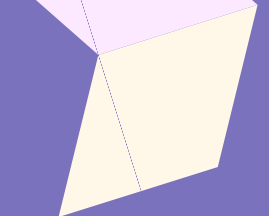
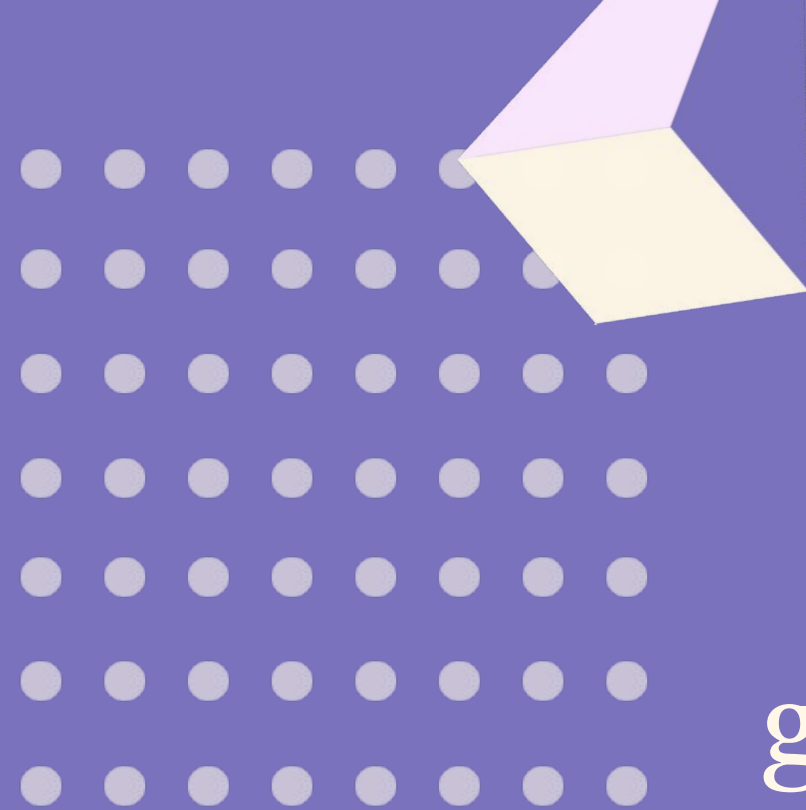


# Quality Civics Education K-12: Saving the Republic



Amy Gallaway, Acting President

Fawn Jelinek, Education Coordinator  
Kids Voting North Alaska

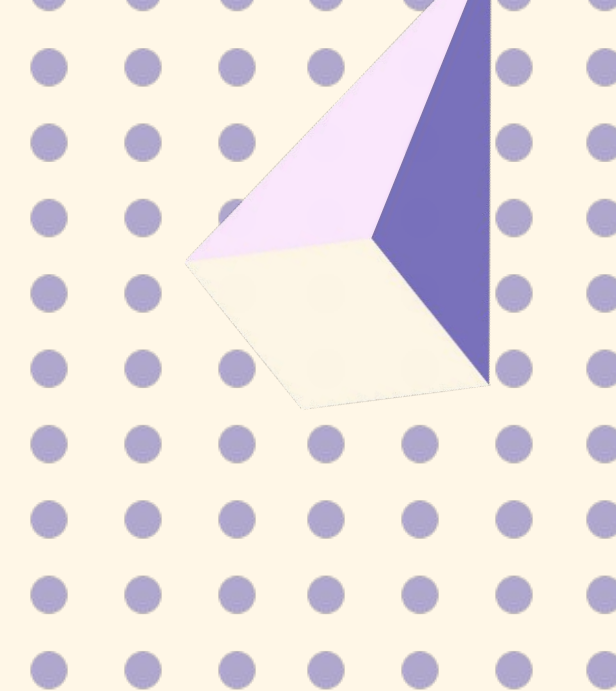


“The human heart is the first home of democracy. It is where we embrace our questions. Can we be equitable? Can we be generous? Can we listen with our whole beings, not just our minds, and offer our attention rather than our opinions? And do we have enough resolve in our hearts to act courageously, relentlessly, without giving up—ever—trusting our fellow citizens to join with us in our determined pursuit of a living democracy?”

– *Terry Tempest Williams*



# Research: Quality Civic Education




EDUCATING FOR  
**AMERICAN  
★ DEMOCRACY**

About Us | News & Events | Contact Us | Student D

Our Vision ★ Interactive Roadmap ★ Educator Resources ★ Champions ★ Take Action

↓  
RE



## Our Ambitious Goals

Because of the deep challenges facing constitutional democracy in the United States—and the need to set high expectations for the knowledge, skills, and civic virtues of American citizens—the *EAD Roadmap* presents an ambitious agenda. Realizing it fully, so that every student in the country truly experiences excellent history and civic education from kindergarten through 12th grade, will require significant renewal and innovation in our educational system.

## A Roadmap to Excellence in History and Civics

---

**EAD shifts from breadth to depth by offering an inquiry framework that weaves history and civics together and inspires students to learn by asking difficult questions, then seeking answers in the classroom through facts and discussion.**

The *EAD Roadmap* is neither a set of standards nor a curriculum. It recommends approaches to learning that:

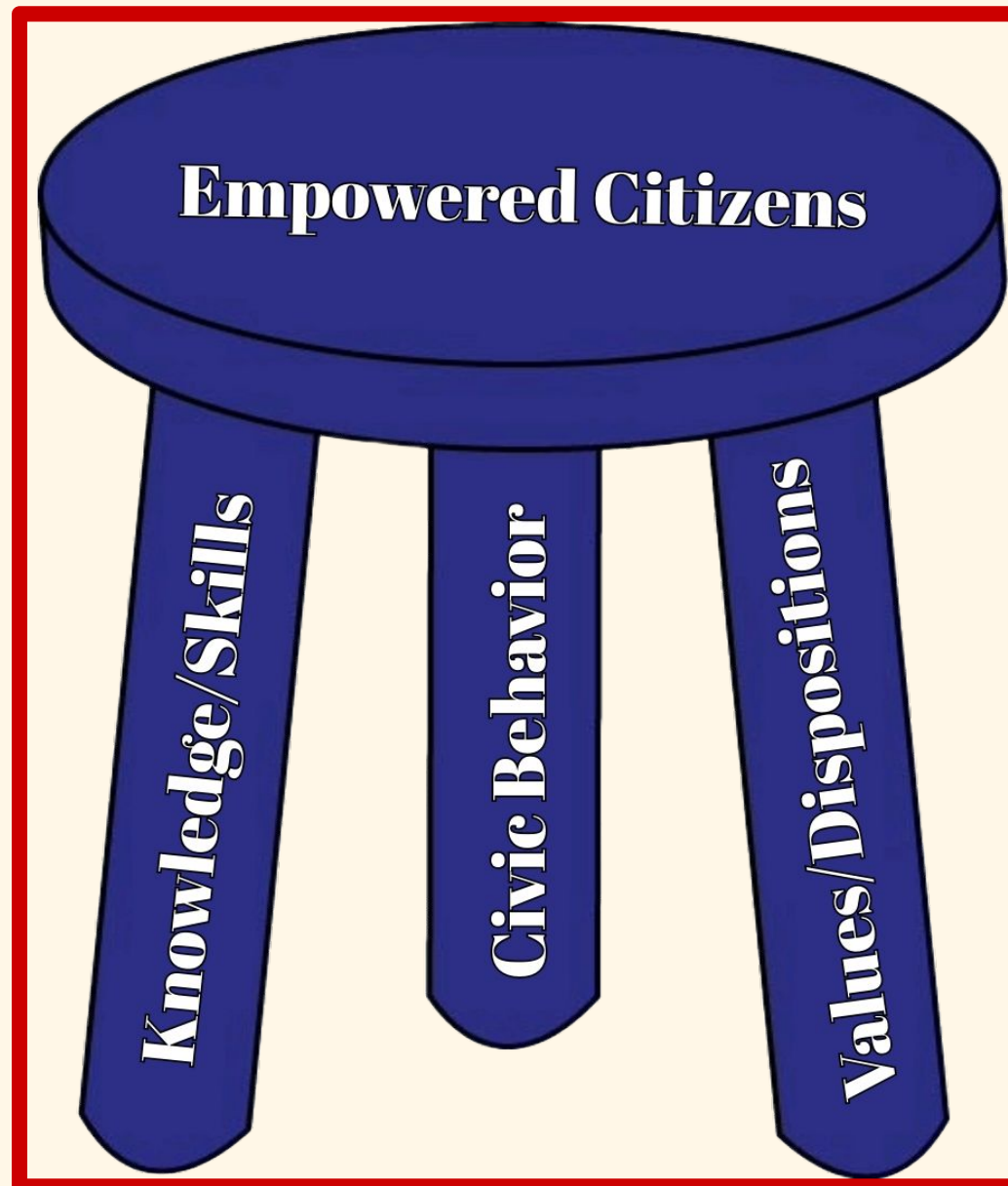
- ★ inspire students to want to become involved in their constitutional democracy and help to sustain our republic;
- ★ tell a full and complete narrative of America’s plural, yet shared story;
- ★ celebrate the compromises needed to make our constitutional democracy work;

## Educating for American Democracy Roadmap for Reform

- Commission funded by DOE and National Endowment for the Humanities
- Guidelines billed as seminal, non-partisan conclusions that states and districts should use to build a new model for civics and history.



# Roadmap Policy Guidelines

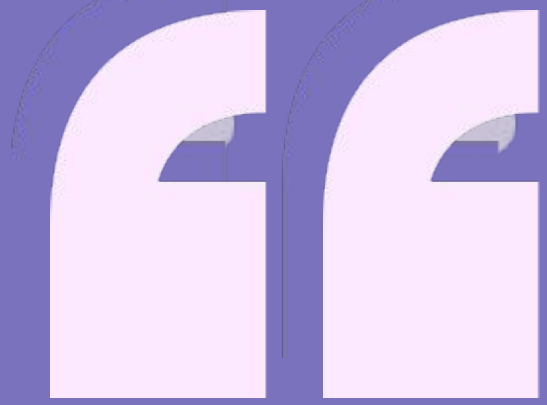


- Schools should “integrate the teaching of history and civics” into a complementary curriculum K-12 that is focused on knowledge, skills and dispositions of civic readiness.
- Curriculum should *shift from breadth to depth*. Many state civics requirements read as long lists of facts and principles to be memorized. States should reconceive educational goals in terms of open-ended questions to stimulate analytical thinking.
- At the high-school level, civics should NOT take the form of a “one semester and done” class requirement.

# Effective Approaches to Civics Education

The *EAD Roadmap* is neither a set of standards nor a curriculum, but recommendations for how to approach teaching and learning. Effective approaches:

- ★ **Inspire** students to want to become involved in their constitutional democracy and help to sustain our republic;
- ★ **tell a full and complete** narrative of America's plural, yet shared story;
- ★ **celebrate** the compromises needed to make our constitutional democracy work;
- ★ **cultivate civic honesty** and patriotism that leaves space to both love and critique this country; and
- ★ **teach** both history and civics through a timeline of events and themes that run through those events.

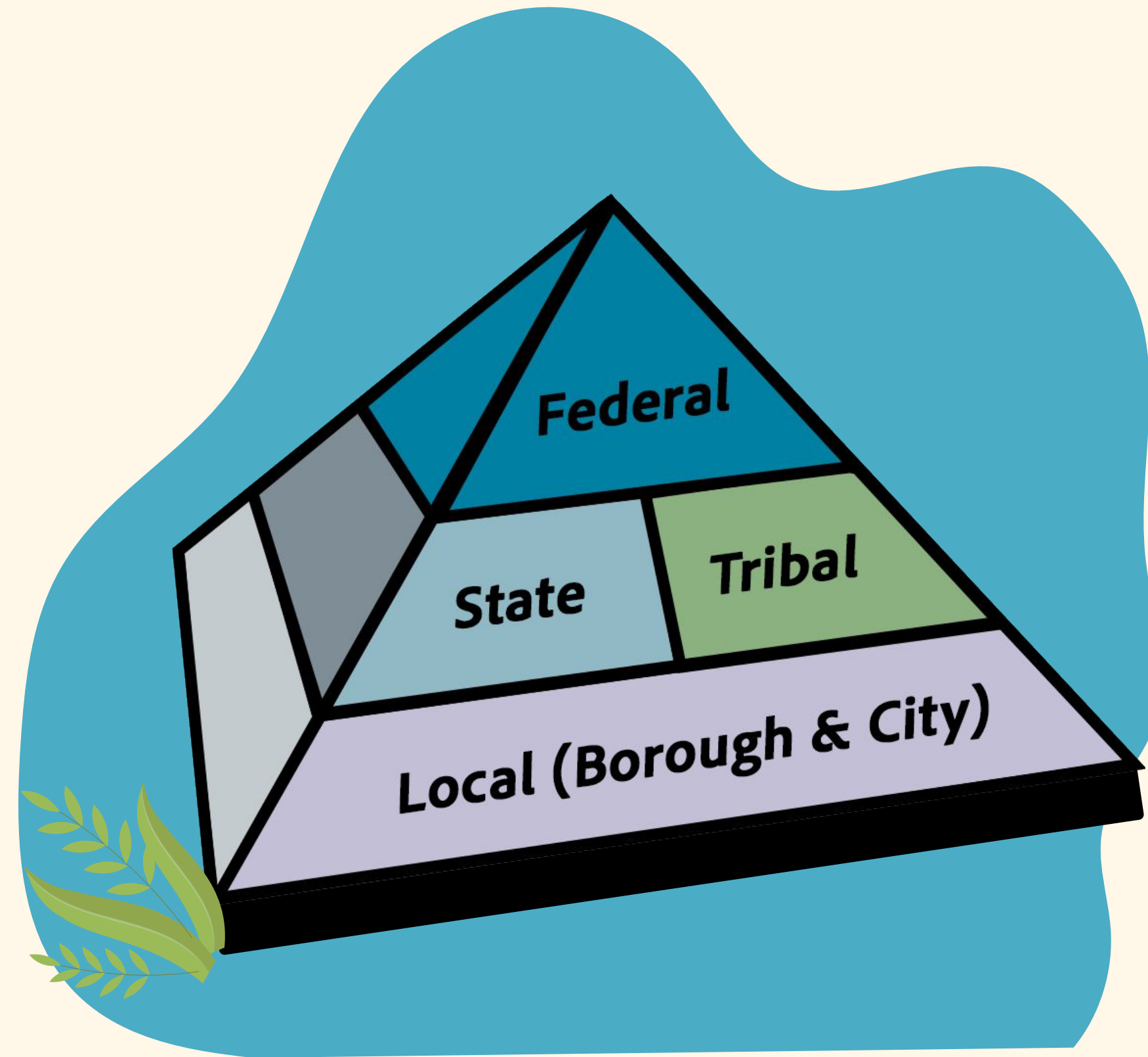


“We are bound by ideals that teach us what it means to be citizens. Every child must be taught these ideals. Every citizen must uphold them. ... I ask you to be citizens. Citizens, not spectators. Citizens, not subjects. Responsible citizens building communities of service and a nation of character.”

-George W Bush, 2001 Inaugural

# Emphasize Federalism

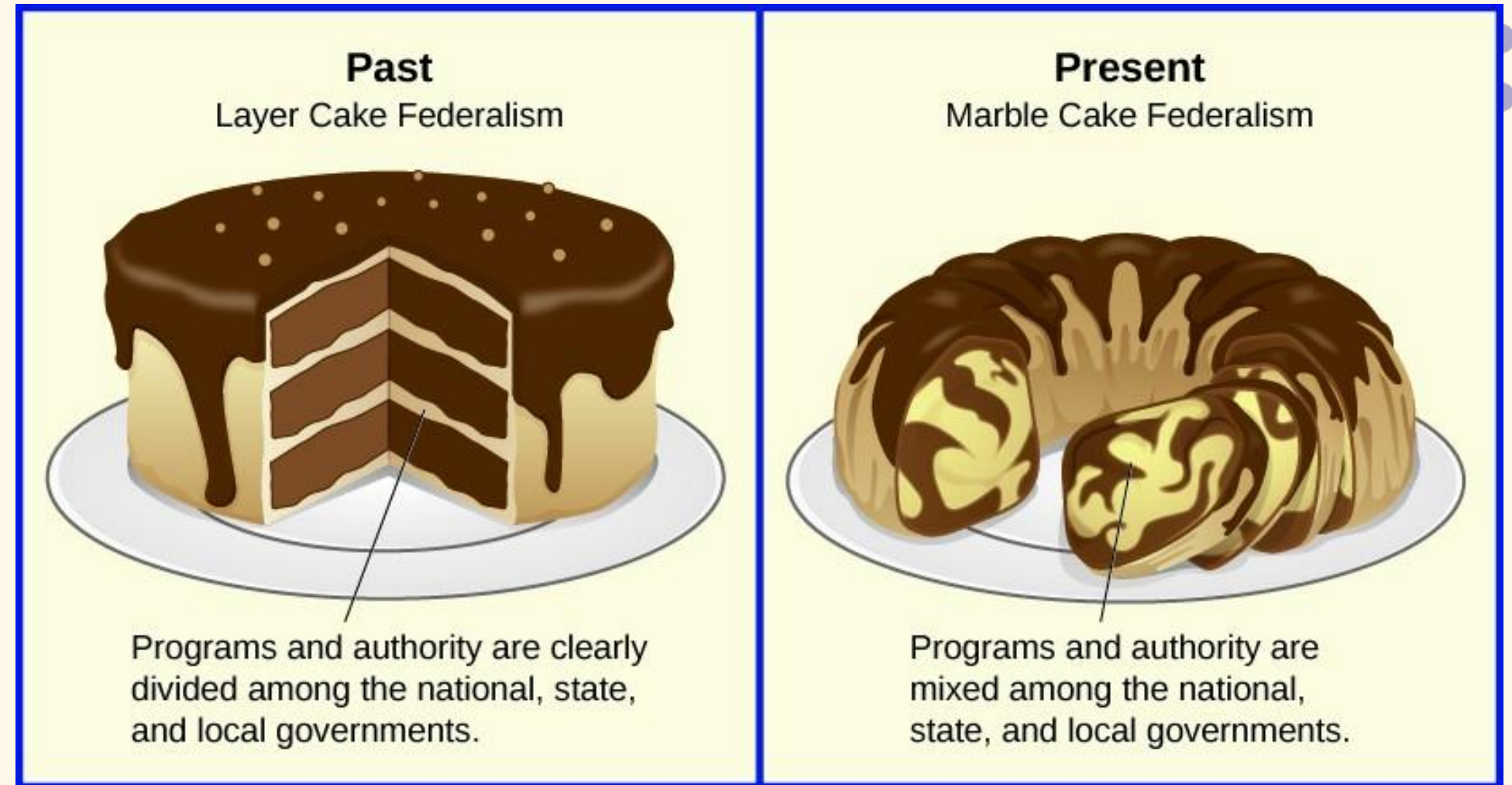
Federalism is a dynamic framework; It fits the changing nature of society and is redefined each generation





“It [federalism] cannot be settled by the opinion of any one generation. Social and economic changes, shifts and political values and the role of the nation in the world, all of these things have required each generation to treat federalism as a new question.”

-Woodrow Wilson (28th Pres. 1913-1921)





# How does Kids Voting Support Civics Education in Fairbanks?

- Provide resources to teachers so students may be informed voters in mock elections (same ballots as the real elections)
- Offer professional development opportunities (with small stipend), including a 1-credit course “Civics across the Curriculum”
- Train liaisons in most schools to promote civics education and to support their colleagues’ efforts
- Model lessons/units and support teachers in their efforts, as needed
- Fund civics field trips



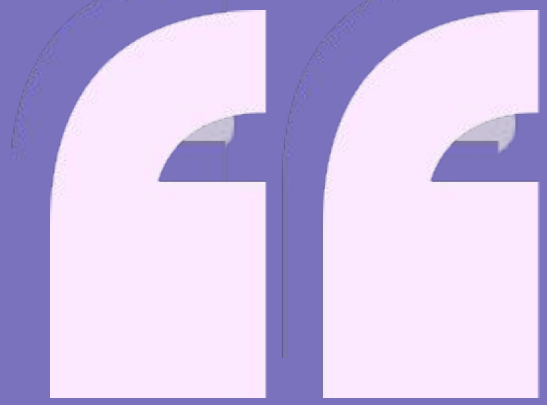


# FIVE Habits to Heal the Heart of Democracy

Parker Palmer  
*Healing the Heart of  
Democracy*

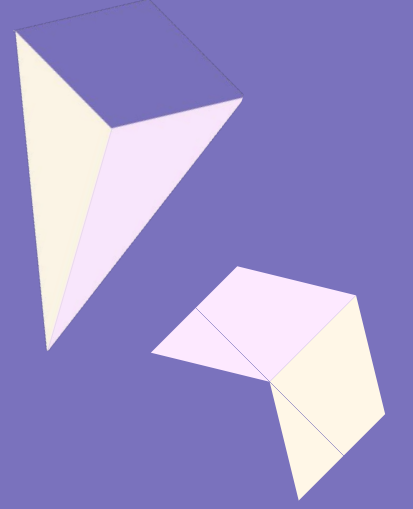
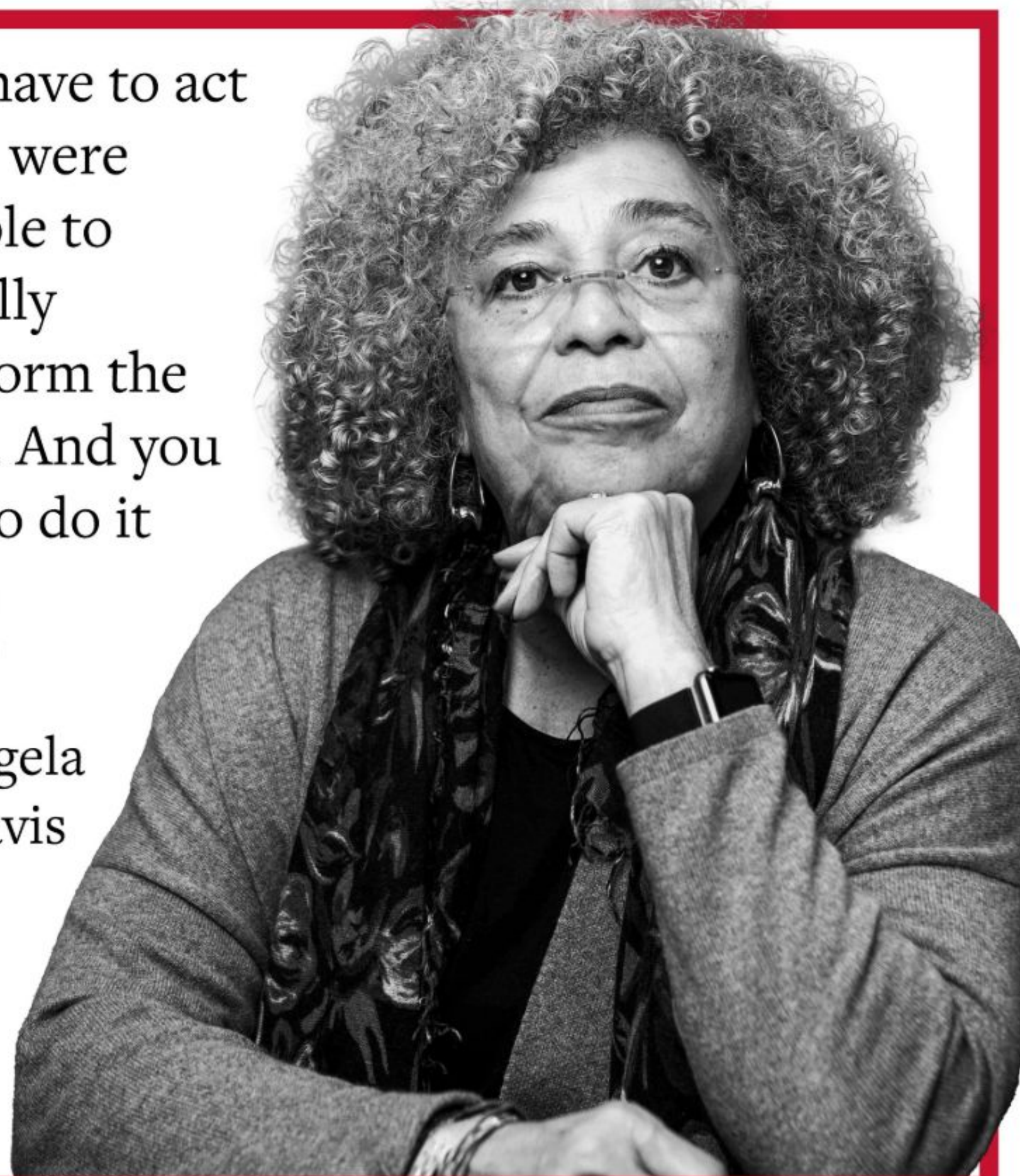
- 1) Understanding we are all in this together
- 2) An appreciation of the value of “otherness”
- 3) An ability to hold tension in life giving ways
- 4) A sense of personal voice and agency
- 5) A capacity to create community

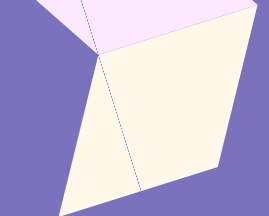
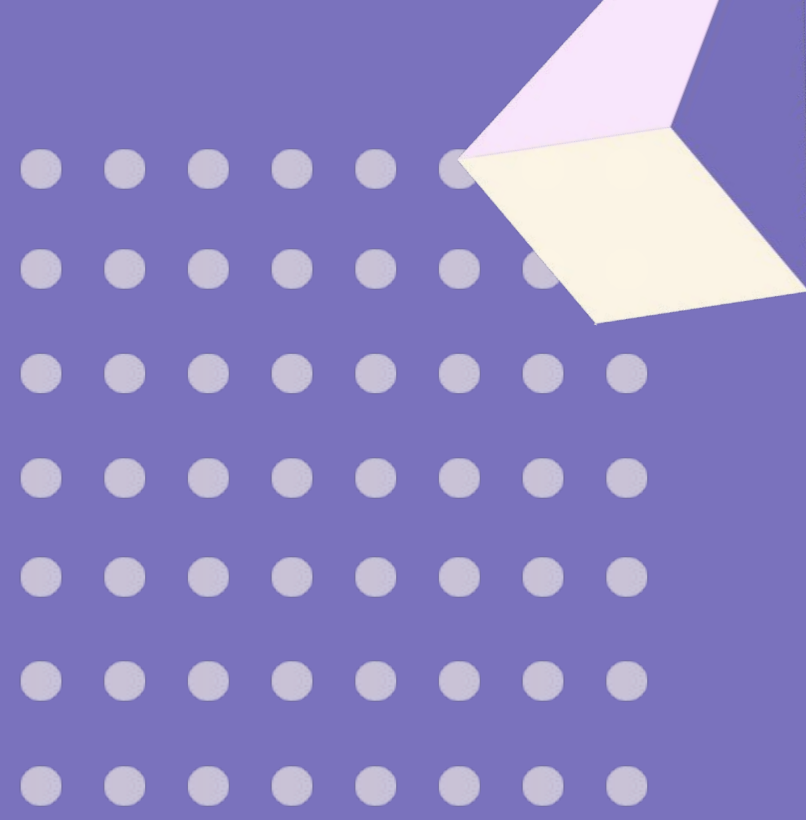




“You have to act  
as if it were  
possible to  
radically  
transform the  
world. And you  
have to do it  
all the  
time.”

— Angela  
Davis





# How can we, individually and collectively expand quality civics education?

Essential Question

