



Civics Education

Update for the Senate Education Subcommittee

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[Alexa Pearson](#), Assistant Superintendent of Office of Teaching and Learning

[Amit Kobrowski](#), Social Science Specialist

Today's Presentation

- Legislative background
- Landscape of civic education
- Implementation progress
- Civic education events



Background: 2021 SB 513 and SB 702

- **Require** .5 civics credit as a stand-alone course for high school
- **Recognize** voting as a fundamental civil right
- **Identify and Analyze** the efforts of those who expanded the franchise for historically underrepresented groups.
- **Appreciation** of the structure of government at local, state, tribal, and national levels
- **Understanding** of the values and principles of a pluralistic democracy



National Civic Standards Landscape

- National Council for Social Studies Guiding Themes and Principles
- College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Standards for civic skills and dispositions
- Educating for American Democracy (EAD) identifies content for improving understanding and adherence to pluralistic democracy

Oregon Social Science Standards

Lincoln County

Hood River

Coos Bay

David Douglas

Oregon Online School

Reynolds

Beaverton

Tigard-Tualitin

Multnomah ESD

Central Curry

Centennial

Lake Oswego

Springfield

Glide

Malheur ESD

Portland

Corbett

Eugene

Bend- LaPine

Greater Albany

McMinnville

Grants Pass

Gresham Barlow

Salem -Keizer

Hillsboro

North Santiam

Oregon Charter Academy

Eagle Charter School

Baker Charter Schools

Canyon

Dallas



2024 Oregon Civic Standards

Concept	41% Increase in Civics Standards
Political Institutions	K.C.PI.1 Explain the goals and purpose of public school.
Identity, Roles, Responsibilities	3.C.IR.5 Describe the responsibilities of people in their community and state.
Democratic Principles	4.C.DP.4 Identify examples from the Oregon Constitution establishing equality or addressing discrimination, inequalities, or unfairness.
Civic Engagement	8.C.CE.12 Examine the evolution of political parties and interest groups and their effect on events, issues, and ideas.

Oregon's Civic Engagement



Oregon ranked #10 in America for formal volunteering through an organization! Thank you to the more than 1.2 million Oregonians who unite and strengthen our communities by serving others and tackling some of the nation's toughest challenges.

Source: AmeriCorps.gov/VolunteeringInAmerica

Oregon Political Engagement

States Political Engagement

- Maryland
- Virginia
- New Jersey
- Oregon
- Washington



Non-Swing State Voter Turnout 2024

- Maine & New Hampshire 74%
- Colorado 73%
- Virginia 71%
- Vermont, Iowa, Oregon 70%

Oregon Civics Conference



Educators from across Oregon attend professional learning sessions in Salem each December as part of Oregon's Civics Conference.

Oregon Students: National Civic Champions

"The We the People competition brings together students from across the country to showcase their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and the American government," an "intellectual showdown that inspires critical thinking and civic engagement."

-Center for Civic Education



Implementation Support

- ODE Facilitated Professional Learning
- Oregon Open Educational Resources
- List of State Board of Education Approved Instructional Materials (coming in fall 2025)
- Technical Assistance
- Social science educator network



Thank You

Alexa.Pearson@ODE.Oregon.Gov
Amit.Kobrowski@ODE.Oregon.Gov