



## CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

**Office of the Superintendent**  
1562 Dairy Road  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
(434) 245-2400  
Fax (434) 245-2603  
[www.charlottesvilleschools.org](http://www.charlottesvilleschools.org)

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION SHEET CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOL BOARD

<b>DATE:</b>	June 4, 2026
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Adoption of AP African American Studies Textbook - Dr. Anna Isley and Dr. Alicen Brown
<b>BACKGROUND INFORMATION:</b>	<p>The Adoption of the AP African American Studies Textbook was presented for first consideration on May 7, 2026, by Dr. Anna Isley (Chief Academic Officer), Dr. Alicen Brown (Coordinator of Social Sciences and History), and Jason Bennett (CHS Assistant Principal). Following the Board's January 2026 approval of the AP African American Studies course, a specialized committee evaluated three textbooks using a quantified VDOE rubric focusing on alignment with Virginia standards, equity, rigor, and digital considerations. The committee strongly recommends the adoption of <i>Freedom on My Mind</i> (Butler et al., 2025). This textbook achieved a perfect score of 108 and was the only text rated "Adequate" in every evaluation category by all committee members. With a total implementation cost of \$7,638.91, the division is completing community review this month to secure the purchase for the 2026–2027 school year. Community feedback aligns with AP African American Studies adoption committee's initial recommendation. The Board is now requested to grant final approval.</p>
<b>STRATEGIC PLAN:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Priority 1: Increase Academic Achievement<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Strategy 1: Focus on Equity and Rigor This involves enhancing academic tools with a focus on equity and encouraging course plans that incorporate rigor.</li><li>○ Strategy 4: Unleveled Courses and Advanced Placement This strategy focuses on using unleveled courses to create scaffolded rigor that results in diverse and well-prepared Advanced Placement (AP) classes. The adoption of this AP textbook directly supports the expansion and diversification of the AP curriculum.</li><li>○ Strategy 7: Rigorous and Evidence-Based English/Social Studies Programs The plan mandates providing coherent, rigorous, and evidence-based PK-12 programs fully aligned with Virginia standards, which includes the specialized evaluation process used for this textbook.</li></ul></li></ul>

<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	The Superintendent recommends that the School Board adopt the textbook, Freedom on My Mind, for the AP African American Studies course for the 2026-2027 school year, at a total implementation cost of \$7,638.91.
<b>ACTION REQUIRED:</b>	Approve the adoption of the AP African American Studies Textbook, Freedom on My Mind, as recommended by the specialized committee.
<b>CONTACT PERSON(S):</b>	Dr. Anna Isley, Chief Academic Officer Dr. Alicen Brown, Coordinator of Social Studies and World Languages