*Civics Career Academy Support Lesson*

**Public Service Communication**

Essential Question?

How does civic engagement function within a constitutional republic?

Why is civic engagement important?

***Course***

**Experiential Learning**

***Benchmark***

| SS.912.CG.2.9  SS.912.CG.2.7  SS.912.CG.2.2  P.M. 24.0 | Explain the process and procedures of elections at the state and national levels.  Analyze the impact of civic engagement as a means of preserving or reforming institutions.  Explain the importance of political and civic participation to the success of the United States’ constitutional republic.  Reflect on public works and public sector employment skills and practices. |
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**Other Benchmarks:** Explain how interest groups, the media and public opinion influence local, state and national decision making related to public issues.

**Overview:** In this lesson, students will understand the obligations and responsibilities of citizens. Students will experience the responsibilities of citizens following a local and national election.

***Course Unit*Unit 1**

***Lesson Foci***

* Demonstrate how knowledge of the structure and function of government supports effective civic engagement in a constitutional republic.
* Examine the motivations for civic engagement.
* The focus will also center on partnering with county-level supervisors of elections to get students actively involved in elections, in particular registering to vote and implementing a program for youth to spend the day either working the polls or providing other administrative poll-related support.

***Activity Documents, Materials, and Handouts***

***How Poll watchers prepare for Election day***

[***https://www.baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2021/11/02/how-poll-workers-prepare-for-election-day-***](https://www.baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2021/11/02/how-poll-workers-prepare-for-election-day-)

***Fear Factor Shortage of Poll Workers***

[***https://www.wfla.com/news/polk-county/a-fear-factor-100-poll-workers-needed-for-august-primary-polk-election-supervisor-says/***](https://www.wfla.com/news/polk-county/a-fear-factor-100-poll-workers-needed-for-august-primary-polk-election-supervisor-says/)

***Duties of Supervisor of Elections***

[***https://www.votefranklin.com/Supervisor-of-Elections/Duties-of-the-Supervisor***](https://www.votefranklin.com/Supervisor-of-Elections/Duties-of-the-Supervisor)

***How to Access a Sample Ballot***

[***https://ballotpedia.org/How\_to\_use\_the\_sample\_ballot\_tool***](https://ballotpedia.org/How_to_use_the_sample_ballot_tool)

***Election Worker Positions***

[***https://www.hernandovotes.gov/Election-Worker/Election-Worker-Positions***](https://www.hernandovotes.gov/Election-Worker/Election-Worker-Positions)

***NBA Star Enes Kanter Freedom: “What I’m doing is Bigger Than Basketball***

[***https://www.voanews.com/a/nba-star-enes-kanter-freedom-what-i-m-doing-is-bigger-than-basketball-/6426219.html***](https://www.voanews.com/a/nba-star-enes-kanter-freedom-what-i-m-doing-is-bigger-than-basketball-/6426219.html) ***Voting: Privilege or Right***[***https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2021/07/22/wide-partisan-divide-on-whether-voting-is-a-fundamental-right-or-a-privilege-with-responsibilities/***](https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2021/07/22/wide-partisan-divide-on-whether-voting-is-a-fundamental-right-or-a-privilege-with-responsibilities/)

***Activity Vocabulary***

| Election – A time when people vote in order to choose someone for a government position that requires being formally chosen by the voting public.  Supervisor of Elections – the constitutional officer designated by the Florida Constitution to administer elections and voter registration.  Polling place – Location where voters cast their ballots in elections; the phrase “polling station” is also used in American English and British English, although “polling place” is the building and “polling station” is the specific room where voters cast their vote.  Poll worker – ensures that voters receive their ballot, provides instruction to voters and receives their completed ballot, provides instruction to voters on the proper way to mark their ballot  Ballot – paper document used for voting in an election, includes the names of the candidates printed on it, as well as other matters being decided in the election such as constitutional and charter amendments  Ballot box – temporarily sealed container, usually a square box though sometimes a tamper resistant bag, with a narrow slot in the top sufficient to accept a paper ballot in an election but which prevents anyone from accessing the votes cast excerpt supervisor of elections staff.  Candidate debates – a discussion involving opposing viewpoints as a means to inform voters of their issue and partisan positions  Sample ballot – a document sent to registered voters to help them prepare for an election that is printed and formatted like the ballot that they will receive when they cast their ballot  Voter registration card – received after registration, includes applicant’s precinct and registration number; if registered with a political party, includes party registration  Voter identification – Each state sets its own voter identification (ID) rules (e.g., driver’s license). Most states require voters to bring identification to vote in person.  Citizen- A person who, by place of birth, nationality of one or both parents, or naturalization, is granted full rights and responsibilities as a member of a nation or political community  Civic engagement -participating in activities related to politics, government, or citizenship |
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***Teacher Note***

**INSERT ANY NOTES THAT WOULD HELP THE TEACHER WITH THIS LESSON.**

**Reach out to county elections office. Suggest class visits to meet with upper class students to get them registered to vote. Target a high percentage to attend the presentations. Suggest a student poll worker experiential learning day on Election Day**

**Review all the resources before starting the lesson.**

**Authorship  
CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE!  
Name/District**

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***Lesson Steps***

1. Complete the vocabulary activity as a bell work. (Pre-test)
2. Prepare students to run an election, watch resource videos on different election worker tasks.
3. Discuss how voting is a privilege or a right. This would be a good resource to begin. <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2021/07/22/wide-partisan-divide-on-whether-voting-is-a-fundamental-right-or-a-privilege-with-responsibilities/>
4. Review and discuss the attached resources to ensure that students understand poll working, elections, and why it matters.
5. Set a day and time for the county elections office to visit campus to secure student voter registration.
6. Start implementing a plan for experiential learning targeting student support as poll workers or assisting poll workers on one or more election days while adhering to county and school guidelines.

**Enrichment Suggestion** **#1** – Set a target for the number of students to register or pre-register to vote.

**Enrichment Suggestion** **#2** – Work with and support on campus elections.

**Enrichment Suggestion** **#3** – Review the privilege of voting as it compares to other non-constitutional republics in the world (e.g.Enes Kanter Freedom videos or others). Use this review as a lead-in to discuss the voting right amendments (15th,19th,24th,26th.

**Teacher Background Information**

What content does the teacher need to know to teach this lesson effectively?

Understand county procedures, rules and regulations for voting and opportunities to get students involved in assisting with elections.

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**Vocabulary Activity - Elections**

| a. Election | h. Sample Ballot |
| --- | --- |
| b. Supervisor of Elections | i. Voter Registration Card |
| c. Polling Place |  |
| d. Poll Worker | j. Voter Identification |
| e. Ballot | k. Citizen |
| f. Ballot Box | l. Civic Engagement |
| g. Candidate Debates |  |

| 1.\_\_\_ Engaging in activities related to the city, government or citizenship. |
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| 2.\_\_\_ A time when people vote in order to choose someone for a political or official job. |
| 3.\_\_\_ The procedure performed by the governing body of the political subdivision whereby the election results become official. |
| 4.\_\_\_ A person who, by place of birth, nationality of one or both parents, or naturalization is granted full rights and responsibilities as a member of a nation or political community. |
| 5.\_\_\_ a document sent to registered voters to help them prepare for an election. |
| 6.\_\_\_ received after registration, includes applicant’s precinct number and registration number. |
| 7.\_\_\_ the Constitutional Officer designated by Florida law to administer elections and voter registration. |
| 8.\_\_\_ where voters cast their ballots in elections. The phrase polling station is also used in American English and British English, although polling place is the building and polling station is the specific room where voters cast their vote. |
| 9.\_\_\_ a discussion involving opposing points; an argument. |
| 10.\_\_\_ Each state sets its own voter ID rules. Most require voters to bring identification to vote in person. |
| 11.\_\_\_ receives voting pass from voters and ensures the voter receives their specific ballot, provides instruction to voters and receives their specific ballot, provides instruction to voters on the proper way to mark their ballot. |
| 12.\_\_\_ temporarily sealed container, usually a square box though sometimes a tamper resistant bag, with a narrow slot in the top sufficient to accept a ballot paper in an election but which prevents anyone from accessing the votes cast until the close of the voting period. |
| 13.\_\_\_ a paper used for voting in a ballot, especially in parliamentary or local government election, one having the names of the candidates printed on it. |
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**Answer Key**

1. **M**
2. **A**
3. **J**
4. **L**
5. **H**
6. **I**
7. **B**
8. **C**
9. **G**
10. **K**
11. **D**
12. **F**
13. **E**

**Sources**

**Polk County Supervisor of Elections Website**

<https://www.polkelections.com/>