

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTICUT, 3rd EDITION

Instructor's Guide

Chapter 4

Class Discussion

1. What title does the person hold who is the chief executive officer of your city or town?
2. Are they elected or appointed?
3. What are the advantages of having an elected position hold this job?
4. What are the disadvantages of having an elected position hold this job?
5. What are the advantages of having an appointed person hold this job?
6. What are the disadvantages of having an appointed person hold this job?
7. What joint projects do you think the municipal and school government could work on?
8. Can you name any department manager in your community?
9. Can you name any of the elected officials in your community?
10. How many of you know the name of your chief elected or appointed official?

Class Assignments

1. If your city or town has a charter, find out when it was adopted and amended.
2. How do you get news and updated information about your city or town government?
3. Check out your city or town website. Does it provide you with a good overview of your municipal government?
4. Does it provide information on your Board of Education, or do they have a separate website?
5. Discuss what town official you would like to invite to the class. Is the class in agreement or are there several different opinions? Invite one or all of the positions discussed.
6. What would you consider to be the "essential" public services provided by your local government?

Field Trips-Other Ideas

- Compare municipal websites in your area, and report on which one you think is the best.
- Invite the CEO and ask if your community jointly provides any public services with other neighboring cities or towns? What services could be shared?
- What common public services do you think should be shared between communities?