



---

## **The 2026 Connecticut Social Studies Summer Challenge: Information for Grade K–12 Principals**

It's strongly encouraged that your school participate in the Social Studies Summer Challenge so every student can be involved. This will help and support the ongoing efforts to keep Social Studies alive, prevent learning loss, and assist students in being civically engaged.

In order to make this event more meaningful, we ask that you consider the following:

- Prepare a letter about the importance of Social Studies and send it to all of your students and their parents. Let them know your school is participating in the Social Studies Summer Challenge, and encourage them to accept the challenge, too. (Certificates will be awarded to schools with the highest number of participants. Winning schools will be recognized in a special ceremony.)
- Distribute with your letter, the learning log and other materials that are part of your school's efforts to encourage Social Studies, and the information sheet, "Message to Parents and Students." Please make as many copies of the information sheet as you need.
- Consider sending a letter to parents and students in early August to encourage students to keep working on their Social Studies learning log.
- Plan to tally the results when the 2026–26 school year commences. Brief instructions are available on the [Connecticut State Department of Education's \(CSDE\) website](#). Be sure to return the journals to your students after the necessary information has been copied.
- Contact [Irene Parisi](#) if you have any questions.

**Thank you for supporting the Social Studies Summer Challenge,  
and for all you do year-round to enrich the lives of Connecticut students.**