Taking action to profess one's support for a given position, policy, or perspective.

Trying to persuade others to agree with your side and take action with you.

Advocacy includes community education that builds public will as well as activism that includes strategies like letters to elected officials, op ed pieces, rallies, town hall meetings, protests, etc.

A useful or valuable quality, person, or thing; an advantage or resource.

A deliberate system of principles to guide decisions and achieve rational outcomes. A statement of intent, implemented as a procedure or protocol. Rules, laws, procedures of government entities.

The study of government and government systems; how policies are created, implemented, and changed. The study of individuals' roles within these systems.

The degree of attention, curiosity, interest, optimism, and passion that students show when they are learning or being taught, which extends to the level of motivation they have to learn and progress in their education or in the community.

Sharing information, rewards, and power with individuals so that they can take initiative to identify issues, make decisions to solve problems, and engage in service to improve their community, or be empowered to speak up and participate in their school or classroom.

Situations that allow students to mirror real world processes related to creating policy, selecting representatives, voting, voicing their opinions, and influencing change.

Discussion of issues that might be polarizing or raise ethical or other dilemmas. These issues might be from a historical perspective or relative to current day issues or incidents.

Students taking part in the decision making process at their school or within their classroom, providing strategic guidance advice or leadership.

Activities that occur outside of the traditional classroom or school day. Most desirable are activities that occur in the students' community in the service of an improvement or advocacy project.

Instruction that utilizes a variety of effective and engaging strategies to ensure that students are able to acquire meaningful skills, be active participants in their learning, and use the skills acquired.

Someone who acts responsibly in his/her community, works and pays taxes, obeys laws, recycles, gives blood, and volunteers to lend a hand in times of crisis.

Someone who is an active member of their community, participates in organizations and/or improvement efforts, organizes community efforts to care for those in need, promote economic development, or clean up environment. This person knows how government agencies work and knows strategies for accomplishing collective tasks.

An individual who critically assesses social, political, and economic structures to see beyond surface causes, seeks out and addresses areas of injustice, knows about social movements and how to effect systemic change.

An action (time and energy) that is carried out according to an individual’s own freewill, and not as an obligation stipulated by law, contract or academic requirement, an action not undertaken financial reward, and done to benefit the common good.

An instructional methodology that makes intentional links between the academic curriculum and student work that benefits the community by providing meaningful opportunities for students to apply what they learn to real community issues that matter to them. These high-quality experiences incorporate intentional opportunities for students to analyze and solve community problems through the application of knowledge and skills.

Actions that a person performs for the benefit of his or her local community, stepping outside of familiar environments and expanding horizons. The goal of this action is to primarily provide service to individuals or organizations in the community, generally done through an organized effort.

A broad term used to describe approaches that go beyond traditional in classroom book oriented civics education by combining learning and practice/experiential activities, preparing young people for their roles as citizens and leaders by providing them opportunities to participate in authentic action in their community.

A network of people with common agenda, cause, or interest, who collaborate by sharing ideas, information, and other resources. A group of people who share a common geography, or other characteristics- cultural, ethnic, religious, other interests.

A person who campaigns for some kind of social change. For example, participating in a march protesting the closing of a neighborhood library. Someone who's actively involved in a protest or a political or social cause.

ADVOCACY

ASSET

POLICY

CIVICS

ENGAGEMENT

EMPOWERMENT

SIMULATIONS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS

STUDENTS IN SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

HIGH QUALITY CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

THE PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN

THE PARTICIPATORY CITIZEN

THE JUSTICE ORIENTED CITIZEN

SERVICE LEARNING

VOLUNTEERISM

COMMUNITY SERVICE

ACTION CIVICS

COMMUNITY

ACTIVIST