

Essential Understandings	Productive civic engagement requires the knowledge of the history, principles, and foundations of our American democracy. In our democracy, citizens have rights and responsibilities including active participation in government.
Essential Questions	- What is the purpose and structure of Brunswick's town government? - What are the rights and responsibilities of Brunswick citizens? - What role do citizens play in any type of government, school, or community?
Essential Knowledge	- A community is a group of people working together for a common purpose. - A government keeps its citizens safe by providing order and services for the public good. - Citizens have an obligation to participate and engage in local government.
Vocabulary/Content	<u>Terms:</u> - assessor, board, budget, citizens, communities, town councilor, elect, election, finance, government, town manager, municipal, ordinance, public, public works, recreation, representative, services, superintendent, taxes, town charter, town meeting, departments, clerk, emergency services - The structure of town government in Maine is either town meeting or representational. - Brunswick's town charter defines the structure of the town government.
Essential Skills	- Identify the communities to which they belong e.g., family, class, school, church, town, teams, etc. - Explain the purpose of government. - Identify the parts of the town government structure. - List some functions of town government. - Explain some of the rights of town citizens. - Explain how citizens can participate in town government. - List some of the responsibilities of town citizens.
Related Maine Learning Results	<u>Social Studies</u> A Application of Social Studies Processes, Knowledge, and Skills A 2.b Make a real or simulated decision related to the classroom, school, community, or civic organization by applying appropriate and relevant social studies knowledge and skills, including research skills and other relevant information B. Civics and Government B1a Explain and give examples of governmental structures

Brunswick Town Government

	including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches and the local, State, and national levels of government. B1 c Explain and give examples of governmental structures including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the local state, and national levels of government B 2 a Identify the rights, duties, and responsibilities of citizens within the class, school, or community B 2 c Provide examples of how people influence government and work for the common good including voting, writing to legislators, performing community service and engaging in civil disobedience
Related Social Studies Practices	☐ Chronological reasoning and causation ☒ Comparison and contextualization ☐ Geographic reasoning ☐ Gathering, using and interpreting evidence ☒ The role of the individual in social and political participation
Sample Lessons And Activities	▪ Meet and Interview: ○ Town manager ○ Superintendent ○ School Board Member. ▪ Mock Town Council meeting. ▪ Mock School Board meeting. ▪ Tour the town office with presentation by town employees. ▪ View part of a town council or school board meeting on the local cable television. ▪ Use the local newspaper to find current local news.
Sample Classroom Assessment Methods	▪ Draw the structure of the town government /school government. ▪ Write informational piece explaining the role students play at their school ▪ List the rights and responsibilities of elementary students
Sample Resources	▪ <u>Publications:</u> ○ Local Governments – Ernestine Giesecke ▪ <u>Videos:</u> ○ <u>Brunswick Town Commons</u> ○ <u>Brunswick Faces and Places</u> ○ <u>Brunswick Town Officers Inauguration</u>