# NYS CIVIC READINESS Initiative

How is Rye Neck MS/HS preparing our students for the increased and necessary emphasis on Civic Readiness?

CONTEXT: WHY CIVIC READINESS?

## RYE NECK UFSD MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Rye Neck School Community is to develop active, critical-thinking, creative, responsible citizens with high values, morals and ethics. These citizens will respect, accept and appreciate others in a multicultural world and be committed to lifelong academic and personal achievement in a supportive learning environment. Students will acquire a suitable educational foundation, mastery of the English language and analytical skills which will help them deal with challenges in their personal and professional lives.

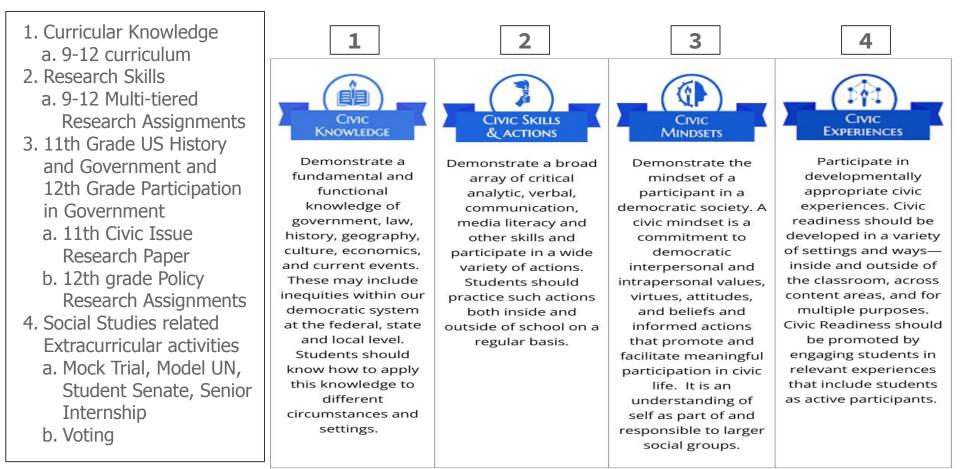
NYS definition of Civic Readiness: "...the ability to make a positive difference in the public life of our communities through the combination of civic knowledge, skills and actions, mindsets, and experiences." Critical- Thinking

Local/Global Citizenship

Adaptive/Resilient Mindset

Supportive Learning Environment

### DOMAINS OF CIVIC READINESS:





# HOW DOES A STUDENT EARN THE SEAL OF CIVIC READINESS?

#### Criteria for the Seal of Civic Readiness

In order to obtain the Seal of Civic Readiness, a student must complete all the requirements for a New York State local or Regents diploma and earn a total of six points with at least two points in Civic Knowledge and at least two points in Civic Participation. Students may also earn points by completing a middle school Capstone project or a high school Capstone project.

Civic Knowledge	Pts.	Civic Participation	Pts.
4 Credits of social studies	1	High School Civics Project (limit two times during grades 9-12)	1.5
Mastery level on Social Studies Regents Exam	1.5*	Service-Learning Project (minimum 25 hours) and reflective civic learning essay/presentation/product	1*
Proficiency level on Social Studies Regents Exam	1*	Proficiency level in an elective course that promotes civic engagement	.5*
Advanced social studies course(s)	.5*	Middle School Capstone Project (Grades 7 and 8 are only eligible for this point)	1
Research Project	1	Extra-curricular participation or work- based learning experience (minimum 40 hours) and an essay/presentation/product	.5*
		Civics Capstone Project	4

\*Students may receive these points more than once.

How do we currently enable students to qualify for the seal in the 2023-2024 school year? Social Studies required for four years in HS Research Project (each year 9th-11th grade) HS Civics Project 11th grade US History SS Electives Extracurriculars

CHANGES WHAT CAN WE EXPECT FROM THE STATE AND HOW CAN WE ADAPT?

### WHAT DETERMINATIONS WILL THE STATE MAKE CONCERNING CIVICS?





**Blue Ribbon Commission** on Graduation Measures November 2023: The Blue Ribbon Commission made 12 recommendations concerning graduation requirements:

- L. Option to add seals (one civic seal) to diploma
- 2. Civic responsibility, cultural competence, writing skills for real-world scenarios

# **RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS IN SOCIAL STUDIES:** How are we promoting Critical Thinking and Citizenship Grades 6-12?

Goal: Evaluate and retool our research methodology

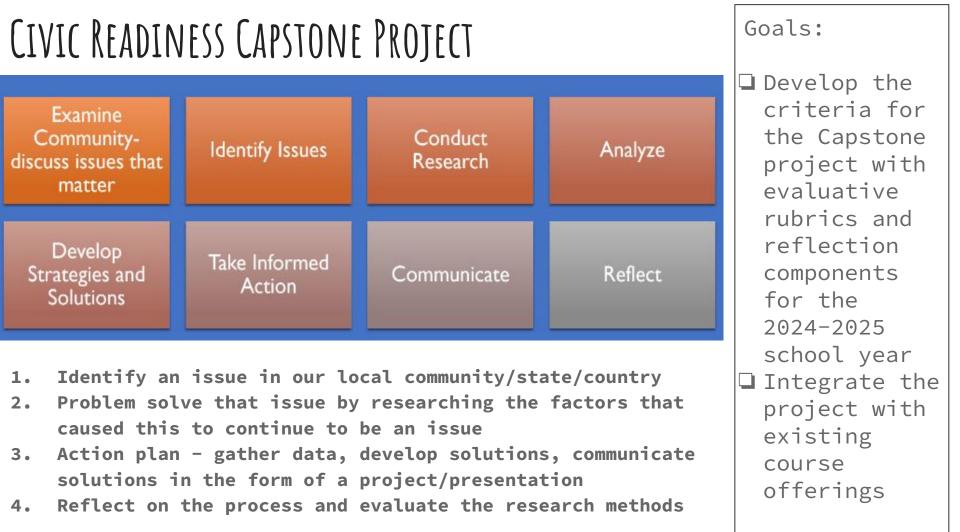
Factors:

- ★ COVID
- ★ Technological changes
- ★ Generational skills
- ★ AI tools

How did we upgrade our research skills to reflect the Civics changes?

- Emphasis on evaluating websites and internet material
  - Annotated Bibliography
- Organization of information
  - Noodletools
- □ Focus on sourcing
  - Giving credit with proper citation to all sources
  - Partnership with our Librarian

FUTURE CHANGES WHAT ARE WE CURRENTLY WORKING ON FOR NEXT YEAR?



# THE SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT THANKS YOU!