EXTEND THE RESOURCES

Below is a list of ideas and ways you might use the resources provided on this Classroom Law Project resource page to extend learning and civic engagement for your students:

Start with Choice & Inquiry:

Each of the sections on this Current Event Resource Page connects to the Bill of Rights or students in 2021 utilizing their freedoms under the Constitution. There should be a subtopic within these broad issues that students find interesting. For example, the various freedoms enshrined within the Bill of Rights, e.g., freedom of press, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom from assembly. There are also more intricate or obscure freedoms like the right from unreasonable search or seizure or the right not to quarter soldiers. Give students the opportunity to choose a topic or connection of interest and start with that.

Extensions with the Articles/Editorials:

- News Analysis worksheets (handout on current event page)
- Further News Research (Research Tips handout on current event page)
- Annotated summaries of articles
- Socratic discussions with shared article texts

Extensions:

- Dig more deeply into the topic by having students participate in a Gallery Walk in which they learn about each of the first ten amendments of the Constitution. Students can read and learn about different freedoms afforded to them via the Constitution and generate scenarios in which the various rights would apply.

- After studying about the Bill of Rights, students can generate "new traditions" which Americans could follow in order to celebrate the Bill of Rights Day. Similar to other holiday traditions, students could pick foods, activities and symbols that can mark the anniversary of the Bill of Rights ratification.

- Create a debate or presentation in which students present their own ideas about the varying level of importance of each of the Bill of Rights. Students can work in pairs, groups or individually to advocate their opinion, backed up by facts, as to why one amendment may be the most important.