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| Informed Civic Action  |  |  |
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| **Informed Civic Action**Imagine the World Series: the teams have practiced and prepared themselves for the big game. But when the time arrives, instead of yelling “play ball,” the umpire sends the teams to their desks, where they must work alone on a multiple-choice test. This would not be a good measure of any of the ballplayers’ abilities, nor would it motivate much training or enthusiasm from the players. Why should our classrooms focus solely on tests, when the real world awaits, full of excitement, learning, and meaning? **What** is informed civic action?Civic action is when one works toward a positive impact in the life of the community. In our workshops, you’ll learn methods for teaching students to conceive and execute informed civic action, transforming themselves and their communities. Guided by our action step guide and evaluated by our action rubric, informed civic action turns questions into action.**Why** should students take informed civic action?By taking informed civic action students become empowered citizens and change from recipient into participant. Our democracy is only as strong as its citizens are active and involved.**How** do I make this work in my classroom?At our workshops, we’ll walk you through the steps of inspiring your students to create and implement powerful civic actions. Students who learn through civic action become authentic leaders through genuine participation in the society around them.  |  | Examples of Informed Civic Action* Create an online petition at change.org
* Hold a teach-in to educate your peers on a topic of importance
* Attend a public meeting and speak out for something.
* Write a letter to the editor about a strongly held belief.
* Invite a member of the government to speak to class.
* Print and disseminate posters, pamphlets, or flyers supporting your opinion.
* Participate in political campaign by volunteering for a candidate or issue you support.
* Start a lunch gathering or a discussion group.
* Offer to serve on a school or town committee.
* Make a voting guide or a shopping guide with information about candidates’ positions or certain issues.
* If you aren't old enough to vote, convince someone old enough to vote to vote the way you wish you could

Examples of traditional action* In traditional classrooms, students are expected to be listeners rather than engaged participants.
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