

Curriculum and Instruction Committee

May 2, 2018

Attendance:

Tracy Baron	BOE Member
Shannon Johnson	BOE Member
Lisa Brady	Superintendent
Doug Berry	Asst. Superintendent
John Falino	HS Principal
Mike Meagh	HS Social Studies

The Committee discussed Civics education in the district.

- Standard 5 of the NYS Social Studies Standards deals addresses Civics, Citizenship and Government

“Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of the necessity for establishing governments; the governmental system of the U.S. and other nations; the U.S. Constitution; the basic civil values of American constitutional democracy; and the roles, rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including avenues of participation.”

- NYSED views Civics education as being developed from content, concepts and skills embedded across subject areas.
- NYSED requires all graduates to complete ½ unit of credit in Participation in Government or its equivalent. (Government and Economics and IB History)
- Phase 2 MYP personal project (after the personal project expo) - provides students with an opportunity to focus in small groups on a societal issue of interest to them and explore ways to take an active role.
- Through our partnership with The Tri-State Consortium the district will be exploring professional opportunities focused on creating a district approach to promoting civic engagement, critical thinking and democratic discourse
- Our Superintendent Conference Day keynote speaker in August will be Giselle Martin Kniep. She will discuss ways in which schools can support respectful democratic discourse in schools. She will continue to work with us throughout the school year.
- This summer a team of teachers from the HS Social Studies department will meet to review how civics education is embedded in current course content. A focus of the summer work will be to discuss ways to increase opportunities for students to engage meaningfully in issues at the local level.

- Tracy shared that she had heard many schools are making use of the materials available through Generation Citizen. Generation Citizen promotes supporting students to be more active politically. The Social Studies teachers will use Generation Citizen resources as a jumping off point for their discussion.
- During the 18-19 school year PNWBOCES is sponsoring professional development on how teachers can help students become civically engaged. The district is exploring the possibility of having teachers participate.