

David W. Gordon
Superintendent

September 12, 2017

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Sacramento County School District Superintendents

Brian M. Rivas
President

Dear District Superintendents:

O. Alfred Brown, Sr.
Vice President

September 17 is Constitution Day and Citizenship Day (Constitution Day). This day commemorates the September 17, 1787 signing of the United States Constitution. Now more than ever, our students- and entire citizenry- need to know the importance of our US Constitution, the rights it guarantees and protects, and that it is critical to be active and engaged in their communities.

Joanne Ahola

Heather Davis

Harold Fong, M.S.W.

Most of our districts passed a Civic Learning Resolution over a year ago and in doing so made a public commitment to develop a plan that promotes the Six Proven Practices of Civic Learning. Through these Proven Practices, your students and staff will become more aware of their role and responsibility as a contributing member of society. Passing the resolution is important, but making it come to life is critical. SCOE and the Power of Democracy Civic Learning Partnership have resources to assist as you work to bring your Civic Learning instructional plans to fruition.

Bina Lefkowitz

Jacquelyn Levy

In the coming weeks, a member of our local Civic Education Leadership team will contact you to schedule a meeting to discuss your plans to implement your Civic Learning Resolution.

As September 17 is right around the corner, I encourage you to commemorate Constitution and Citizenship Day in your schools. There are a myriad of resources, which can be used to plan a Constitution Day event. There is no requirement to hold activities on a certain day, so you can get something going later in September or early in October. Below is a selected list that you may wish to consult:

- The Department's Federal Resources for Excellence in Education (FREE) offers more than 25 resources from various federal agencies at: <https://www2.ed.gov/free/features/constitution-day.html>
- The National Archives web site provides Constitution Day activities and materials: <http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/constitution-day/> and <http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/constitution-workshop/>
- The Library of Congress American Memory site provides numerous resources on the Constitution. These two links provide access: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html> and <http://thomas.loc.gov/teachers/constitution.html>



- The National Endowment for the Humanities provides content on the Constitution through the EDSITEMENT web site:
<http://edsitement.neh.gov/constitution-day>
- The Office of Personnel Management has put relevant materials on its Web site at
[http://opm.gov/constitution_initiative.](http://opm.gov/constitution_initiative)
- The U.S. Senate has posted material from the Legislative Branch:
<http://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/history/common/generic/ConstitutionDay.htm>

If you require assistance with your plans to commemorate Constitution Day, please contact Frank Pisi, SCOE's History/Social Science Coordinator. He can be reached at fpisi@scoe.net or 916.212.8528.

In partnership,



David W. Gordon
Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools

DWG/FP/cjm