



Proclamation

BY THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

National Civic Learning Week, March 6-10, 2023

- WHEREAS: the United States of America was established nearly 250 years ago and was later recognized by Abraham Lincoln as a “government of the people, by the people, for the people;” and
- WHEREAS: a key pillar of a functioning democratic government is fostering informed and engaged citizens; and
- WHEREAS: a comprehensive understanding of our nation’s system of government and the role of civic engagement is a key lever in developing informed citizens; and
- WHEREAS: to preserve our democracy, it is vital that public schools teach the next generation the critical need for civic engagement; and
- WHEREAS: the state of Wisconsin standards for social studies has an explicit focus on civics education; and
- WHEREAS: national data show there is a lack of basic knowledge and understanding of how our system of government functions; and
- WHEREAS: Wisconsin’s students should be taught the skills related to constructive civil debate, media literacy, critical thinking, evaluating sources, and critical evaluation of information disseminated across media channels; and
- WHEREAS: students must be taught about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, including the right to free speech and the right to peaceably assemble, as detailed in our Wisconsin Standards for Social Studies.
- THEREFORE: I, Jill K. Underly, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, declare March 6-10, 2023, as National Civic Learning Week in the state of Wisconsin and encourage students, educators, family members, and all community members to engage in a renewed commitment to learn about civic engagement and its place in a strong, functioning democracy.

Proclaimed the week of March 6 - 10, 2023



Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent

