

# Lesson Plan – *Civic Participation*

## Indiana Standards:

- **Standard 14 - Examine ways by which citizens may effectively voice opinions, monitor government, and bring about change in government including voting and participation in the election process.**
- **Standard 17 - Explain ways that citizens can participate in the election process (political parties, campaigns, and elections) at the national, state, and local levels.**

**Time:** 120 minutes

**Learning Objectives:** By the end of this lesson, students will have understand the many ways to participate in the government and will experience participation.

## Materials:

- Handout: “Lesson 14 and 17 – Citizen Participation Reading and Formative Work”
- Graphic Organizer: “Research Form”
- Graphic Organizer: “Political Issue Research Form”
- Graphic Organizer: “Government Meeting Form

## Procedure:

### Introduction (15 minutes)

- Watch the TEDx Talk by Bruce Wilson called “More than Student Government” (7:35): [https://youtu.be/UgKGk9R8E\\_M?si=YcAIVwS1dhaNMNWj](https://youtu.be/UgKGk9R8E_M?si=YcAIVwS1dhaNMNWj)
- Ask the following questions at the end:
  - What is servant leadership to you?
  - Why does student government / leadership matter?

### Lesson (75 minutes)

- Pass out the reading on page 1 of Handout: “Lesson 14 and 17 – Citizen Participation Reading and Formative Work”
  - Ask the students to read and highlight all the ways citizens can participate in government.
  - When they are done, ask the students which of the ways can they use to participate in the government today.
- Pass out Page 2 and 3 of the Handout: “Lesson 14 and 17 – Citizen Participation Reading and Formative Work” with the heading “Citizen Participation Assignment”
  - Have the students use the link to find out who represents them at the Indiana and National level. Have them record the information on the worksheet.
- Introduce three options to the Civics Assignment Options.
  - Options 1 and 2: Make sure that the students complete the appropriate Research Form.
  - Option 3: It might be a good idea to find the local and school board meetings that students may be able to attend. Make sure students find the agenda on-line and have that before they attend the meeting. They will also need to Government Meeting Plan during and after the meeting.