



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

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**Colt Gill**

Director of the Oregon Department of Education

## Civics Education Update

The need for a robust and engaging Civics education has always been a concern for State and National government. In a participatory democracy, all residents must possess knowledge of the functions of the government, as well as their roles, rights, and responsibilities in a democratic nation. The Department of Education seeks to encourage students to understand and participate in all levels of government and civic life. The 2018 Oregon Social Science Standards requires teachers to address Civics education from Kindergarten through High School.

- ORS 329.045 requires instruction in Civics as part of Social Sciences
- Civic standards imbedded in Social Science Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Civics and Government imbedded in history courses or as distinct class in high school
- State adopted textbooks support Civics education
- Many schools also utilize supplemental materials and programs
- Civic standards require examination of local, state, federal, and tribal governments
- Tribal/Shared History (SB13) curriculum supplements civics in 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and High School
- Ethnic Studies (HB2845) standards include additional civics standards for 2020-2021
- Learning progression Kindergarten through High School encourages civic engagement
- 2018 Social Science Standards Civics Education includes five themes:
  - Rules, Responsibilities, and Rights of Individuals
  - Principles of Democracy
  - Functions of Government
  - Understanding and Analysis of Individual, Social, Political, and Economic Issues
  - Civic Engagement