



Incorporating the Democratic Process

Training to Go



Objectives



- Recognize the value of including the democratic process in programming.
- Gain ideas for incorporating the democratic process into projects and activities.



Discuss

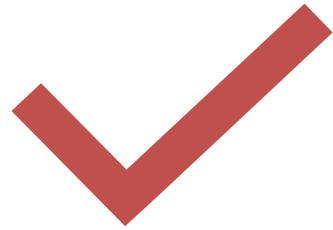


- How have your students been exposed to the idea of democracy?
- Do students believe they can make a difference?





Examples at Your Site



Voting

Dialogue



Advisory
Boards

Think-Pair-Share

- What activities have you done that incorporated the democratic process?
- How did those activities influence students' levels of civic engagement?





Positions of Authority



- In a democracy, citizens choose people for positions of authority such as:
 - Mayor
 - City Council Member
 - Senator
 - President



Positions of Authority: Duties

- Teacher
- Principal
- School Board Member
- Student Council Member



DUTIES

Positions of Authority: Qualifications



QUALIFICATION

- Teacher
- Principal
- School Board Member
- Student Council Member



Roles and Responsibilities

- Which people in the school community have the responsibility for:
 - Enforcing rules
 - Handling conflict
 - Deciding what to do with people who break the rules
 - Making new rules when needed





Student Council Member



- What should we consider when selecting someone for a position of authority?
 - What are the duties, powers, and privileges of the role?
 - What are the limits of the role?
 - What qualifications should someone have for this role?
 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of the candidate?



Your Ideal Student Council Member

- **Qualifications**
- **Why do they want to be a student council member?**



Incorporate the Democratic Process



- Brainstorm ideas for incorporating the democratic process.
- Include new and existing activities.
- Post your chart paper.

The Democratic Process in Action



- Develop clubs and committees.
- Hold elections and debates on program policies.
- Address conflict through dialogue.
- Increase diversity.
- Consider multiple points of view.



Committee and Club Planning Worksheet



Committee and Club Planning Worksheet

Use this document to help youth plan and organize clubs and committees that can help with civic learning and engagement projects. Think about how students and adults will participate, what will be accomplished, and what community resources and partnerships would be helpful.

Setting up the Club – The Basics

Name of committee/club:

Purpose and key tasks:

Goals should be concrete, do-able, and realistic for the abilities and skills of the students involved.

Members (students/staff):

Members can be recruited, or participation can be open to all. Clubs can be targeted for certain grade levels or interests.

Meeting time and frequency:

In many out-of-school time programs, clubs meet 2-3 days per week. If the group does not meet frequently enough, there is a danger of losing momentum, but meeting everyday may be unnecessary or hard to sustain.

| Day | Time |
|---------|------|
| Monday | |
| Tuesday | |

Next Steps



- Outline ways to incorporate the democratic process.
- Check in with colleagues.
- Try new activities.

