

**4RIALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM PROPOSAL**

Name of Course: **Civic Engagement** Grade Level(s): **6,7,8**

Brief Course Description:
Students will be given a brief overview of American democracy, the American political system & civic responsibilities and duties. Students will analyze the successful civic action plans of their peers in several films and then develop their own civic initiatives.

Proposed By: **Teresa Robinson (JMS)
Correan Worthy (KuMS)** School: **Jehue Middle School
Kucera Middle School** Date: **Nov 30, 2020**

The Following is Proposed for this Course:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addition	<input type="checkbox"/> Revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Honors	<input type="checkbox"/> Deletion
<input type="checkbox"/> Required Course	<input type="checkbox"/> Content	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of Course
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	

The Following Maximum Credits are Proposed for this Course:
Units of Credit in (Subject Area): **5 (elective)** or in:

The Following Schools will Offer this Course:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frisbie Middle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jehue Middle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kolb Middle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kucera Middle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rialto Middle
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The Proposed Course will have the Following Budget Implication:
Individual School Site:
District Level:
Total Estimated Cost: **N/A**

Approval Signatures for the Proposed Course:

Signature	Yes/No	Date	Comments
<i>C. Worthy</i> Submitting School Department Chair Teresa Robinson/ Correan Worthy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
<i>Vince Rollins</i> Frisbie Middle School Principal Vince Rollins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
<i>Barclay Eide</i> Jehue Middle School Principal Barclay Eide	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
<i>A. Utter</i> Kolb Middle School Principal A. Utter	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
<i>Roxanne Dominguez</i> Kucera Middle School Principal Roxanne Dominguez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
<i>R. Allen</i> Rialto Middle School Principal R. Allen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
<i>Laurette Allen</i> District Curriculum Committee Chair Laurette Allen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
<i></i> Curriculum Council Chair	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Dec 1, 2020	

Approved by the Rialto Unified School Board of Education on (date):

Course Title: Civic Engagement (for Middle School)
Subject: History/Social Science
Discipline: Civics/American Government
Teacher(s): Teresa Robinson (Jehue Middle School)
Correan Worthy (Kucera Middle School)
Type of Course: Semester
Grade Level(s): 6th, 7th & 8th
Prerequisites: None
Textbook: Young Voices for the Planet Civic Engagement Curriculum
<https://www.youngvoicesfortheplanet.com/wp-content/uploads/YVFP-Civic-Engagement-Curriculum-Guide.pdf>
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Required Materials/Resources: None

Key Assignments/Projects: Some key assignments for this course are the ballot measure research & oral presentation, oral Interview narrative & an Action Plan initiative.

Course Overview:

This course is broken up into two units: Democracy & Civic Action/Engagement. **In Unit One:** Democracy, students are given a brief introduction to American democracy, the American political system & Civic responsibilities/duties. This section will help students understand how to participate effectively in civic life in America. **Unit two:** Civic Action/Engagement, students will analyze the successful action plans of their peers in several films. They will then develop their own action plan for a local issue that they care about. Unit two is based on the curriculum from Young Voices for the Planet: Speak out, creating solutions, leading the change Civic Engagement Curriculum.

The course overview demonstrates the following strengths:

- Uses the current/ past local and federal elections to help explain American democracy
- Discuss current events to help explain how political & social issues can impact society
- Identifies local community issues
- Provides cross curricular studies integrating STEM and STEAM (in the form of climate change, renewable energy, and energy conservation)
- Provides ideas for service projects

- It helps students to identify issues to address and break problems into manageable pieces
- Provides an opportunity for project base learning

Course Curriculum: Young Voices for the Planet Civic Engagement Curriculum

<https://www.youngvoicesfortheplanet.com/wp-content/uploads/YVFP-Civic-Engagement-Curriculum-Guide.pdf>

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Unit 1 Summary: American Democracy

This unit begins with a brief introduction of American democracy and its historical roots. Students will learn about the key cornerstone of democracy and civic duties/engagement. Students will pay attention to the current election taking place or the previous election that past. Students will learn how to go about getting a measure placed on an election ballot and voting rights.

Unit 1: Assignment: American Democracy - Current/past Ballot Measures Research

Students will look at all measures/propositions that are/were placed on the election ballot for an upcoming election or previous election. After viewing all of the choices students will select one proposition to research. Students will then create a one minute commercial urging us to vote for or against this measure. Students will then give an oral presentation on this proposition and then stand for questions by the teacher and the class regarding their measure.

This Unit 1 Summary and assignment demonstrate the following strengths and course criteria:

- Provides for oral presentation development
- Emphasizes research skill development
- Enhances understanding of current events
- Develops interview question and answering skills
- Provides development of understanding of differing perspectives
- Develops understanding of American democracy and voting

Unit 1 Assignment: American Democracy - Interview, Oral History & Essay Narrative

Students will select four people to interview regarding the topic of democracy. Their selection of individuals should include a veteran, an immigrant, a woman, someone over 60 years of age. Students will develop 10 open-ended questions to ask these individuals regarding their unique perspectives on democracy. After interviewing their four people students will then select one of their interviewees to write a two page narrative on.

Unit 2 Assignment demonstrates the following strengths and course criteria:

- Enhance writing skills
- Develops interviewing skills
- Provides for developing understanding of different perspectives
- Strengthens listening and speaking skills

Unit 2: Summary: Civic Action/Engagement

This unit begins with students analyzing the impressive work of the youth in several of the Young Voices for the Planet films

(<http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/young-voices-for-the-planet-film-series>).

Students will then compare and contrast the processes used by various civically-engaged young people and how their actions made things happen in their communities. Students will deconstruct the steps that the youth in the film took to address those problems. Students will assess the benefits and cost of the various projects. Students will then develop an Action plan of their own for a local issue they want to address. By the end of this unit students will be able to articulate the historical precedents of people creating change for good such as Civil Rights, Women Rights, and Child Rights. Students will be able to identify a need in their community and know how to create an ACTION Plan to initiate change.

Unit 2: Assignment: Civic Action/Engagement - Mock Class Action Plan

After watching seven to ten (two weeks) of the Young Voices for the Planet film as a class we would adapt and enact a mock ACTION Plan for our school. Students will use the ACTION Plan Template provided for in the curriculum. Students will work together as a class to identify an issue that we as a class could address and work through the process. This assignment will help student under the process better before branching out on their own to create their own ACTION Plan on an issue

This sample course unit and assignment demonstrate the following strengths and course criteria:

- Develops student observation skills
- Provides for comparing and contrasting skill building
- Improves upon cost /benefit analysis
- Creates community needs awareness & involvement
- Provides for civic mindfulness
- Provides for project based learning

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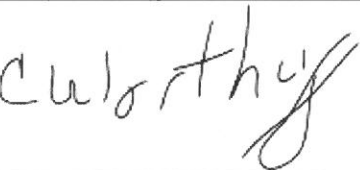

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District Level:
Total Estimated Cost: **N/A**

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	Yes/No	Date	Comments
 Submitting School Department Chair Teresa Robinson/ Correan Worthy	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
Frisbie Middle School Principal	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
Jehue Middle School Principal <i>Carolyn Side</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
Kolb Middle School Principal	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
Kucera Middle School Principal	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
Rialto Middle School Principal	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
District Curriculum Committee Chair  Jennifer Lim	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nov 30, 2020	
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