Story Close-Up From Library 8/12/15, 3:35 PM

The impending Social Studies fiasco

Dear readers:

Dissatisfied with arguments both for and against Common Core, we read the English Language Arts and Social Studies Frameworks documentation ourselves. The result is a series of news articles to explain the impending Social Studies fiasco. The slow motion train wreck is not caused by Common Core but, rather, masked by Common Core.

Working against the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers decisions not to create a Social Studies plan, the National Council for the Social Studies created their plan anyway. The NCSS then pressed states to adopt them as based on Common Core Standards. The intent of the NCSS is not to educate students, but to mold them into "good citizens" according to their definition of good.

The articles explain in chapter and verse, what is afoot.

Studying "core" documents revealed that much of what was being passed off as Common Core was neither "common" nor "core." Under cover of the worthwhile Common Core techniques to promote writing, reading, and conversation, Social Studies Framework authors expected this generation would leave content up to experts and, if they didn't, that the concentrated educational jargon would fog them out before they discovered what was afoot.

The English Language Arts and Math curricula use social studies readings to foster social transformation that voters never had a chance to approve. The Social Studies Framework accelerated attempts to reach a societal tipping point before their subterfuge was exposed.

The articles that follow explain what we found. A future series of articles will approach studies using threads that can be validated by individuals and that give focus and traction as students trace back through history, economics, and political theory.

It is not too late for education to recover. All it takes is a change of mind.

Regards, Stephen B. Waters August 11, 2015 Email: sbwaters@rny.com