

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTICUT, 3rd EDITION

Instructor's Guide

Chapter 20

Class Discussion

1. Although students are entitled to a free education, how is it paid for? What level is primarily responsible for K-12 education?
2. Have students identify all the people involved in providing education, and put the list on the board. Be sure they pick up on custodians, maintenance, bus drivers, hall monitors, psychologists, nurses, etc.
3. The local boards of education decide on textbooks, which is not the case in many other states. Should the State of Connecticut adopt textbooks that all students have to use? Why or why not? (A good debate issue)
4. What do student think about the statewide testing they have to take? How could it be improved?

Class Assignments

1. Have students research how much it cost to educate a student in the school. How does this compare with state wide average to educate a student, or compare with other areas, such as a small town or a big city.
2. Is the quality of education among towns equal? If not, what can be done to improve it and equalize it?
3. Find out what DRG your school is in and what other towns are in your DRG. Ask the students if they agree with the assignment of their town in that particular DRG. Why or why not?
NOTE: The school business official can help with these questions and sources of data

Field Trips-Other Ideas

- Invite the principal to the class and his him/her talk about how many employees are in your school, where does the money come from, any big upcoming plans for school renovations or improvements, etc.
- Invite the school business manager to class to talk about the business of education