



Cincinnati Central School District

SEAL OF CIVIC READINESS

Participation in Government
Civic Policy Paper

Rationale: The purpose of this assignment is to give each student an opportunity to engage in an in-depth examination of an issue pertaining to a current issue facing the US. Completing an in-depth analysis is the goal and creating feasible solutions to the problem; you will be graded on your effort and ability to do so.

Be sure to include all sections in your paper. Use this and the rubric as a guide:

Section I Introduction-Thesis Statement

- a. Clearly define the problem or issue facing society.
- b. Include a starter fact/statistic showing the issue.

Section II Describe the History of the Problem and Provide Evidence that the Problem Exists in Society (Background up to the modern day.)

- a. Present data, testimony, interviews, stories and/or articles that prove the problem has existed in our society.
- b. Using properly **documented statistics**, personal experience (only time you can use "I"), and credible anecdotal information to prove that there is a problem.

Section III Describe Current Policies related to this Problem

(Write about/show information, data, etc. which current policies are effective/working to help the problem and **more importantly** which current policies are ineffective/not working)

MUST HAVE AT LEAST TWO PIECES OF LEGISLATION/COURT CASES!

- a. Current Law(s)
 - i. Executive Involvement
 - ii. Legislative Involvement
 - iii. Dates, facts, etc.
- b. Court Case(s)
 - i. Judicial Involvement
 - ii. Dates, facts, etc.

Section IV Develop Present/Policy Alternatives/Actions

- a. Your suggestions to change the law (or make a new law) to fix the problem.
- b. Feasibility: Justify how realistic it is and how effective it will be
- c. Analyze the costs vs. the benefits of this change.
- d. Describe methods that can be used to change these laws/court cases.

Section V Conclusion

- a. Conclude your paper eloquently. You have made your point and have become an expert on this current problem.
- b. Your conclusion should affirm the changes you want to see happen and how they will be effective.
- c. Reflect on what you have learned about your role in the civic life of your community

Section VI Mechanics, Accuracy, and Style

- a. Supportive facts relevant to your thesis
- b. Historically accurate information included
- c. Minimal errors in grammar, spelling, syntax, and punctuation (to the best of student's ability)

Section VII Appropriately formatted bibliography in MLA Style

General Information for Final Draft

- 4-5 pages in length
- Times New Roman 12 pt. font
- 1 inch margins
- Double spaced
- Works Cited Page
- In-text citations