TOPIC 4 – STATEHOOD

Topic Overview
Topic 4 highlights the process of North Dakota becoming a state. It includes primary sources that will help you understand the politics involved in establishing statehood for North Dakota.

Topic Objectives
• As a result of the study of Topic 4, you will be able to
  o Analyze and interpret primary documents.
  o Evaluate the significance of political issues debated in the process of North Dakota becoming a state.

ND Content Standards
• 8.1.2
• 8.2.11
• 8.4.1
• 8.4.6

Common Core Standards
• RH 2
• RH3
• WHST1
• WHST 2
• WHST 9

Topic Activities
• Learning from Historical Documents
• Organizing Data
• Creative Interpretation
Learning from Historical Documents

To access a photo/document/map, refer to the topic reading assignment or use the SEARCH feature to enter its name or number.

Parades have always been a part of celebrations in North Dakota. Study the photo A2981 taken on July 4, 1889, where the delegates for the Constitutional Convention were meeting. Complete an analysis of that photo by answering the following questions:

1. What do you notice about this photo? Describe without judgment. ("I notice . . .")

2. What questions does this photo raise for you? ("I wonder . . .")

3. What meaning or understanding is intended or conveyed in this photo? Speculate on the meaning behind the photo or why this photo might be of importance.
Organizing Data

The people of Dakota Territory were ready for statehood beginning in 1871, but it wasn’t until 1889 that North Dakota became a state. What were contributing factors that delayed statehood? In the box, write at least three factors that contributed to the delay of statehood, and complete the statement that follows. Explain your reasoning.

1.

2.

3.

I think the factor that most contributed to the delay of North Dakota’s statehood was . . . .
Creative Interpretation

Child labor, women’s suffrage, and prohibition were three issues that needed to be debated at the Constitutional Convention if they were to be included in the Constitution. After reading about each of these issues, choose one and write an essay on why you think that issue should or should not have been included in the North Dakota Constitution.