Wilkes-Barre Area School District
Civics/Economics

Unit 1: Foundations of Government and Elections (11 Weeks)				
Civics and Government Assessment Anchors	*Big Ideas*	*Essential Questions*	*PDE Standards*	*Resources*
Chapters	1, 2, 10, 11			
C.1.1.1.2￼C.1.1.1.4￼C.1.1.3.1￼C.1.1.3.2￼C.1.1.3.3￼C.1.2.1.1￼C.1.2.1.2￼C.1.2.1.3￼C.1.2.1.4￼C.1.2.2.2￼C.1.2.2.3￼C.1.3.1.1￼C.1.3.1.2￼C.1.3.1.3￼C.1.3.2.1￼C.1.3.2.2￼C.1.3.2.3￼C.1.3.2.4￼C.1.4.1.1￼C.1.4.1.2￼C.1.4.2.1￼C.1.4.2.2￼C.1.4.2.3￼C.2.1.1.1￼C.2.1.1.2￼C.2.1.1.3￼C.2.1.2.1￼C.2.1.2.2￼C.2.1.2.3￼C.2.2.1.1￼C.2.2.1.2￼C.2.2.2.1￼C.2.2.2.2￼C.2.2.2.3￼C.2.2.2.4￼C.2.2.2.5	• Define government and the basic powers every government holds￼• Describe the four defining characteristics of a state￼• Identify the four theories that attempt to explain the origins of the state￼• Understand the purpose of government in the United States and other countries￼• Classify governments according to three sets of characteristics￼• Define systems of government based on who can participate￼• Identify ways that power can be distributed, geographically, within a state￼• Describe a government by the distribution of power between the legislative	• What should governments do?￼• How much power should a government have?￼• What is the role of the people in the government?￼• Who gets elected?	5.1.9.A￼5.1.9.B￼5.1.9.C￼5.1.9.D￼5.1.9.E￼5.1.9.F￼5.2.9.A￼5.2.9.B￼5.2.9.C￼5.2.9.D￼5.3.9.A￼5.3.9.B￼5.3.9.C￼5.3.9.D￼5.3.9.E￼5.3.9.F￼5.3.9.G￼5.3.9.H￼5.3.9.I￼5.3.9.J￼5.4.9.A￼5.4.9.B￼5.4.9.C￼5.4.9.D￼5.4.9.E￼5.1.12.A￼5.1.12.B￼5.1.12.C￼5.1.12.D￼5.1.12.E￼5.1.12.F￼5.2.12.A￼5.2.12.B￼5.2.12.C￼5.2.12.D￼5.3.12.A	• PDE SAS Website￼• iCivics￼• Civics in Practice: Principles of Government and Economics (Holt McDougal, 2007.)￼• United States Government (Holt McDougal, 2012)￼• Magruders American Government, © 2016￼• Ed Helper￼• Discovery Education￼• Outside Resources￼• New York Times UpFront Magazine￼• CNN Student News￼• Wendover Productions on

C.2.3.1.1 C.2.3.1.3 C.2.3.2.1 C.2.3.2.2 C.2.3.2.3 C.2.4.1.1 C.2.4.1.2 C.2.4.2.1 C.2.4.2.2 C.2.4.3.1 C.2.4.3.2 CC.8.6.11-12.F. CC.8.6.11-12.G. CC.8.6.11-12.H.	branch and executive branch • Identify the ancient foundations of the state in Athens, in Rome and in the Feudal system • Analyze the rise of sovereign states • Explain how governments can achieve legitimacy • Understand why European nations turned to colonialism • Understand how Enlightenment ideas helped influence the expansion of popular sovereignty • Understand the foundations of democracy • Analyze the connections between democracy and the free enterprise system • Identify how constitutional government in the United States was influenced • by key ideas that were developed over centuries in England and elsewhere. • Explain the significance of three landmark English documents. • Describe the three types of colonies that the English established in the • American colonies	**Assignments** *Use APA Format. *Develop a clear & concise thesis statement and abstract paragraph *Construct a structured outline (Intro-Support Topics-Conclusion) *Compose an introduction with motivator, thesis, and preview of supporting topics *Collect a minimum number of valid electronic sources (avoid blogs and social media sites) *Format a References Page *Include a variety of effective citations (direct quotation, paraphrase, & summary) *Draw a reasonable conclusion	5.3.12.B 5.3.12.C 5.3.12.D 5.3.12.E 5.3.12.F 5.3.12.G 5.3.12.H 5.3.12.I 5.3.12.J 5.4.12.A 5.4.12.B 5.4.12.C 5.4.12.D 5.4.12.E	YouTube

	and why their different types of government were significant. - Explain how Britain's colonial policies contributed to the growth of self-government in the colonies. - Identify the major steps that led to growing feelings of colonial unity. - Consider the ways that the colonists organized against British policies as well as the contributions of significant individuals, including Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Roger Sherman, John Jay, and George Washington. - Examine the debates and compromises that impacted the creation of the Declaration of Independence and its major ideas, including those of unalienable rights, the social contract theory, and the right of resistance to illegitimate government. - Summarize the common features of the first State constitutions and how they were related to documents, such as the Declaration of Independence, the			

	Articles of Confederation, and the U.S. Constitution. • Describe the debates that impacted the creation of the Articles of Confederation, the structure of the government set up under the Articles, and how that government was influenced by ideas, people, and historical documents. • Explain why the weaknesses of the Articles led to a critical period for the country in the 1780s. • Describe how a growing need for a stronger national government led to plans for a Constitutional Convention. • Identify the Framers and the individuals, principals, and ideas that influenced them, how they organized the Philadelphia Convention, and their contributions to the creation of the United States Constitution. • Compare and contrast the Virginia and the New Jersey plans for the new government. • Examine the convention, major debates and compromises. • Identify the opposing			

	sides in the fight for ratification and describe the major arguments for and against the proposed Constitution. • Summarize the history of voting rights in the United States. • Identify the main intention of the 15 th Amendment, and describe the results of its lack of enforcement. • Analyze the impact of political changes brought about by individuals with regard to the civil rights laws enacted in 1957, 1960, and 1964. • Analyze the provisions and effects of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. • Identify and explain constitutional restrictions on the States' power to set voting qualifications. • Understand the criteria for voting in elections. • Understand the voter registration process and the controversies surrounding voter registration requirements. • Explain the other requirements that States use or have used as voting qualifications. • Examine the problem		

	of nonvoting in the United States.			
	• Identify the reasons why some people do not vote, and compare these attitudes to those of voters.			
	• Recognize the sources of information about voter behavior.			
	• Understand the factors that influence an individual's political attitudes and actions, including voting and voter behavior.			
	• Analyze how the administration of elections in the United States helps make democracy work.			
	• Compare different methods of filling public offices at the local, State, and national levels, including the role of local precincts and polling places in the election process.			
	• Describe the various ways in which voters can cast their ballots.			
	• Outline the role that voting devices play in the election process.			
	• Examine the term public opinion, and understand why it is so difficult to define.			
	• Understand the factors that influence an individual's political attitudes and actions.			
	• Recognize how polls			

	are used by individuals, political parties, interest groups, or the media to affect public policy and describe the challenges involved in measuring public opinion. • Identify the steps in the polling process, evaluate the role of the Internet and other electronic information on the polling process, and understand the challenges involved in evaluating polls. • Recognize the limits on the impact of public opinion in a democracy. • Examine the role of the mass media in providing the public with political information. • Understand the role played by the mass media in the U.S. political system and give examples of the processes used by the media to affect public policy. • Analyze the impact of political changes brought about by the media, including the Internet and other electronic information, and understand the factors that limit the influence of the media on the political process.			

	• Understand the role played by interest groups in the U.S. political system. • Analyze the impact of political changes brought about by interest groups, and examine the viewpoints of those who see interest groups as both good and bad for American politics, including that of James Madison in the Federalist Papers Number 10. • Describe the various types of interest groups in the United States. • Give examples of the direct approach used by interest groups to affect public policy by influencing the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government. • Examine the indirect lobbying approach and its use of grass-roots pressure, media, propaganda, and political campaigns to influence public opinion and policy. **RESEARCH WRITING** • Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-			

	generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. • Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the specific task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation • Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.			