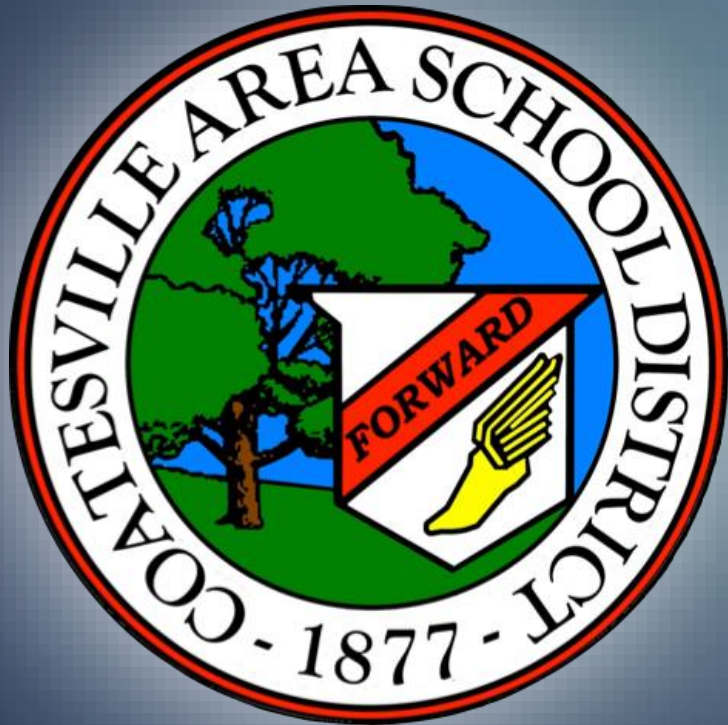


COATESVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SOCIAL STUDIES: CURRICULUM UPDATE

JANUARY 10, 2023



Agenda

- ▶ K-12 Social Studies Update, Mrs. Casandra Jones (Curriculum Supervisor)
- ▶ Gardner-Beale House Proposal, Mrs. Lena McKim (Social Studies Coordinator), Mr. Bryan Wise (Social Studies Coordinator), Mr. Joseph Tassoni (Department Head)





Social Studies Curriculum Update

Why teach social studies?

- ▶ The primary purpose of social studies is to help young people make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world.
- ▶ If the young learners of this nation are to become effective participants in a democratic society, then social studies must be an essential part of the curriculum beginning in kindergarten.
- ▶ Providing students opportunities to build social studies vocabulary and background knowledge by engaging in social studies activities can lead to improved literacy rates and decrease the achievement gap.

Core beliefs...

- ▶ See ourselves as part of a greater whole
- ▶ Listen to and learn from people who are different from ourselves
- ▶ Develop critical thinking skills
- ▶ Develop informational and analytical reading and writing skills
- ▶ Deliberate to find peaceful solutions to problems
- ▶ Promote the freedom, rights, and well-being of all people

Our approach...

Elementary Social Studies:

- ▶ Go beyond the "expanding communities" curriculum model (self, family, community, state, and nation)
- ▶ Include civic engagement and knowledge from the core content areas of civics, economics, geography, and history
- ▶ Include skills that enhance critical thinking, socio-emotional development, prosocial skills, interpersonal interactions, and information literacy
- ▶ Infuse technology to help prepare students as active and responsible citizens in the twenty-first century
- ▶ Support desired reading, writing, speaking, and listening outcomes (an integrated approach)

Elementary social studies instruction must be meaningful, integrative, value-based, challenging, and active.

Our approach...

Secondary Social Studies:

- ▶ Teach key concepts related to civics and government, economics, geography, and history in an integrated fashion through the study of specific time periods in history in our nation and around the world
- ▶ Emphasize Inquiry based learning and teaching with primary source documents to prepare students for college, career, and civic life
- ▶ Integrate media literacy: the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, act on, and create media messages in a variety of forms
- ▶ Teach evidence-based instructional strategies and practices to support comprehension, vocabulary, and writing (Keys to Literacy, disciplinary literacy)

Proposed 6-12 Course Sequence/Offerings

Grade 6: Introduction to World Geography-- Patterns of Settlement and Cultural Development

Grade 7: World History-- Middle Ages through the Renaissance and Age of Exploration

Grade 8: Early American History -- May 1607 to April 1865

Grade 9: Modern American History-- Reconstruction to Vietnam

Grade 10: World History: The World Since 1450

Grade 11: US Government

Grade 12: American History Currents—From The Vietnam War to Modern Day

Electives: Psychology, Historical Research and Preservation

AP Offerings: AP World History, AP European History, AP Human Geography, AP Psychology, AP US Government, AP Macro Economics, and AP Comparative Government



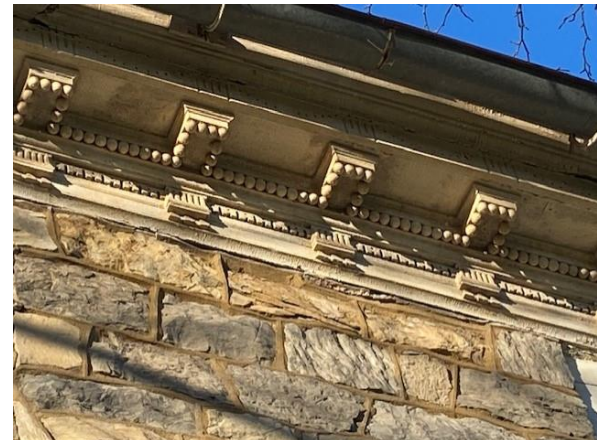
The Gardner- Beale House

A Brief History of the Gardner-Beale House



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- ▶ The Gardner-Beale House sits on a 500 acre tract of land that was transferred from William Penn to the Ralph Witherow in 1681.
- ▶ The land was purchased by the French fur trader Peter Bisailon in 1731 and the first buildings were constructed in 1734.
- ▶ There were at least two subsequent additions during the 1700s with the final addition in 1811 by the Gardners.
- ▶ The House stayed remained in the possession of the Gardner Family until 1853, when it was sold to James M. Beale.
- ▶ The house and land was sold to the United States Government in 1929 and would be used for the creation of the Veteran's Hospital.
- ▶ During this period, the house served as a boarding house for doctors working at the veteran's hospital.
- ▶ In 1964, 30 acres of land would be sold to the Coatesville Area school district for \$1.
- ▶ The house most recently served as the CASD administration building but has sat vacant for nearly 20 years.

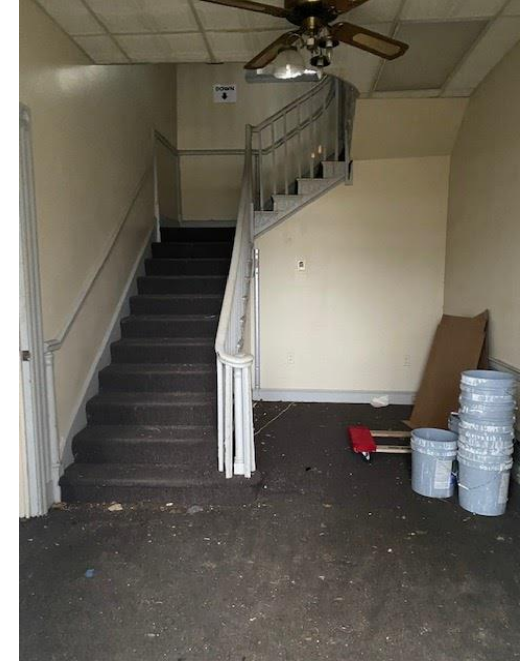




Historical Research & Preservation Course¹² Outline

- ▶ Historical Research & Preservation is a 4-year experiential history course.
- ▶ Students learn how to do advanced historical research by annually participating in the National History Day competition.
- ▶ This course allows students to experience local history and its preservation with their bare hands not just in a textbook.
- ▶ Students work hands-on with professionals in the Gardner-Beale House to learn about preservation techniques.
- ▶ Students participate in a variety of field trips that emphasis local history, historic research, and behind the scenes preservation.





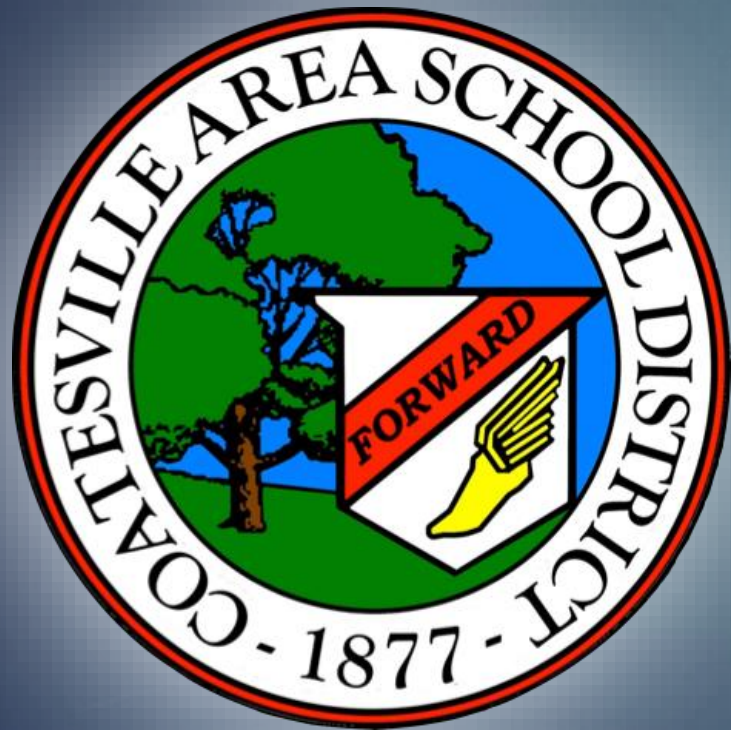
Vision for the Gardner-Beale House

- ▶ The goal is for the restoration of the house and the creation of the “Gardner-Beale House Heritage Center,” which will be owned and maintained by the Coatesville Area School District as a teaching museum for local history, heritage, and architecture.
- ▶ The vision is to create a repository of local history from the surrounding townships, boroughs, and the city of Coatesville.
- ▶ In addition to create a learning center and history lab, the Gardner-Beale House will be open for visitation by schools, groups, and citizens.
- ▶ Fees can be collected upon visitation by groups and for the use of restored rooms for meetings by local groups.
- ▶ [Student Produced Video](#) about the Historic Preservation Course and the Gardner-Beale House.

Next Steps (Curriculum and Beyond)

- ▶ Form various partnerships to support curriculum development efforts
 - ▶ Bring rewritten courses before the board for formal approval (beginning in March)
- ▶ Vet and adopt curriculum resources that support our core beliefs
- ▶ Form a planning committee for the Gardner Beale House project that is diverse (reflective of the Coatesville community) and includes internal and external stakeholders
- ▶ Complete the necessary steps to include the GBH project within the district's master facilities plan (current being developed)
- ▶ Increase recruiting efforts for Historical Research and Preservation course

Q & A



THANK YOU!