Implementing Florida’s Civic Literacy Excellence Initiative

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Session Goal:
• Provide district and school leaders with updated information regarding Florida’s Civic Literacy Excellence Initiative.

Session Topics:
• Professional Development
• Civics Coaches and Captains
• Florida Civics Seal of Excellence
• Portraits in Patriotism
• K-12 Civic Education Curriculum
• K-12 Integrated Civics Curriculum
Identify opportunities to equip high school graduates with sufficient knowledge of America’s civics, particularly the principles reflected in the United States Constitution, so as to be capable of discharging the responsibilities associated with American citizenship.

- Executive Order 19-32
Civics Literacy Excellence Initiative

• On July 13, 2021, Governor Ron DeSantis announced $106 million to establish the Civic Literacy Excellence Initiative.

• “The Civic Literacy Excellence Initiative is an all-in approach to fully elevate civic literacy and education for Florida’s students and teachers, beyond any state in the nation,” said former Commissioner of Education Richard Corcoran. “Florida’s continued commitment to lead and foster the values we hope to see in our society will not only help develop great students, but will create humble, civically-minded citizens of tomorrow.”
Priorities for Civics and Government in Florida’s K-12 Schools

• Students study primary source documents to understand the philosophical underpinnings of the American Republic and the root foundation of American exceptionalism.

• Students compare the success of the United States and the success or failure of other nations’ governing philosophies to evaluate their past, present and likely future effects.

• Students have a sense of civic pride and participate regularly in all levels of government.

• Students reflect upon United States civic history so they understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens, including the process of advocating properly with government officials.
Professional Development

Three-Day Florida Summer Civics Series 2022

Week One
1. Broward College (Central Campus) - June 20-22
2. Schultz Center - June 22-24

Week Two
3. Hillsborough Community College (Dale Mabry Campus) - June 27-29
4. Pensacola State College/WSRE - June 29 - July 1

Week Three
5. Florida Southwestern State College (Ft. Myers Campus) - July 11-13
6. Eastern Florida State College (Melbourne Campus) - July 13-15

Week Four
7. Indian River State College (Main Campus Ft. Pierce) - July 18-20
8. St. Johns River College (Thrasher-Horne Conference Center on Orange Park Campus)
   July 20-22

Week Five
9. Miami-Dade (TBD) - July 25-27
Each three-day event will consist of full-day content training on days one and two, and a half-day training on day three. Day three will focus on Florida-specific civics and government grade-level pedagogy.
Professional Development (PD)

Principal PD

• Will take place in the summer of 2023 to align with comprehensive Florida civics resource development.
• To support classroom observations and implementation

PD for Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) Professionals

• Will take place in the summer of 2023 to align with comprehensive Florida civics resource development.
• To support preparing future teachers to implement the revised civics and government standards, K-12 Civics Curriculum and K-12 Integrated Civics Curriculum.
Regional Civic Literacy Captains

Civics and U.S. Government Teachers

Super Region I - 1,476
Super Region II - 1,359
Super Region III - 1,529
Super Region IV - 1,243
Regional Civic Literacy Coaches

Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton, Washington
Duval, Nassau
Clay, Marion, Putnam, St. Johns
Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, Pasco
Lake, Polk
Flagler, Seminole, Volusia
Orange
Pinellas/ Hillsborough A
Hillsborough B
Brevard, Osceola
DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Manatee, Sarasota
Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, St. Lucie
Charlotte, Lee
Collier, Glades, Hendry, Monroe
Palm Beach
Broward
Dade
Regional Civics Literacy Personnel

- 21/24 regional positions have been filled.
  - Currently interviewing to fill remaining vacancies.

- Captains and coaches will facilitate summer PD breakout sessions.

- Beginning August 1, 2022, they will be providing tiered supports for districts and schools.
  - In-person school visits.
  - Providing teaching resources.
  - Conducting civics and government PLC groups.
  - Facilitating professional learning.
Florida Civics Seal of Excellence

• Program is under development, and details will be shared with districts as they are available.

• Details:
  • 50-60 hour online program.
  • Will consist of an introduction and 5 modules aligned to revised civics and government standards.
    • Introduction - Purpose and importance of this program.
    • Module 1 - The ideas and events that led to America’s independence.
    • Module 2 - The debates and events that led to creating a more perfect Union.
    • Module 3 - The Constitution.
    • Module 4 - Better protection of liberty and equality for all Americans.
    • Module 5 - Citizenship in American self-government.
Florida Civics Seal of Excellence

• The Civics Seal of Excellence course will be a first-of-its-kind video-based program.
  • When complete the course will contain approximately 13 hours of video lessons delivered by some of the nation’s foremost authorities on American History, civics and government.
  • Participant will be required to study primary source documents and will be provided with additional recommended research materials.
  • Course content will be available for teachers to use for instruction in their classroom.
  • Anticipated BETA release in the fall of 2022.
  • “Gold” release in early 2023.
House Bill 5
Portraits in Patriotism Oral History Resources

• Oral history resources to be used along with the civic education curriculum.

• Provide portraits in patriotism based on the personal stories of diverse individuals who demonstrate civic-minded qualities, including first-person accounts of victims of other nations' governing philosophies who can compare those philosophies with those of the United States.
K-12 Curriculum

Civic Education Curriculum
• Will include:
  • A Teacher Guide
  • Student text materials
  • Primary source documents
  • Inclusion of materials from B.E.S.T. civics literacy reading list
  • Embedded videos (could include Portraits in Patriotism content)
  • Interactive/collaborative activities
  • Assessments

Integrated Civic Curriculum
• Will include:
  • A Teacher Guide
  • Student text materials
  • Primary source documents
  • Inclusion of materials from B.E.S.T. civics literacy reading list
  • Embedded videos (could include Portraits in Patriotism content)
  • Interactive/collaborative activities
  • Assessments
Civic Education Curriculum

• Curricular resources will serve as a comprehensive primary instructional tool for civics and government content or be used as supplemental resources available to all users regardless of whether or not they adopted an instructional material for civics or government courses.

• Funds are also being provided to LEAs to support the purchase of best practice civics curriculum and supplemental civics materials.

Integrated Civic Curriculum

• Curricular resources will serve as supplemental integrated civics resources available to all users that will provide resources for teachers to incorporate civics content into other subject areas.

• Funds are also being used to produce free Professional Development for teachers on how to use the new integrated resources.
Social Studies Instructional Materials

• 2022-2023 Adoption Cycle
• New Instructional Materials available for the 2023-2024 school year
• Visit the Instructional Materials website for more information:
  • https://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/instructional-materials/
Presenter Contact Information

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