

Shelton Public Schools – Committee on American Civics

State Statute 79-724

1) The school board of each school district, at the beginning of each calendar year, appoint from its member a committee of three, to be known as the Committee on American Civics, which shall:			
	Declaration	Action	Resources
a)	Hold no fewer than two public meetings annually, at least one when public testimony is accepted	1st Meeting 12/8/25	Posted committee meeting notice at Post Office & District Website
b)	Keep minutes of each meeting showing the time and place of the meeting, which members were present or absent, and the substance and details of all matters discussed	On Sparq	https://meeting.sparqdata.com/Public/Organization/shelton
c)	Examine and ensure that the social studies curriculum used in the district is aligned with the social studies standards adopted teaches the foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics financial literacy, and geography	Curriculum Aligned 2019	American Civics American Government Civics 7 Modern Problems
d)	Review and approve the social studies curriculum to ensure that it stressed the service of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of the union and includes the incorporation of multicultural education as set forth in order to instill pride and respect for the nation's institution and not be merely a recital of events and dates	Curriculum Aligned 2019	American Civics American Government Civics 7 Modern Problems
e)	Ensure that any curriculum recommended or approved by the committee on American civics is made readily accessible to the public and contains a reference to this section	Samples provided at the meeting	
f)	Ensure that the district develops and utilizes formative, interim and summative assessments to measure student mastery of the social studies standards adopted	See curriculum guides, unit/pacing guides	
g)	Ensure that the social studies curriculum in the district incorporates one or more of the following for each student:		

	i: administration of a written test that is identical to the entire civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services prior to the completion of 8th grade and again prior to the completion of 12th grade with the individual score from each test for each student made available for parents or		128 Civics Questions and Answers for the Naturalization Test (2020 version)
	ii: Attendance or participation between the commencement of eighth grade and completion of twelfth grade in a meeting of a public body as defined by section 84-1409 followed by the completion of a project or paper in which each student demonstrates or discusses the personal learning experience of such student related to such attendance or participation; or		
	iii: Completion of a project or paper and class presentation between the commencement of 8th grade and the completion of 12th grade on a person or persons or event commemorated by a Holiday listed in subdivision (6) on a topic to such person or persons or event and		
h)	Take all such other steps as will assure the carrying out of the provision of this section and provide a report of the school board regarding the committees' findings and recommendations.	Twice a year Civics Committee Meeting	
2) All social studies courses approved for grade levels as provided by this section shall include and adequately stress contributions of all ethnic groups to a) the development and growth of American into a great nation b) art, music, education, medicine, literature, science, politics, and government and c) the military in all this nation's wars			
	Declaration		
a)	the development and growth of America into a great nation		
b)	art, music, education, medicine, literature, science, politics, and government	Embedded throughout the texts	
c)	the military in all this nation's wars	Embedded in curriculum throughout	

3) All grades of all public, private and denominational, and parochial schools, below the sixth grade, shall devote at least one hour per week to exercises or teaching periods for the following purposes:			
	Declaration	Action	Resources, if applicable
a)	The discussion of noteworthy events pertaining to American history or the exceptional acts of individuals and group of Americans		
b)	The historical background, memorization and singing of patriotic songs such as the Star-Spangled banner	K-12 Music	Star Spangled Banner & America the Beautiful
c)	The development of respect for the American flag as a symbol of freedom and the sacrifices of those who secured the freedom and	Morning Routine includes Pledge of Allegiance for all students	
d)	Instruction as to proper conduct in the presentation of the American flag	Morning Routine includes Pledge of Allegiance for all students (1.1.2b and 2.1.2b)	
4) In at least two of the three grades from the fifth grade to the 8th grade in all public, private and denomination and parochial schools, time shall be set aside for the teaching of American history for the social studies curriculum, which shall be taught in such a manner that all student are given the opportunity a) become competent responsible, patriotic and civil citizens who possess a deep understanding of and respect for the the constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Nebraska and b) prepare to preserve, protect and define the freedom and democracy in our nation and our world.			
	Declaration	Action	Resources, if applicable
a)	become competent responsible, patriotic and civil citizens who posses a deep understanding of and respect for the the constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Nebraska		
b)	prepare to preserve, protect and defend the freedom and democracy in our nation and our world		
5) In at least two courses in every high school, time shall be devoted to the teaching of civics and American history as outlined in the social studies standards adopted which specific attention shall be given to the following matters:			

	Declaration	Action	Resources, if applicable
a)	The Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the Constitution of Nebraska and the structure and function of local governments of this state		
b)	The benefits and advantages of representative government, the right and responsibilities of citizenship in our government, as the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess anti democratic ideals such as , but no limited to Nazism and communism		
c)	The duties of citizenship, which include active participation in the improvement of a citizen's community, state, country and world and the value and practice of civil discourse between opposing interest and		
d)	The application of knowledge in civics, history economic , financial literacy and geography to address social issues		
6) Appropriate patriotic exercises suitable to the occasion shall be held under the direction of the superintendent in every public, private, denomination and parochial school on:			
	Declaration	Action	Resources, if applicable
	i: George Washington's birthday		Days Observed
	ii: Abraham Lincoln's birthday		Days Observed
	iii: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday		Days Observed
	iiii: Native American Heritage Day		Days Observed
	iv: Constitution Day	Observed 9/17/25	Days Observed
	v: Memorial Day	Out of school	
	vi: Veterans Day	Veterans Day Program	November 11, 2025
	vii: Thanksgiving Day	Holiday Celebrations	Days Observed
7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district			

in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order names for carrying out this section,
Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.