

Education Leadership and Local Elected Officials Worksheets

Summary Indicator Worksheet	
Summary of Indicator Topics	Consider your Civic Index score in relation to the topic described. Write a few notes about how this topic seems relevant or not relevant to your school community.
<p>Topic 1: Making education a community priority This topic connects with the following indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Elected officials take on difficult issues, regardless of political consequence</i> - <i>Elected officials demonstrate a sustained commitment to education and make education a top priority</i> - <i>Elected officials advocate for adequate funding.</i> <p>To raise a Civic Index score in this area, schools and communities need to actively</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish regular and scheduled opportunities for elected officials to involve citizens and public educators in discussion on key educational issues - Take time to discuss education with other elected officials who also play an important role in education at the local, regional, state, and national levels - Make public forums on education for candidates a common practice and then hold them publicly responsible for what they have said, and - Make education an issue in every election, for every official 	
<p>Topic 2: Increasing the flow of information about educational issues to and from local elected officials This topic connects with the following indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Elected officials effectively communicate with voters on education issues</i> - <i>Elected officials support a clear agenda that puts forward student achievement.</i> <p>To raise a Civic Index score in this area, school and community leaders should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide opportunities for the public to express their thoughts about the role of local elected officials in improving education - Create activities and forums to help local elected leaders better understand the needs of children, local schools, and districts - Help local elected officials understand what they can do as leaders and how they can become educational leaders 	

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Topic 3: Supporting partnerships between local elected officials and school leaders

This topic relates to the following indicators:

- Elected officials take on difficult issues, regardless of political consequence.
- Elected officials demonstrate a sustained commitment to education and make education a top priority.
- Elected officials support a clear agenda that advances student achievement.

To raise a Civic Index score in this area, school and community leaders need to

- create opportunities for local elected officials and school officials to meet and become involved in discussion about the shared areas in their work that can support public schools
- help local elected leaders and school leaders understand how school and local services can support each other
- support partnerships between local elected officials and schools

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Common Results Worksheet

Effective education leadership by local elected officials can result in networks that expand the kind of resources available to support student needs and that lead to results that support student achievement. Take a moment to think about the structures that support the participation of local elected officials in your school community. For each description below, use the scale provided to note the value you give to each possible result.

5 as the highest value 1 as the lowest value

Improving the range of services for children in the community

Local elected officials and school districts work together to serve the education, health, safety, and well-being of all children in the community.

What value do you place on this result?

5	4	3	2	1
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Providing resources and expert experience

Local elected officials bring experience in operations, city funds and infrastructure, and political power to improve public education.

What value do you place on this result?

5	4	3	2	1
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Increasing public responsibility and trust

Local elected officials who make the success of students a priority and act to help schools increase their trust from voters and share public responsibility with local schools

What value do you place on this result?

5	4	3	2	1
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Activating a broad range of voters

Local elected officials can activate a broader range of voters than the school or district and help to increase public interest and participation in improving education.

What value do you place on this result?

5	4	3	2	1
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Key Issues Worksheet

Education Leadership of Local Elected Officials

Take a moment to think about the ways local elected officials are invited to be involved and the ways they choose to become involved with education in your community.

In your school community, what ways are local elected officials involved with education?

What leadership qualities do local elected officials bring to public education?

What lessons from previous involvement of local elected officials should you keep in mind with new efforts?

What laws and regulations limit the education leadership of local elected officials and should these limits be changed?