

## WJCC School Closure Learning Plan – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Civics and Economics

Dear WJCC Families,

We are facing significant challenges throughout our nation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, WJCC Schools will be closed for the remainder of the academic year per the direction of Governor Northam. The Virginia Department of Education will provide guidance on continued teaching and learning over the next few days.

Throughout this time, we will continue to provide resources and activities to support learning. The resources in this packet will help your child practice important skills and review content. This supplemental packet should support learning activities from March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Additional resources may be posted on Student VUE for certain subjects. Students are encouraged to check Student VUE during this time.

**This work is not required, and it will not be graded.** We simply want families to have access to materials and options during our mandated school closure.

We will be in touch soon with our direction for the remainder of the school year. We hope everyone remains safe and healthy.

Sincerely,  
WJCC Staff

## Choice Board – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Civics and Economics

**Directions:** During our third week of closure, encourage your child to complete one review exercise from each row of the choice board. Please have them use their class notes (either on paper or online) for help with these activities.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Row 1: Citizenship and the Foundations of the U.S. Constitution</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A Good Citizen in a Time of Need</b> Good citizens are trustworthy and honest, respect the rights of others, are accountable and self-reliant, respect the law, are patriotic, make thoughtful decisions, and serve their community. For each of these, list a way you could practice the trait during our current crisis over the Coronavirus (COVID-19).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What Matters Most?</b> Several important American and British documents influenced the U.S. Constitution, including the Magna Carta, the charter of the Virginia Company of London, the Virginia Declaration of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom. Which of these documents do you believe is most important today? Explain your opinion in a short response.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment and You</b> The 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment in the Bill of Rights protects Americans' freedoms of speech, petition, religion, the press, and assembly. Think of a specific time in your life when one of these freedoms really mattered to you. Draw a picture representing the right and how you benefited from it.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Row 2: The Federal System, Political Parties, Media, and Elections</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Triangle Checks and Balances Diagram</b> Draw a triangle on a sheet of paper. Label one point of the triangle executive branch, one legislative branch, and one judicial branch. Then, above and below the lines that form the triangle, write one way each branch checks the other two branches.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>America's Political Spectrum</b> Draw the political spectrum line on a piece of paper. Label "Liberal," "Conservative," "Republican," and "Democrat." Using some internet research with an adult's help, write a conservative political idea above "Conservative" and a liberal political idea above "Liberal." Then, write the name of a current politician you have heard of from each party above "Republican" and "Democrat."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Getting Involved in Politics</b> Talk to an adult who is old enough to vote and interview them about a time when they felt it was important to get involved in politics. Did they contribute to a politician's campaign? Did they lobby an elected official? Did they protest? Did they write a letter to an elected official? Did they post something about an issue on social media? Write 5 to 7 sentences summarizing what they tell you.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Row 3: State Governments, Local Governments, and the Judicial System</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>State Government and the Coronavirus</b> State governments have the responsibility of promoting public health, safety, education, and welfare. Talk with an adult and list an example of how Governor Northam, state agencies, or other officials are addressing each of these during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Explore a Website</b> With an adult's help, visit either the <a href="#">City of Williamsburg</a> or <a href="#">James City County</a> website. What types of things do you see on the website? What does the website teach you about local government? Make a list of 15 things you learned or thought about as you visited the website.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Use Your Criminal Mind</b> A thief steals a brand-new car from a dealership in James City County and takes it for a joyride. The James City County Police arrest the criminal just a bit down the road. Which court in the Commonwealth of Virginia would hold the accused thief's trial? If the thief was found guilty, how would the appeal process unfold?</p>