Academic Standards for Civics and Government

July 2010
Elementary Standards
Grades Pre-K - 3



Pennsylvania Department of Education

These standards are offered as a voluntary resource for Pennsylvania's schools and await action by the State Board of Education.

XIII. TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction……..……. XIV.

THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Principles and Documents of Government …… 5.1.
- *A. Rule of Law*
- *B. Laws and Government*
- *C. Principles and Ideals that Shape Government*
- *D. Documents and Ideals that Shape Pennsylvania & US Government*
- *E. Individual Rights*
- *F. Symbols*

Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship….……. 5.2.
- *A. Civic Rights and Responsibilities*
- *B. Conflict and Resolution*
- *C. Leadership and Public Service*
- *D. Competent and Responsible Citizens*

How Government Works……..…….…… 5.3.
- *A. Branches of Government*
- *B. Structure, Organization, and Operation of Governments*
- *C. Government Services*
- *D. Leadership and Political Elections*
- *E. Elements of the Election Process*
- *F. Conflict and the Court Systems*
- *G. Interest Groups*
- *H. Media Influences*
- *I. Taxes*
- *J. Systems of Government*

How International Relationships Function...…….. 5.4.

A. Countries and Conflicts
B. Tools of Foreign Policy
C. International Organizations
D. Media and its Influences
E. How Foreign Policy is Influenced

Glossary……... XV.

ELEMENTARY STANDARDS
GRADES PRE-K - 3
Civics and Government

XIV. INTRODUCTION

This document includes Academic Standards for Civics and Government that describe what students should know and be able to do in four areas:

- ◊ 5.1. Principles and Documents of Government
- ◊ 5.2. Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship
- ◊ 5.3. How Government Works
- ◊ 5.4. How International Relationships Function

The Civics and Government Academic Standards describe what students should know and be able to do through twelfth grade. Throughout the standard statements, concepts found in lower grades must be developed more fully throughout higher grade levels.

The Pennsylvania Constitution of 1790 was the basis for the Free Public School Act of 1834 that is the underpinning of today's system of schools operating throughout the Commonwealth. These schools were created to educate children to be useful citizens, loyal to the principles upon which our republic was founded, and aware of their duties as citizens to maintain those ideals.

The Academic Standards for Civics and Government are based on the Public School Code of 1949 which directs "… teaching and presentation of the principles and ideals of the American republican representative form of government as portrayed and experienced by the acts and policies of the framers of the Declaration of Independence and framers of the Constitution of the United States and Bill of Rights. . .". The intent of the Code is that such instruction "shall have for its purpose also instilling into every boy and girl who comes out of public, private and parochial schools their solemn duty and obligation to exercise intelligently their voting privilege and to understand the advantages of the American republican representative form of government as compared with various other forms of governments."

A glossary is included to assist the reader in clarifying terminology contained in the standards.

ELEMENTARY STANDARDS
GRADES PRE-K - 3
Civics and Government

5.1. Principles and Documents of Government					
	5.1.PK. GRADE PRE-K	**5.1.K. GRADE K**	**5.1.1. GRADE 1**	**5.1.2. GRADE 2**	**5.1.3. GRADE 3**
Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to:					
Rule of Law	5.1.PK.A. States rules.	5.1.K.A. Identify the purpose of a rule.	5.1.1.A. Explain the purposes of rules in the classroom	5.1.2.A. Explain the purposes of rules in the classroom and school community	5.1.3.A. Explain the purposes of rules, laws, and consequences.
Laws and Government	5.1.PK.B. Intentionally blank	5.1.K.B. Intentionally blank	5.1.1.B. Explain the importance of rules in the classroom.	5.1.2.B. Explain the importance of rules in the classroom and school community.	5.1.3.B. Explain rules and laws for the classroom, school, and community.
Principles and Ideals that Shape Government	5.1.PK.C. Intentionally blank	5.1.K.C. Intentionally blank	5.1.1.C. Intentionally blank	5.1.2.C. Intentionally blank	5.1.3.C. Define the principles and ideals shaping local **government**. • **Liberty / Freedom** • **Democracy** • **Justice** • **Equality**

ELEMENTARY STANDARDS
GRADES PRE-K - 3
Civics and Government

5.1. Principles and Documents of Government					
	5.1.PK. GRADE PRE-K	**5.1.K. GRADE K**	**5.1.1. GRADE 1**	**5.1.2. GRADE 2**	**5.1.3. GRADE 3**
Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to:					
Documents and Ideals that Shape Pennsylvania and US Government	5.1.PK.D. Intentionally blank	5.1.K.D. Intentionally blank	5.1.1.D. Intentionally blank	5.1.2.D. Intentionally blank	5.1.3.D. Identify key ideas about **government** found in significant documents: • Declaration of Independence • United States Constitution • **Bill of Rights** • Pennsylvania Constitution
Individual Rights	5.1.PK.E. Intentionally blank	5.1.K.E. Intentionally blank	5.1.1.E. Intentionally blank	5.1.2.E. Intentionally blank	5.1.3.E. Intentionally Blank

ELEMENTARY STANDARDS
GRADES PRE-K - 3
Civics and Government

5.1. Principles and Documents of Government					
	5.1.PK. GRADE PRE-K	**5.1.K. GRADE K**	**5.1.1. GRADE 1**	**5.1.2. GRADE 2**	**5.1.3. GRADE 3**
Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to:					
Symbols	5.1.PK.F. Identify basic American symbols (e.g., American flag).	5.1.K.F. Identify significant American holidays.	5.1.1.F. Identify state symbols, national symbols, and national holidays.	5.1.2.F. Identify state symbols, national symbols, and national holidays.	5.1.3.F. Identify state symbols, national symbols, and national holidays.

ELEMENTARY STANDARDS
GRADES PRE-K - 3
Civics and Government

5.2. Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship					
	5.2.PK. GRADE PK	**5.2.K. GRADE K**	**5.2.1. GRADE 1**	**5.2.2. GRADE 2**	**5.2.3. GRADE 3**
Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to:					
Civics Rights and Responsibilities	5.2.PK.A. Identify self membership of a group such as the class or family.	5.2.K.A Identify responsibilities at school.	5.2.1.A. Identify and explain the importance of responsibilities at school and at home.	5.2.2.A Identify and explain the importance of responsibilities at school at home and the community.	5.2.3.A. Identify **personal rights** and responsibilities.
Conflict and Resolution	5.2.PK.B. Identify a problem and discuss possible solutions with adult assistance.	5.2.K.B. Identify a problem and discuss possible solutions.	5.2.1.B. Identify a problem and attempt to solve with adult or peer assistance.	5.2.2.B. Identify a problem and attempt to solve.	5.2.3.B. Identify the sources of conflict and disagreement and different ways conflict can be resolved.
Leadership and Public Service	5.2.PK.C. Participate in classroom responsibilities when asked.	5.2.K.C. Participate in classroom responsibilities as assigned.	5.2.1.C. Identify and participate in classroom and school responsibilities.	5.2.2.C. Identify and participate in classroom, school and community responsibilities.	5.2.3.C. Identify **leadership** and **public service** opportunities in the school, community, **state,** and nation.

5.2. Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship				
5.2.PK. GRADE PK	**5.2.K. GRADE K**	**5.2.1. GRADE 1**	**5.2.2. GRADE 2**	**5.2.3. GRADE 3**
Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to:				
Competent and Responsible Citizens				
5.2.PK.D. Intentionally blank	5.2.K.D. Describe how to be a responsible member of a classroom	5.2.1.D. Describe how to be a responsible member of a school	5.2.2.D. Describe how to be a responsible member of a community	5.2.3.D. Describe how **citizens** participate in school and community activities.

5.3. How Government Works					
	5.3.PK. GRADE PK	**5.3.K. GRADE K**	**5.3.1. GRADE 1**	**5.3.2. GRADE 2**	**5.3.3. GRADE 3**
Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to:					
Branches of Government	5.3.PK.A. Intentionally Blank	5.3.K.A. Intentionally Blank	5.3.1.A. Intentionally Blank	5.3.2.A. Intentionally Blank	5.3.3.A. Identify the roles of the three branches of **government**.
Structure, Organization, and Operation of Governments	5.3.PK.B. Intentionally Blank	5.3.K.B. Intentionally Blank	5.3.1.B. Intentionally Blank	5.3.2.B. Intentionally Blank	5.3.3.B. Identify how laws are made in the local community.

5.3. How Government Works					
	5.3.PK. GRADE PK	**5.3.K. GRADE K**	**5.3.1. GRADE 1**	**5.3.2. GRADE 2**	**5.3.3. GRADE 3**
Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to:					
Government Services	5.3.PK.C. Identify fire fighters, police officers, and emergency workers.	5.3.K.C. Identify roles of fire fighters, police officers, and emergency workers.	5.3.1.C. Identify the value of fire fighters, police officers and emergency workers in the community.	5.3.2.C. Identify other types of services provided by our community.	5.3.3.C. Identify services performed by the local **governments**.
Leadership and Political Elections	5.3.PK.D. Identify the classroom teacher as a position of authority.	5.3.K.D. Identify the classroom teacher and other administrators as holding positions of authority.	5.3.1.D. Identify positions of authority at school and in the community.	5.3.2.D. Identify positions of authority at school and in the community.	5.3.3.D. Identify positions of **authority** at school and community.
Elements of the Election Process	5.3.PK.E. Intentionally Blank	5.3.K.E. Intentionally Blank	5.3.1.E. Explain the purpose for elections	5.3.2.E. Explain the purpose for elections	5.3.3.E. Explain the purpose for elections.

5.3. How Government Works

	5.3.PK. GRADE PK	5.3.K. GRADE K	5.3.1. GRADE 1	5.3.2. GRADE 2	5.3.3. GRADE 3
Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to:					
Conflict and the Court System	5.3.PK.F. Identify appropriate behaviors for responsible classroom citizens.	5.3.K.F. Identify and explain behaviors for responsible classroom citizens.	5.3.1.F. Identify and explain behaviors for responsible classroom citizens and possible consequences for inappropriate action..	5.3.2.F. Identify and explain behaviors for responsible school citizens and possible consequences for inappropriate action.	5.3.3.F. Explain how an action may be just or unjust.
Interest Groups	5.3.PK.G. Intentionally Blank	5.3.K.G. Intentionally Blank	5.3.1.G. Intentionally Blank	5.3.2.G. Intentionally Blank	5.3.3.G. Identify individual interests and explain ways to influence others.
Media Influences	5.3.4.H. Intentionally Blank	5.3.5.H. Intentionally Blank	5.3.6.H. Intentionally Blank	5.3.7.H. Intentionally Blank	5.3.3.H. Intentionally Blank
Taxes	5.3.PK.I. Intentionally Blank	5.3.K.I. Intentionally Blank	5.3.1.I. Intentionally Blank	5.3.2.I. Intentionally Blank	5.3.3.I. Intentionally Blank
Systems of Government	5.3.4.J. Intentionally Blank	5.3.5.J. Intentionally Blank	5.3.6.J. Intentionally Blank	5.3.7.J. Intentionally Blank	5.3.3.J. Intentionally Blank

5.4. How International Relationships Function					
	5.4.PK. GRADE PK	**5.4.K. GRADE K**	**5.4.1. GRADE 1**	**5.4.2. GRADE 2**	**5.4.3. GRADE 3**
Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to:					
Countries and Conflicts	5.4.PK.A. Intentionally Blank	5.4.K.A. Intentionally Blank.	5.4.1.A. Intentionally Blank	5.4.2.A. Intentionally Blank	5.4.3.A. Intentionally Blank
Tools of Foreign Policy	5.4.PK.B. Intentionally Blank	5.4.K.B. Intentionally Blank	5.4.1.B. Intentionally Blank	5.4.2.B. Intentionally Blank	5.4.3.B. Intentionally Blank
International Organizations	5.4.PK.C. Intentionally Blank	5.4.K.C. Intentionally Blank	5.4.1.C. Intentionally Blank	5.4.2.C. Intentionally Blank	5.4.3.C. Intentionally Blank
Media and its Influence	5.4.PK.D. Intentionally Blank	5.4.K.D. Intentionally Blank	5.4.1.D. Intentionally Blank	5.4.2.D. Intentionally Blank	5.4.3.D. Intentionally Blank

5.4. How International Relationships Function					
	5.4.PK. GRADE PK	**5.4.K. GRADE K**	**5.4.1. GRADE 1**	**5.4.2. GRADE 2**	**5.4.3. GRADE 3**
Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to:					
How Foreign Policy is Influenced	5.4.PK.E. Intentionally Blank	5.4.K.E. Intentionally Blank	5.4.1.E. Intentionally Blank	5.4.2.E. Intentionally Blank	5.4.3.E. Intentionally Blank

XV. GLOSSARY

Amendment (Constitutional): Changes in or additions to a constitution. Proposed by a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress or by a convention called by Congress at the request of two-thirds of the state legislatures. Ratified by approval of three-fourths of the states.

Authority: Right to control or direct the actions of others, legitimized by law, morality, custom or consent.

Bill of Rights: First Ten Amendments to the Constitution. Ratified in 1791, these amendments limit government power and protect basic rights and liberties of individuals.

Checks and Balances: Constitutional mechanisms that authorize each branch of government to share powers with the other branches and thereby check their activities. For example, the president may veto legislation passed by Congress; the Senate must confirm major executive appointments and the courts may declare acts of Congress unconstitutional.

Citizen: Member of a political society who therefore owes allegiance to and is entitled to protection by and from the government.

Citizenship: Status of being a member of a state; one who owes allegiance to the government and is entitled to protection by and from the government.

Civic Life: A manner of existence of an individual concerned with the affairs of communities and the common good rather than solely in pursuit of private and personal interests.

Civil Rights: Protections and privileges given to all United States citizens by the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Common or Public Good: Benefit or interest of a politically organized society as a whole.

Conflict Resolution: The process of attempting to solve a dispute or conflict.

Country: The acceptable political boundaries or borders recognized throughout the world.

ELEMENTARY STANDARDS
GRADES PRE-K - 3
Civics and Government

Democracy: Form of government in which political control is exercised by the people, either directly or through their elected representatives.

Diplomacy: The art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations.

Direct Democracy: Form of government in which the people completely exercise political decisions.

Documents of Government: Papers necessary for the organization and powers of government.

Electoral College: The group of presidential electors that casts the official votes for President after the presidential election. Each state has a number of electors equal to the total of its members in the Senate and House of Representatives.

Equal Protection: An idea that no individual or group may receive special privileges from nor be unjustly discriminated against by the political authority of the legal system.

Equality: The condition of possessing substantially the same rights, privileges and immunities, and being substantially responsible for the same duties as other members of society.

Foreign Policy: Actions of the federal government directed to matters beyond United States' borders, especially relations with other countries.

Government: Institutions and procedures through which a territory and its people are ruled.

Individual Rights: Just claims due a person by law, morality or tradition as opposed to those due to groups.

Interest Group: Organized body of individuals who share same goals and try to influence public policy to meet those goals.

Justice: That which may be obtained through fair distribution of benefits and burdens, fair correction of wrongs and injuries, or use of fair procedures in gathering information and making decisions.

Leadership: State or condition of one who guides or governs.

Liberalism: A perspective on international politics that is based on a positive view of human nature, the inevitability of social progress and the harmony of interests.

Liberty: Freedom from restraint under conditions essential to the equal enjoyment of the same right by others.

Mass Media: Television, radio, newspapers, magazines, and other means of popular communication.

Nation: Tends to refer to an ethnic group with a cultural and social community. **A s**elf-defined cultural community with a common identity and a common origin that spans generations

Nationalism: A feeling of pride or passionate identification with a state on the part of its citizens.

Personal Rights: Private legal privileges and decisions that individuals are free to participate in without intervention from government. Personal rights would include the right to vote, petition, assemble and seek public office.

Political Party: Any group, however loosely organized, that seeks to elect government officials under a given label.

Political Philosophy: Begins with the fundamental question about the relationship between a citizen and their state.

Public Service: Action of benefit to local, state or national communities through appointed or elected office.

Realism: A perspective on international politics emphasizing the inevitability of conflict among nations, the centrality of power and the ever – present threat of war.

Republic: Form of government in which political control is exercised through elected representatives.

Republican Form of Government: System of government in which power is held by the voters and is exercised by elected representatives responsible for promoting the common welfare.

Rule of Law: Principle that every member of a society, even a ruler, must follow the law.

Sanctions: Measures to stop or limit trade with another nation in order to change its behavior.

ELEMENTARY STANDARDS
GRADES PRE-K - 3
Civics and Government

State: A commonwealth; a nation; a civil power.

United Nations: International organization comprising most of the nation-states of the world. It was formed in 1945 to promote peace, security and economic development.