaining to high schools administering the United States Naturalization Exam. This legislation included an enhanced study of the Holocaust in United States history courses. IC 20-30-5-7 states that as a part of United States government credit awarded for the General, Core 40, Core 40 with Academic Honors, and Core 40 with Technical Honors designation, each high school shall administer the naturalization examination provided by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. IC 20-30-5-7 states that social studies curriculum in schools must include an enhanced study of the Holocaust in each high school United States History course.

Guidance:

Each student enrolled in a United States Government course where credit is awarded for General, Core 40, Core 40 with Academic Honors, and Core 40 with Technical Honors designation is required to take the naturalization examination provided by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services as administered by the student’s high school. United States government courses include Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, dual credit, and Cambridge International courses. Students do not need to pass the naturalization examination in order to pass the United States Government course.

Schools should consider providing students with opportunities to learn about and engage in civics experiences including the right to vote and the duty to vote. Schools are encouraged to help students understand how to actively participate in the election process and be a voice by exercising that right and duty.
Resources for the naturalization examination are forthcoming and when posted can be found here.

Each student enrolled in a high school United States History course shall be provided multiple opportunities to learn about the Holocaust. A successfully completed United States History course shall provide a more in-depth study of the Holocaust.

Resources for the Holocaust are forthcoming and when posted can be found here.

If you have any questions, please contact either Robin LeClaire at 317-232-0524 or e-mail at rleclaire@doe.in.gov or Matt Walsh at 317-232-6619 or e-mail at jwalsh1@doe.in.gov.

This legislation was authored by Senator Dennis Kruse and legislative text can be found here. Information regarding how to contact your legislators can be found here.