



EDUCATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATES
Your education policy team.



CIVIC EDUCATION

Policies and Practices Across the States

PAUL J. BAUMANN, PH.D.

November 22, 2016

Alaska Legislative Task Force on Civic Education



Who we are

The **essential, indispensable** member of any team addressing education policy.



What we do

We believe in the power of **learning from experience** and we know informed policymakers create **better education policy**.



How we do it



Informative Documents

- [Guardian of Democracy](#)
- [State Civic Education Policy Framework & Gap Analysis Tool](#)
- [Guidebook: Six Proven Practices for Civic Learning](#)

Civic Competencies

- **Knowledge**
- **Skills**
 - ◆ Participatory
 - ◆ Intellectual
- **Dispositions**

Six Proven Practices for Civic Education

- Classroom instruction
- Discussion of current events and controversial issues
- Service-learning
- Extracurricular activities
- School governance
- Simulations of democratic practices

Assessments

- Multiple-choice tests or surveys
 - Short-answer essay tests
 - Performance evaluations
 - Portfolios
-
- Formative vs. Summative

Status of State Policy

- Civics Education Initiative
- Democracy Schools
- Task forces
- Assessments/accountability
- C3 Framework

Policy Recommendations

- Co-equal purpose for civic ed.
- Standards and curricula, PK-20
- Inquiry-based instruction that results in informed action
- Integration across disciplines
- Pre-service licensure/accreditation

Policy Recommendations

- Professional development
- Assessments of student progress informs instruction
- Accountability at every level
- Measures of community impact

Contact Us

Paul Baumann

**Director of National Center for Learning and
Civic Engagement**

Education Commission of the States

700 Broadway, Suite 810

Denver, CO 80203

303.299.3608

pbaumann@ecs.org | www.ecs.org

[@Edcommission](#) | [@NCLCEatECS](#)