

Improving Civic Readiness Through Research, Policy, and Practice

Regional Educational
Laboratory
Central

From the National Center for Education Evaluation at IES

Overview

Date and Time: August 17, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. MT

Location: Virtual

Presenters:

- Jillian Balow, State Superintendent, Wyoming Department of Education
- Ebony McKiver, Social Studies Education Specialist, Nebraska Department of Education
- Jenoge Khatter, Social Studies and TAG TOSA, Eugene School District 4J

REL Central Facilitator and Presenters:

- Matt Eide
- Steven Tedeschi
- Marc Brodersen

Description

The webinar will integrate engaging presentations of research on current trends in civic education and participation with opportunities for Q & A with partners from the Wyoming Department of Education, Nebraska Department of Education, and Eugene School District 4J. REL Central will provide an overview research on trends in civic readiness, education, and participation. We will also provide an overview of our tool *Measuring Civic Readiness: A Review of Survey Scales*. This overview will focus on the categories of civic readiness addressed by currently available survey instruments and on how participants can use the tool to develop their own survey instruments. Finally, our education partners will engage in a panel discussion in which they describe the policies, programs, or practices they are implementing to support the development of civic readiness in their state or district.

Goals:

1. To share the historical and current contextual need for measuring civic readiness.
2. To share how civic readiness is defined and measured in the REL Central tool *Measuring Civic Readiness: A Review of Survey Scales*.

3. To learn how to use the REL Central tool *Measuring Civic Readiness: A Review of Survey Scales* to develop a survey instrument that measures civic readiness.
4. To share the policies, programs, and practices that state and local education agencies are implementing to support the development of civic readiness.

Outcome:

- Participants will learn how to use the REL Central tool *Measuring Civic Readiness: A Review of Survey Scales* to develop their own survey instrument to measure civic readiness.
- Participants will learn about the policies and practices others are implementing to develop civic readiness.

Materials to be used or distributed (including handouts or datasets):

- Tedeschi, S. E. J., Brodersen, R. M., Schramm, K., Haines, M., Liu, J., McCullough, D., Eide, M., & Cherasaro, T. (2021). *Measuring civic readiness: A review of survey scales* (REL 2021–068). U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, Regional Educational Laboratory Central. <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED611679>

Agenda

12:00–12:05 p.m. Introduction to the Webinar

Facilitator: Matt Eide

Eide will introduce the presenters and provide an overview of the webinar objectives, format, and platform. Eide will also conduct a poll to identify participants' professional roles and share the results with everyone.

12:05–12:20 p.m. Background and Context of the Civic Readiness Tool

Presenters: Steven Tedeschi and Marc Brodersen

Facilitator: Matt Eide

Tedeschi and Brodersen will share data related to trends in civic readiness, education, and participation. Participants will reflect on how they or the organization they represent define civic readiness and post their responses in the chat box. The presenters will then provide an overview of the REL Central tool *Measuring Civic Readiness: A Review of Survey Scales*. The overview will focus on the categories of civic readiness addressed by currently available survey instruments and on how participants can use the tool to develop their own survey instruments.

12:20–12:55 p.m. Examples of Policies, Programs, and Practices to Support Civic Readiness

Presenters: Jillian Balow, Ebony McKiver, and Jenoge Khatter

Facilitator: Matt Eide

Eide will facilitate a Q & A roundtable discussion with Balow, McKiver, and Khatter, who will share the policies, programs, and practices they are implementing to support the development of civic readiness. The panelists will answer questions such as the following:

- How does your organization define *civic readiness*?
- What policies, program, and practices is your organization implementing or pursuing to support civic readiness? What are schools and districts in your region doing to promote civic readiness?
- How is this work integrated or aligned with other education priorities?
- What is your hope or vision for civic readiness in your organization or region?
- If you are measuring civic readiness, how are you doing it?

12:55–1:00 p.m. Closing

Facilitator: Matt Eide

Eide will explain how participants can access resources and a recording of the webinar. Eide will then ask participants to complete a feedback survey.

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