



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: May 7, 2025

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Administrators of Nonpublic Schools

Route To: Principals, Chief Academic Officers, Social Studies Supervisors, Elementary Educators, Social Studies Educators

From: Kevin Dehmer, Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Education

Revolutionary Schools Commemorative Program

Commemorate, celebrate, contemplate and commit to the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution by becoming a Revolutionary School! Join the New Jersey Department of Education in making social studies education come alive for New Jersey students through this once-in-a-generation opportunity to connect our past with our future.



A Special Opportunity for Schools and Districts

In 2026, our nation will commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution. This historic milestone presents a unique opportunity for New Jersey districts to reinvigorate their K-12 social studies curriculum through the integration of local history, civic engagement and experiential learning opportunities.

The NJ Department of Education and RevolutionNJ invites K-12 schools and districts to become official educational partners in this momentous commemoration, which will take place during the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years. The activities and resources developed as part of this effort are designed to last beyond the commemoration events and be incorporated as curriculum materials to strengthen social studies education for years to come.

RevolutionNJ

[RevolutionNJ](#), a collaboration between the New Jersey Historical Commission and the non-profit Crossroads of the American Revolution, is the official partnership charged with planning and promoting New Jersey's commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution. The partners are dedicated to telling diverse stories about America's past and elevating the value placed on social studies education in K-12 schools.

Why become a Revolutionary School?

A Revolutionary School is an officially recognized partner of the NJ Department of Education and RevolutionNJ. The goal of the Revolutionary Schools program is to encourage and celebrate

schools that emphasize and elevate social studies and civics education. Revolutionary schools will get:

- Advance notice of opportunities to attend kick-off events and conferences.
- Regular updates on new educational materials and RevolutionNJ events.
- Access to instructional resources about New Jersey's role in the American Revolution.
- Collaboration opportunities with historians and educational experts.
- Standards-aligned instructional activities and educational materials.
- Professional development to support the implementation of RevolutionNJ educational programs.
- Field trip directory of local historical sites.
- Networking opportunities with educators from across the state.
- Use of the official RevolutionNJ Revolutionary School logo.

What does a Revolutionary School do?

Revolutionary Schools agree to:

- Engage in a class- or school-wide civics initiative to promote the ideals of the American Revolution and foster active civic participation.
- Incorporate RevolutionNJ educational program(s) into the curriculum (History Happened Here or Foundations of Democracy).
- Share exemplary social studies instructional practices.
- Make social studies instruction accessible to all students and elevate the importance of civics and history instruction in all grades.
- Share information about local and statewide Semiquincentennial-related events and commemorations.

How can my school become a Revolutionary School?

Educators and schools can [apply online](#).

Upcoming events:

- [Revolutionary Schools virtual conference](#) (June 3, 2025) for administrators, educators and librarians
- [RevolutionNJ Calendar of Events](#)

Contact Information

For information, contact Ashley Woolsey-Greene, Social Studies Coordinator, Office of Standards at socialstudies@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition
NJ LEE Group