



TO: Roger Breed, Ed.D.  
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Larry Starr - Director of Social Sciences Education  
Major General Walter Zink – Civics Nebraska Partnership Council Representative  
Tim Bayne - Civics Nebraska Partnership Council Representative  
Lori Broady - Civics Nebraska Partnership Council Representative

SUBJECT: Report from Civics Nebraska Partnership Council - Civics Education in K-12 Nebraska and the Civics Portfolio

**Proposed Board Action:**

None

**Background Information:**

The Organizational Policies of the Civics Nebraska Partnership Advisory Council, CNPAC, were approved by the State Board of Education on November 3, 2006.

As an advisory body to the State Board of Education, CNPAC advises the State Board regarding the following:

- Methods to help ensure that civic education is a part of a well-rounded education for Nebraska students.
- Methods to help improve the education of students on the importance of citizen involvement in a representative democracy.
- Methods to promote the study of national, state and local government among the state’s citizenry.
- Methods to enhance communication and collaboration among organizations in the state that conduct civic education programs and among civic education professionals.
- Methods that support quality teacher education and professional development in order to ensure effective classroom civic education instruction and raise student achievement.
- Methods for supporting and assisting with the P-16 alignment of social studies curriculum, including civics education.
- Methods for identifying civic education programs, projects, and resources in the state and providing technical assistance as may be necessary.
- Standards for civics education.
- Board Policy as it relates to civic education.

This group has been meeting on a regular basis since early 2007 and has given regular updates to the State Board of Education. This report will focus on the current status of Civics Education in K-12 Nebraska and also demonstrate the new Civics Portfolio created by the group for teachers across the state to use as a performance assessment of students’ civic activities.

**Estimated Cost:**

No additional cost

**Supporting Documentation Included:**

None



**For Additional Information on this item:**

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