

## Civic Literacy: Education for Critical Citizenship

*Cui bono?* Who benefits when TCS students do not learn the political system and how it works by practicing it in their very own classrooms and schools?

Literacy and numeracy are each fundamental for participation in our community, but so is the knowledge and capacity of citizens to make sense of their democratic society. Since the democratic way of life is built upon opportunities to learn what it is about and practice how it might be led, civic literacy is the capacity of students to experience democracy inside and outside of their TCS.

Civic literacy embodies the knowledge, skills, and decision-making activities students need to participate and initiate progress in their classroom, community, and the greater world. It is the foundation by which a democratic society functions: citizen self-determination as a means to create avenues for peaceful change. This is what our democracy requires of its schools.

"We must remove the contradictions in our culture that embrace democratic ends for its schools, but resists the actual practice in schools of the democratic means from which the ends cannot be separated."  
~ The Institute for Democracy in Education

A Civic Literacy: What does a constitutional democratic republic require of its schools?

- <http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/A-Civic-Literacy-What-does-a-constitutional-democratic-republic-require-of-its-schools.pdf>