

**UNIT 8: YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto 20px auto;"> <p><b>Focus</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px;"> <p>Understand the structure, function, and powers of local forms of government, focusing on the interdependence and interaction between government entities and citizenry.</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>INTEGRATED COURSE STANDARDS:</b></u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>RESOURCE OPTIONS:</b></u></p>
<p><u><b>VOCABULARY/CONCEPTS:</b></u></p> <p>Incorporate              City Charter              Ordinance              Mayor              At-Large Election              Special District              Metropolitan Area              Suburb              County              County Seat              Town Meeting              Policy              Public Policy              Planning Commission              Infrastructure Resources              Charter School              Tuition Voucher              Community Policing              Welfare              Environmentalism              Solid Waste              Landfill              NIMBY              Recycle              Conservation              Grassroots Effort</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>UNIT OBJECTIVES/MAJOR TOPICS:</b></u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles, functions, and organization of local forms of government (i.e., county, city, special districts, school board, homeowners associations, student government).</li> <li>2. Develop a plan to resolve a local public policy issue by examining alternative solutions, identifying the appropriate level of government responsible for the problem, and analyzing possible outcomes of working with government leaders and resources to address the issue.</li> <li>3. Identify prominent local government officials and be able to correlate them to the appropriate governmental sphere of influence</li> <li>4. Keep abreast of current and ongoing community issues.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Civics: Citizenship, Economics and You</i> textbook Chapters 13.1, 13.2 &amp; Chapter 14 and teacher supplements</li> <li>• <i>Project Citizen</i></li> <li>• Local newspapers, TV stations, radio stations</li> <li>• Local Organizations</li> <li>• Websites             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="http://www.talgov.com">www.talgov.com</a></li> <li>○ <a href="http://www.leoncoutyfl.gov">www.leoncoutyfl.gov</a></li> <li>○ <a href="http://www.talchamber.com">www.talchamber.com</a></li> <li>○ <a href="http://www.leon.k12.fl.us">www.leon.k12.fl.us</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Tallahassee Democrat</u></li> <li>• News Stations: WTXL, WCTV, WFSU, WLCS</li> <li>• State Statutes             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1003.42 (e) – Elements of Civil Government</li> <li>○ 1003.42 (m) – Conservation of Natural Resources</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ongoing Integration of Units 9, 10, 11</li> </ul>

**IMPLEMENTATION METHODS & APPLIED ACTIVITIES:**

- Suggested Activities
  - *Project Citizen & Learn and Serve* Projects
  - Sister City Research –www.talgov.com
  - Create a Political Divisions map of Leon County (identify and label important components)
  - Analyze local demographics – correlate wants and needs to particular areas
  - Evaluate the history of our local area – who and what made us what we are today? (could visit the Riley House or have a guest speaker from there) Look at important events in local history – Tallahassee Bus Boycott, Election 2000, Marches on the Capital
  - Look at school zoning maps to understand the local make-up of Leon County Schools
  - Create a graphic organizer of the structure of our Local Government
  - Identify a local issue and communicate with the appropriate elected officials in order to investigate the problem and to affect public policy
  - “Know your Local Government Activities” in Civics Resources Booklet
  
- Simulations
  - Conservation of Natural Resources Project (i.e. save all paper for a day & see what you get) - research and determine a plan of action – tour landfill and recycling center – have a school-wide recycling contest (decorate a bin)
  - Tour City Hall – participate in a mock City Commission meeting or local government
  - Visit Police Dept, Sheriff Dept, Fire Dept, Bus Depot, Local Parks, Library, School Board Meeting
  - “Making A Difference” activities (i.e. p 416)
  
- Discussion Topics
  - Local policy changes and implications
  - Compare/contrast local government systems with state and national systems
  
- Guest Speakers
  - Chamber of Commerce, Leon County School Board, City Commission, County Commission, Mayor, United Way, Waste Management, Department of Utilities, Leon County Animal Shelter, Tallahassee Parks and Recreation Department
  - Local historians
  
- Videos