

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTICUT, 3rd EDITION

Instructor's Guide

Chapter 23

Class Discussion

1. Put on the board the months for two years (J,A,S,O,N,D,J,F,M,A,M,J, etc) as shown on Figure 23-1, and have students give their opinion of the level of governmental activity by the different months. Plot this on the board.
2. Save this calendar, and then subsequent discussion on when is the best to affect government policy and to try and influence the political leaders.
3. Compare the students' calendar to the Figure 23-1 and have a discussion on the differences.
4. When does the municipal audit start? What period does it cover? Why is there an audit?

Class Assignments

1. Research how big the town budget is, how much is spent for education, and how is the budget adopted. Has the budget ever failed to get adopted? What happened?
2. Research to see if the major town boards hold meetings in the summer. (Have students first identify the major town boards, i.e. Board of selectmen, town council, planning and zoning, board of education, board of finance, etc.)

Field Trips-Other Ideas

- Invite the CEO to the class to discuss the calendar that the students have developed and obtain their opinion on it.
- Invite the town finance officer to come to the class to discuss the budget preparation, keeping track of expenditures, and what the auditors look for.