# BREAKING THE SEAL... OF CIVIC READINESS



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Why is Civic Readiness so important??



## NYS Civic Readiness Domains



Demonstrate a fundamental and functional knowledge of government, law, history, geography, culture, economics, and current events. These may include inequities within our democratic system at the federal, state, and local level. Students should know how to apply this knowledge to different circumstances and settings.



Demonstrates a broad array of skills including but not limited to critical thinking, analytic, verbal, communication, media literacy skills. Students participate in a wide variety of civic activities leading to a range of civic actions. Students practice such actions outside the classroom and inside school on a regular basis.



Demonstrate the mindset of a participant in a democratic society. A civic mindset is a commitment to democratic interpersonal and intrapersonal values, virtues, attitudes, and beliefs and informed actions that promote and facilitate meaningful participation in civic life. It is an understanding of self as part of and responsible to larger social groups.



Participate in developmentally appropriate civic experiences. Civic readiness should be developed in a variety of settings and ways—inside and outside of the classroom, across content areas, and for multiple purposes. Civic Readiness should be promoted by engaging students in relevant experiences that include students as active participants.



### How we made it through year 1! Preparation & Planning



- 1. Established the Goal: that ALL graduating seniors at KenEast, KenWest and Big Picture be made aware of the program and have an opportunity to earn it. Citizenship is open and diverse, the Ken-Ton SCR must be too!
- 2. Close Read the NYS Civic Readiness Manual!!
  - a. What components already existed in our schools, where are gaps that are possible to address in year one and those that are goals for the future years.
  - b. What paths would graduating seniors have for the Seal of Civic Readiness. We met with them, talked about the choices they've made over the last four years inside and outside Ken-Ton.

#### How we made it through year 1! Creation & Implementation

| 3. | Ken-Ton | <b>SCR</b> | <b>Handbook</b> | [program] |
|----|---------|------------|-----------------|-----------|
|----|---------|------------|-----------------|-----------|

| Criteria for Demonstrating Proficiency in Civic Knowledge                                                                                        |                    |                  |                    |                              |  | Criteria for Demonstrating Civic Participation                                                                                 |                    |                  |                    |                              |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--|
|                                                                                                                                                  | Points<br>Possible | Points<br>Earned | Date (s)<br>Earned | SCR<br>Committee<br>Approval |  |                                                                                                                                | Points<br>Possible | Points<br>Earned | Date (s)<br>Earned | SCR<br>Committee<br>Approval |  |
| ta. Four (4) Social Studies courses required for graduation                                                                                      | 1                  |                  |                    |                              |  | 2a. Civic Skills, Actions, and Mindsets<br>Complete a high school civic project                                                | 1.5*               |                  |                    |                              |  |
| 1b. Social Studies Regents Exams - Mastery<br>level (85+)<br>Exam Scores:<br>Global History & Geography Regents<br>United States History Regents | 1.5*               |                  |                    |                              |  | 2b. Civic Experiences Area I<br>Complete a service learning project                                                            | 1*                 |                  |                    |                              |  |
| ıc. Social Studies Regents Exams - Proficiency Level (65+)*** Exam Scores: Global History & Geography Regents United States History Regents      | 1*                 |                  |                    |                              |  | 2c. Civic Experiences Area II<br>Demonstrate proficiency in an elective<br>course that promotes civic engagement<br>Course(s): | .50*               |                  |                    |                              |  |
| 1d. Advanced Social Studies Courses<br>List courses here:                                                                                        | -5*                |                  |                    |                              |  | 2d. Civic Experiences Area III<br>Participate in an extra-curricular program,<br>or work-based learning experience             | .50*               |                  |                    |                              |  |
| 1e. Research Project                                                                                                                             | 1                  |                  |                    |                              |  | <b>2e.</b> Middle School Capstone Project<br>Year Completed:                                                                   | 1*                 |                  |                    |                              |  |
|                                                                                                                                                  |                    |                  |                    |                              |  | 2f. High School Capstone Project                                                                                               | 4                  |                  |                    |                              |  |
| Points Earned                                                                                                                                    |                    |                  |                    |                              |  | Points Earned                                                                                                                  |                    |                  |                    |                              |  |
| Total Points Earned:                                                                                                                             |                    |                  |                    |                              |  |                                                                                                                                |                    |                  |                    |                              |  |

- 5. SCR <u>Presentation</u> for all Senior Students [recruitment]
- 6. Canvas LMS Course for full digital evidence collection [procedure]

### How we made it through year 1! Creation & Implementation



- 1. Built the pilot through our government courses to ensure access.
- 2. Built the program using existing assignments as a starting point with teacher collaboration (Alignment to the manual).
- 3. Class presentations for expectations/awareness.



### How we made it through year 1! Creation & Implementation



- 3. Utilized Google Sheets for tracking.
- 4. Collaboration with Technology Integrator and Librarians.
- 5. Graduation recognition (medallions).



## Benefits beyond Civic Readiness (how we *sold* this to Admin)



#### **High School**

- Increased Outreach with Community
- Unifying Building-Wide Culture
- 4+1 Pathway for Graduation
- Increased Weighting on School Data Report Card for each student earning the Seal (or pathway)!!!!!!!!!
- Graduating students who are ready to engage with their community

#### **Candidates**

- Special Seal/Stamp on Diploma
- Special designation on a transcript
- Acknowledgement at Senior Awards Night
- Acknowledgement in Graduation Diploma
- Special Medal to wear at Graduation
- Accomplishment to write about /reflect on for College applications and essays!
- Being Ready to Engage with their Community!







1. Not all graduating seniors are Civic Ready, especially seniors in April/May of their senior year! Present and collect sooner!!!!

2. We need a better way to digitally track student service and organization hours over the course of 4 years. We are looking at apps as well as our internal Student Information System.

3. Get Students on the Committee!!!! They are the best PR agents!



## Biggest Takeaways from Year 1



2. Multiple menu options to achieving the Seal are important to develop and promote.

3. Civic Readiness K-12 now has a commencement framework!

### So Proud of our Graduates









## Questions?



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