COLLEGE, CAREER, AND... CITIZENSHIP?

Teaching our kids to be engaged in democracy was once at the foundation of public education. But is it a priority in schools today?

60% of mission statements from the 100 largest school districts don’t mention civics, citizenship, or democracy.

The 100 largest school districts represent 11 MILLION STUDENTS.

23% of eighth-graders earned proficient scores on the 2014 NAEP civics exam.

Of the 14,000 total words in those mission statements, U.S. citizenship appears only ONCE.

Most Common Themes in Mission Statements:
- Learn
- Environment
- Belief
- Improve
- Value
- Safe
- Skill
- Create
- Achieve
- Career
- Academic
- Respect
- Prepare
- Support
- Community
- Success
- Culture
- Excellence
- Graduation
- Opportunity
- Global
- Productive
- College
- Leadership
- Public
- Accountable
- Engage
- Responsible
- Effective
- Commit
- Develop
- Citizen
- Work

Some Districts Do Prioritize Civics Education:

“Public education is essential for the improvement of society and democracy.”
- Wichita Public Schools, KS

“Public education is the foundation to a democratic society; it is essential that BCPS develops an informed, engaged, and responsible citizenry.”
- Broward County Public Schools, FL

“Students will be equipped to become contributing, compassionate citizens of the United States as it resides in an increasingly global community.”
- Anne Arundel County, MD

“Educating all students to ensure the future of our democracy.”
- Alpine School District, UT