



State Board of Education member Terri Leo listens during a meeting Friday in Austin to discuss social studies standards. The board approved new curriculum, changing the way students will be taught everything from the country's relationship to the U.N. to the civil rights movement.

Curriculum

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The board attempted to make more than 200 amendments this week alone, reshaping draft standards that had been prepared during the past year and a half by expert groups of teachers and professors.

As new amendments were being presented just moments before the vote, Democrats bristled because the changes had not been vetted.

"I think we're doing an injustice to the children of this state by piecing together, cutting and pasting, coming up with new amendments as late as today," said Mary Helen Berlanga, a Democrat. "What we have done today and what we did yesterday is something that a classroom teacher would not even have accepted."

In one of the most significant changes leading up to the vote, the board attempted to water down the rationale for the separation of church and state in a high school government class, pointing out the words were not in the Constitution and requiring students compare and contrast the judicial language with the wording in the First Amendment.

Board members also re-

jected language to modernize the classification of historic periods to B.C.E. and C.E. from the traditional B.C. and A.D., and agreed to replace Thomas Jefferson as an example of an influential political philosopher in a world history class. They also required students to evaluate efforts by global organizations such as the United Nations to undermine U.S. sovereignty.

Former board chairman Don McLeroy, one of the board's most outspoken conservatives, said the Texas history curriculum has been unfairly skewed to the left after years of Democrats controlling the board, and he just wants to bring it back into balance.

"I'm proud to have my name on this document," Republican board member Barbara Carpyll said shortly before the vote. Another Republican board member, David Braxley, said the curriculum revision process always has been political—but this time, the ruling faction had changed since the last time social studies standards were adopted.

"We took our licks, we got outvoted," he said referring to the debate from 10 years earlier. "Now it's 10-5 in the other

direction... we're an elected body, this is a political process. Outside that, go find yourself a benevolent dictator."

GOP board member Geraldine Miller was absent during the votes. During the months-long revision process, conservatives strengthened requirements on teaching the Judeo-Christian influences of the nation's Founding Fathers and required the U.S. government be referred to as a "constitutional republic," rather than "democratic."

Students will be required to study the decline in the value of the U.S. dollar, including the abandonment of the gold standard. Educators have blasted the curriculum proposals for politicizing education. Teachers also have said the document is too long and will force students to memorize lists of names rather than thinking critically.

The curriculum dispute contributed to McLeroy's defeat in the March state Republican primary. Education Secretary Arne Duncan said school officials "should keep politics out" of curriculum debates. "We do a disservice to chil-

dren when we shield them from the truth, just because some people think it is painful or doesn't fit with their particular views," Duncan said in a statement. "Parents should be very wary of politicians designing curriculum."

After the vote, the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas urged the state Legislature to place more control over the board.

"At the end of three long days, the State Board of Education has amended, re-amended and approved curriculum standards that are more ideological than ever, despite pleas to not politicize what is taught to Texas school children," said the state ACLU's executive director, Terri Burke. "At least one lawmaker vowed legislative action to 'rein in' the board."

"They have ignored historians and teachers, allowing ideological activists to push the culture war further into our classrooms," said Rep. Mike Villareal, a San Antonio Democrat. "They fail to understand that we don't want liberal textbooks or conservative textbooks. We want excellent textbooks, written by historians instead of activists."

Police: Ohio man, son killed Arkansas officers

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — An anti-government Ohio man who had several run-ins with police around the U.S. was identified Friday as one of two people who allegedly gunned down two officers during a traffic stop in Arkansas.

Arkansas State Police identified the pair — killed during an exchange of gunfire with law enforcement officers — as Jerry R. Kane Jr., 45, of Forest, Ohio, and his son, Joseph T. Kane, believed to be 16.

About 90 minutes before the shootout Thursday with police Sgt. Brandon Paudler, 39, and Officer Bill Evans, 33, were shot dead on charges of driving without a license and concealing his identity. Kane, who used the Internet to question federal and local governments' authority over him, made money holding debt-elimination seminars around the country. He had a long history with police and recently complained about being busted at a "Nazi checkpoint" near Carriazo, N.M., where court records show he spent three days in jail before posting bail. Kane was arrested in 2007 on charges of driving without a license and concealing his identity.

Fetter

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Greeg County was lucky to have a man of his stature at a difficult time in its history."

"He was truly a gentle giant," Brabham said. "He was a very good man who brought integrity and sincerity to every job he undertook. I'll definitely miss him."

Greeg County Precinct Justice of the Peace R.H. Jameson said Fetter did a good job under difficult circumstances.

"Fetter was appointed as interim sheriff after the previous sheriff had resigned, and he kept the department going strong until a new sheriff was elected," Jameson said. "It wasn't easy, but two sons and several other relatives."

Marine

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Amid the moments of not the only chuckles of the 70-minute memorial service that included metal band church. More than 40 active Metallica's "Nothing Else Matters."

Mike Brooks, pastor of Saddleback Church in San Clemente, Calif., where May served while stationed at Camp Pendleton, said, "Only aspire to be, which is what Jesus was on Earth," Gohmert, playing at his funeral and at said, "which is a service at his wedding. I know he's to others. I'm certainly smiling about all this."

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Produce

From Page 1A

and the farm-to-market model it follows, was a blooming success at its opening on May 15, organizers said. The market is open Saturdays through the growing season, with plans to expand to weekdays.

Fred Boyer, who had brought a large truck full of tomatoes, sold out and then went back to his farm in Diana for another truck load. And he was sold out again before noon," said Danielle Heard, a member of the committee organizing the downtown outlet. "Even Fair Meadow Goat Dairy — Carol Pinkard who sells goat milk soap and lotion — was almost completely sold out by noon. It was a very successful opening."

Heard is a certified holistic health counselor and certified natural whole food chef. "Quality whole food is critical for people to be good and live a long life," she said. "It is key to helping people address health issues and heal."

Less urban outlets for foods right out of the friendly East Texas clay can be found along highways linking its hamlets.

Those include one where U.S. 80 crosses Lake Deverina near Clarksville City, which sells produce to its plant sales floor.

The John H. Efturd Peach Orchard, along U.S. 271 north of Gilmer, lets lovers of the peach and a variety of berries pick their own. Full produce outlets hold forth beneath shady, wooden structures on both sides of that same stretch

of U.S. 271.

■ The Kilgore Farmer's Market soon enters its sophomore year beneath the dericks in the World's Richest Acre, downtown Kilgore. The market operates 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays from June through October.

■ The Greer Farm, west of Daingerfield on Morris County Road 1165, near Texas 11, offers blackberries, blueberries, peas and plums.

At least one stand historically has popped up along U.S. 80 between Longview and Hallsville. East of Hallsville, signs along U.S. 80 east direct fruit nuts to Martin's Berry Patch.

"When the blackberry season is on, we're going to be like ants on an apple core," co-owner Mary Martin said, noting the berries should be picked for armies of berry pickers to swarm by the official opening

on May 28. Blackberries on the pick-your-own farm should be ripe by the second week of June, she said.

Martin said a late freeze a year ago left vines wanting for fruit. That's not the case this year, she said.

"The blueberries and blackberries are back," Martin said. "We're going to have a good year."

Northeast of Gladewater, Arlene Parker is welcoming shoppers to her unnamed produce house, which really is a house filled with enough salad components to make a health nut cry for joy.

"It's better this year than ever," Parker said of fresh inventory at the shop on U.S. 271 north of Gladewater's Loop 465. "The locavores are going nuts."

Locavores, people who make an effort to eat food produced locally, will find a dozen va-



Greenwood Cemetery Association Annual Meeting Saturday, June 5

- 11:00 at Historic Greenwood Cemetery
- 707 Magill Street, Longview
- (South of Good Shepherd Mem. Ch.)
- For members and public
- Information: Gordon Northcutt, 903-753-8716
- Sheltered seating under canopy
- Speaker: Prof. Archie McDonald
- See new retaining wall plaque
- Report on achievements & plans
- Election of trustees

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