

**Rio Linda
Preparatory
Academy
Twin Rivers Unified
School District**



**School
Enrollment:** 420
Grade Levels: 5-8

Team Composition

Disciplines: Project Lead the Way,
Science, ELA, World History, AVID,
US History

Grade levels: 6th-8th

250 Students
served
through the
initiative

**Action Civics Team
Highlights**

6th grade identified a Service Learning Project to tackle as a class, bringing up and discussing current topics in the world of solar energy. Currently planning project.

7th grade ELA/world history/avid and 8th grade leadership students have researched, written persuasive essays, and given speeches on their SLP. These students have approached and discussed controversial current events in the format of philosophical chairs. 7th grade AVID and 8th grade leadership are in the process of community service projects.

8th grade US history students have participated in discussions using the philosophical chair method. They have participated in simulations on the processes of the US government.

Team quote

"We are committed to the democratic process, and will have our students actively participate in simulations on campus."

**Action Civics Goals for
the 2015/16**

- Implementation of Student Service Projects.
- Continued discussions around controversial issues in the community, learning how to discuss these issues in a productive and collegial manner.

12
Teams

5
Districts

1
Vision

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www.scoe.net/actioncivics
Frank Pisi: fpisi@scoe.net



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The Language Academy of Sacramento Sacramento City Unified School District



School

Enrollment: 492

Grade Levels: K-8

Team Composition:

Disciplines: ELA, SLA, Math,
Science, History, Electives
Grade levels 6th-8th

129

students
served
through the
initiative

Action Civics Team Highlights

- Homerooms have worked on identifying pros and cons of the school
- Teachers categorized the pros and cons
 - Positives: buildings, teachers, electives/ classes, after school activities/sports
 - Challenges: Cafeteria Food, Cleanliness of restrooms, school trash/ cleanliness, More electives, Supervision
- Students are now elaborating on the "why" for each category.

Team quote:

Learning is more effective when it is an active rather than a passive endeavor – Euripides

Action Civics Goals for the 2015/16

- Implement a new elective course for students based on the Action Civics Initiative
- Focus on Project Based Learning

12
Teams

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Districts

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**George Washington
Carver School of
Arts and Science
Sacramento City
Unified School District**



School
Enrollment: 325
Grade Levels: 9-12

Team Composition:

Disciplines: Social Science,
Science and Mathematics
Grade levels: 9-12

325

Students
served
through the
initiative

**Action Civics Team
Highlights**

- Science Current Events
- Socratic Seminars
- Structured Academic Controversy's
- Social Science Current Events
- Civic Action Projects

Team quote:

*"How will you engage
the world?"*

**Action Civics Goals
2015/16**

- Science Socratic Seminars
- Food Security Service Learning Project
- Social Justice/Constitutional Socratic Seminar
- American Experience Museum Service Learning Project

12
Teams

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Rio Linda High School Twin Rivers Unified School District



School
Enrollment: 1751
Grade Levels: 9-12

Team Composition:

Disciplines: Student Leadership,
Economics, Anthropology, Psychology
Grade levels: 9-12

**800-
1000** students
served
through the
initiative

• Action Civics Team Highlights

- We have reorganized the structure of our campus clubs in order to integrate Action Civics into activities.
- We have created a more cohesive criteria for participation in school clubs that will provide incentive to work hard for the community.
- We have made plans to unite the clubs on campus by creating monthly Presidents meetings.

Team quote:

*“RLHS u-knights
the community.”*

Action Civics Goals 2015/16

- We will implement a structured support for clubs in order to help them complete service projects.
- We will implement the Presidents meetings and make sure all club advisors and members are informed and confident in their ability to help the community.

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Teams

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**Arthur A Benjamin
Health Professions
High School
Sacramento City
Unified School District**



Team Composition:

Disciplines: Science
Medical Science, Social Science
Grade levels: 10-12

School

Enrollment: 264

Grade Levels: 9-12

100

Students
served
through the
initiative

**Action Civics Team
Highlights**

Action Civics students
have participated in the
following activities:

- Mock Debate
- Senior Project
Defense and
Advocacy Plans
- Socratic Seminar in
Biology classes
- Controversial Topics
in ELA classes

Team quote

*"Action Civics brings our
curriculum closer to where
it should be...connected to
students and our
community."*

**Action Civics Goals for
the 2015/16**

- Implement Action
Civics Across grade
levels 9-12
- Develop grade level
Service Learning
Projects

12
Teams

5
Districts

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Vision

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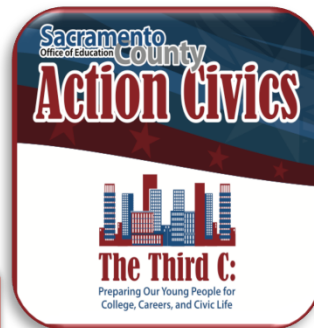
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Monterey Trail High School Elk Grove Unified School District



Team Composition:

Disciplines: World Geography,
World History, Government
Grade levels: 9th, 10th, and 11th

School

Enrollment: 2183

Grade Levels: 9-12

160

Students
served
through the
initiative

Action Civics Team Highlights

9th Honors: Students chose a topic for their Middle East current event project. Researched the current event and found two articles to use as evidence. The article had to have an economic, social or political problem. Students create a ppt. and an oral presentation.

9th Grade: Students were placed in groups based on their choice/preference of current event articles provided by the teacher. All of the articles focused on current day issues in the Middle East. Analyzed current events and created a group poster and YouTube video.

Each group members were given specific roles:

Economic Analyst
Social Photographer
Political
Video

You and Law Elective: Examination of the trial process, which includes: arrest, charge, trial, and outcomes. A unit on juvenile justice system.

World History: Incorporates Socratic seminar using "philosophical chairs".

Topics: Industrial Revolution and
Russian Revolution, Atomic Weapons /
Arms Race

Team quote:

*"Providing students with a
voice to make a choice
increases engagement."*

Action Civics Goals for the 2015/16

- Integrate current events 9-12
- Integrate a social problem project in Honors Geography
- Civics Action Course: 2016/2017

12

Teams

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Rio Americano High School San Juan Unified School District



School

Enrollment: 1571

Grade Levels: 9-12

Team Composition:

Science, Government, English
and Civics

Grade levels 9-12

Approx. **900** Students
served
through the
initiative

Action Civics Team Highlights

The team has engaged in:

- Socratic circles;
- Structured Controversial Conversations (per the Diana Hess strategies;
- Team teaching; and Congresses

Team quote:

"We're much more interested in more student voice and incorporating civic understanding in our lessons."

Action Civics Goals 2015/16

- Setting a theme to teach to for next year.
- Looking at restorative justice as a program and working as teams to teach together.
- Differentiating between Community service, Service learning and project based learning.

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Natomas High School Natomas Unified School District



Team Composition

Disciplines:

Special Education, Social Science,
Math

Grade levels: 9-12

School

Enrollment: 1077

Grade Levels: 9-12

135

Students
served
through the
initiative

Action Civics Team Highlights

- Socratic Seminar
- Structured Academic Debate
- Projects (with presentation) as assessment

Team Quote:

*"How can we involve
more teachers in
Action Civics?"*

Action Civics Goals 2015/16

- Increase student involvement in school
- Increase student engagement in class

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**Alice Birney
Waldorf K-8 School
Sacramento City
Unified School District**



School
Enrollment: 558
Grade Levels: K-8

Team Composition: Grade levels 6-8 focus but could be expanded to younger grades in the future.

150

Students served through the initiative

Action Civics Team Highlights

- Survey of student interest in action civics
- Book study collaboration with high school team
- Analysis of current curriculum where action civics does or could exist
- Planning and discussion on how to infuse curriculum school-wide

Team Quote:

"The action civics training has been some of the most valuable in my career."

Action Civics Goals 2015/16

- Infuse existing curriculum with action civics
- Identify how to expand action civics into lower grades
- Work collaboratively with Carver Waldorf High School to continue action civics

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**ELIZABETH PINKERTON
MIDDLE SCHOOL
Elk Grove Unified
School District**



School
Enrollment: 1034
Grade Levels: 7-8

Team Composition:

Humanities and Electives
Teachers (Avid / Geography)
7th and 8th grade

500

Students served
through the
initiative
(all 7th graders)

**Action Civics Team
Highlights**

- Effectively using the Advocacy/Wolfpack period for lessons on being engaged in community and being civically involved
- Creation of Pinkerton House of Representatives which advocate for their Advocacy classes by sharing issues with Administration and making decisions to improve our school and community

Team quote :

"We have utilized an already existing program to teach students about civics and ensure student voice"

**Action Civics Goals
2015/16**

- Next school year will go school-wide (7th & 8th grade)
- A complete Advocacy Civics Program with 7th/8th grade House of Representatives

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Franklin High School Elk Grove Unified School District



School Enrollment: 2729
Grade Levels: 9-12

Team Composition:

Social Science
English
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

200

Students served through the initiative

Action Civics Team Highlights

- Current events in all four high school grade levels
- Student led discussions, research and presentations on current events and controversial topics
High-quality classroom instruction about current events, government and civics
- School-wide revised service learning goals

Team quote:

"Civics takes action at Franklin: students, staff and community."

Action Civics Goals 2015/16

- Student governance and decision making
- Extra-curricular civic activities
- Student elections focused on real world issues
- School-wide involvement

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