

## Instruction

**SUBJECT: CIVICS, CITIZENSHIP, AND HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION**

In order to promote a spirit of civil service and obligation, as well as to prepare the students of the District to meet the obligations of citizenship, the Board requires students attending District schools, over the age of eight years, to attend instructional courses in citizenship, civic education and values, our shared history of diversity, the role of religious tolerance in this country, and other human rights issues, with particular attention to the study of the inhumanity of genocides (including the Holocaust) and slavery.

The Board also directs that all students attending District schools in grades 8 through 12 receive instruction in the history, meaning, significance and effect of the United States Constitution, the New York State Constitution, and the Declaration of Independence.

**The curricula for these courses must include the subjects specified by the Board of Regents** and be for the period of instruction, as mandated by the Regents, which is necessary in these subjects in each of the appropriate grades.

One week during each school year a uniform course of exercises will be provided to teach students, in an age appropriate manner, the purpose, meaning, and importance of the Bill of Rights Articles in the United States and New York State Constitutions. These exercises will be in addition to the above required courses.

In addition, the District will hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on September 17th of each year for the students in the District to commemorate the September 17, 1787 signing of the Constitution, known as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, this day will be held during the preceding or following week.

The Board directs that the above named subjects, as mandated by law, be addressed in the instructional curricula provided by the District.

Education Law §  
801 36 USC § 106

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #8242 -- Civility, Citizenship, and Character Education/Interpersonal Violence Prevention Education

Adopted: September 29, 2020