# Patriot Program Informational Report

Dr. Dyann Mack, Executive Director of Elementary School Instruction and Performance

Thomas Smith, Director of Elementary School Instruction and Performance

Erin Lange, Supervisor of Social Sciences

Dr. Paula Stanton, Supervisor of Equity and Cultural Proficiency





### Background

- Historical context
  - Started as proposal by one teacher at Prospect Mill ES approximately 30 years ago
  - Program spread to and modified by staff transferring from Prospect Mill ES to Fountain Green ES (1993)
  - Individual schools adopted their own version of a Patriot Program
    - Programs run by combination of PTAs, independent parent volunteers, and HCPS staff
    - Components/requirements evolved based on who ran the program, who the building principal
      was, and feedback from participating families over time



### Historically the Patriot Program...

- Requirements varied from school to school
- Supports were inconsistent for students with learning differences
- o Involved staff, parents, and community in the verification of program completion
- Completion timeline varied
- Used instructional time
- Was voluntary
- Included participant only celebrations and recognitions



## Historically the Patriot Program...

- Was offered inconsistently throughout the county
- Required varied at home support
- Resulted in exclusion of students
- Required financial resources for operation



### Goal of HCPS Patriot Program

• The HCPS Patriot Program seeks to foster civic-minded students with knowledge of the rich history of the United States, an appreciation for the democratic values that are the foundation of our society, and an understanding of the ways they can responsibly participate in and contribute to their communities.



### Our Commitment .....

- To BOE Goals
- To BOE Priorities
- To instructional time
- To linking to instructional objectives
- Parent and Community Connections
- To all of our students



### Timeline of Implementation

Gathered initial feedback from principals and teachers

Initial feedback gathered

Feedback solicited from principal focus group, teacher group, and parent group.

Modified program presented to stakeholders groups

SY24-25: Grade 5 Patriot Program operational and feedback is being gathered during implementation. Schools continue to run Patriot Program in other grade levels based on preferences and historic precedents in their buildings

Modified Patriot Program implemented in Grade 5 (SY24-25)

#### Model created

A work team workshopped the feedback from the principal and teacher/librarian focus groups to develop modified Patriot Program model

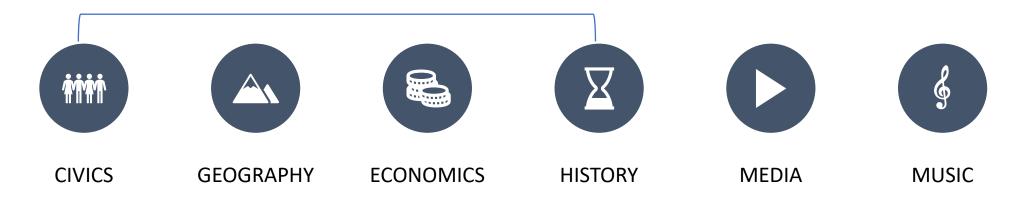
#### Modified program changes

The work team made modifications to the new Patriot Program based on feedback from stakeholders Modified Patriot Program being developed for Grades PreK-4

Goal implementation for SY25-26



### Strands of HCPS Patriot Program







### HCPS Patriot Program will...

- Provide students an opportunity to learn about patriotism and civics
- Be aligned to learning standards and a part of a BOE approved curriculum
- Address the learning needs of all students
- Maximize instructional time
- Provide schools with an opportunity to hold student-focused assemblies that celebrate all students for their participation in the curriculum as it relates to civic responsibility and patriotism.
- Provide an opportunity for students to earn awards, ribbons, or pins
- Provide an opportunity for schools to have fieldtrips so all students can learn about civic responsibility and patriotism.
- Minimize workload for teachers and volunteers
- Allow all students to become Patriots each year



### Communication

- PTA Meetings
- Back to School Nights
- Teachers
- School Communications
- Parent Advisory Committee through Office of Family and Community Engagement



# Where we are today

- 100% of our schools will have a Patriot Program
- Approximately ½ have committed to a celebration
- Approximately ½ have committed to a fieldtrip



## Questions