

# Bennington Civics Requirement: Information Letter



**To:** Bennington Students/Parents  
**From:** Bennington High School Administration  
**Re:** New Graduation Requirement; LB 399

## What is the new law?

Last spring, the Nebraska Legislature adopted a law called LB 399. This law requires all Nebraska schools incorporate an additional Civics requirement in order for students to graduate. According to the legislature, the goal of this law is to “ensure that Nebraska’s schools will continue to prepare students to be competent and responsible citizens who engage in public debate knowledgeably and in a civil manner”. Districts were given three suggested options to fulfill this requirement: 1) civics/naturalization test, 2) paper/project on an important American historical figure, or 3) attendance of a public meeting. The option selected by the Bennington School Board was to have students attend a public meeting and write a subsequent reflection.

## What does this mean for Bennington students?

All students graduating from Bennington High School must fulfill this requirement. This requirement can be filled at any point during a student’s high school career.

## How do students fulfill the requirement?

- 1) Print the “Bennington Civics Requirement: Meeting Organizer” (front and back)
- 2) Select a meeting from the provided Meeting Menu
- 3) Attend meeting, complete the Meeting Organizer within 2 weeks (front and back)
- 4) Submit to Mrs. Bruck before April 8, 2019. Seniors who have not done so will be required to attend the April School Board meeting.

## Questions?

If parents/students have questions about this new requirement, they may speak to Dr. Bloemenkamp, Mr. Wieme, or Mrs. Bruck.

# Bennington Civics Requirement: Meeting Menu



## **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

1) These meeting dates/times are subject to change. Students are **STRONGLY** encouraged to check website and/or call office before attending to confirm date/time.

2) If students wish to attend a meeting not listed below, they must get approval from Dr. Blomenkamp or Mrs. Bruck **PRIOR** to attending the meeting.

Organization:	<u>Bennington Board of Education</u>	<u>Bennington City Council</u>	<u>Bennington Planning Commission</u>	<u>OPS Board of Education</u>	<u>Omaha City Council</u>
Website:	<a href="http://www.benningtonschools.org/">http://www.benningtonschools.org/</a>	<a href="https://benningtonne.com/">https://benningtonne.com/</a>	<a href="https://benningtonne.com/">https://benningtonne.com/</a>	<a href="https://district.ops.org/BOARDOFEDUCATION/ContactInformation.aspx">https://district.ops.org/BOARDOFEDUCATION/ContactInformation.aspx</a>	<a href="https://citycouncil.cityofomaha.org/">https://citycouncil.cityofomaha.org/</a>
Location:	11620 N. 156 St. Bennington, NE	15505 Warehouse St. Bennington, NE 68007	15505 Warehouse St. Bennington, NE 68007	3215 Cuming Street Omaha, NE 68131	1819 Farnam St, Omaha, NE 68183
Meeting Dates/Times:	2nd Monday of Month 7pm	2nd Monday of Month 6:30pm	Last Wednesday of Month 6pm	Alternating Mon/Wed (see website) 6:30pm	Tuesdays 2pm

# Bennington Civics Requirement: Meeting Organizer



**Instructions:** Print this document and complete during/after the meeting you attend. *Your submission must be handwritten on this document and turned into Mrs. Bruck.* Electronic/typed submissions will not be accepted. In order to get credit, you will need to provide some kind of additional evidence you attended the meeting. Here are your two choices:

- Get a signature from a member of the elected board (someone involved in the meeting). Be sure you are polite when you approach this person and the request comes at an appropriate time. Note the individual's title below their signature.
- Snap a selfie that shows the meeting in the background/or with a board member afterwards. Print and attach the photo to this document.

<b>Student Name:</b>		<b>Graduation Year:</b>	
<b>Meeting Title:</b>			
<b>Date/Time/Location:</b>			
<b>Agenda Topics:</b>			
<b>Primary Discussion Points:</b>			
<b>Potential Impacts of Decisions Made:</b>			
<b><u>Proof of Attendance</u> Either obtain a signature from someone involved in the meeting, or take/print/attach a selfie proving attendance:</b>	<b>Signature:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> _____		

