

*Join us for a day-long
look at civics education
in Illinois schools,
sponsored in part by:*

The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute

Regional Offices of Education

Illinois Association of School Administrators

Illinois Association of School Boards

Illinois State Board of Education

Illinois Principals Association

Illinois Coalition for Civic Mission

Robert R. McCormick Foundation

Mikva Challenge

and numerous education professionals
throughout Illinois.

Free online registration at

www.paulsimoninstitute.org

Teachers and administrators participating in
this conference may earn 5.0 Continuing
Professional Development Units (CPDUs).

School board members will receive 10 Master Board
Member credits and LeaderShop Academy Credit.

**For more information, call (618) 453-4009 or
email Emily Burke at eburke@siu.edu.**

Paul Simon Public Policy Institute
Mail Code 4429
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
1231 Lincoln Drive
Carbondale, Illinois 62901

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*Putting Action in
Civic Education:*

*WE CAN
DO BETTER*

**Wednesday, October 26th
SIU Student Center, Ballroom D
Carbondale, Illinois**

Provided as a free service of the
Paul Simon Public Policy Institute

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Putting Action in Civic Education: WE CAN DO BETTER

Engaging young people in civics consistently ranks as an important priority among the public. But with the demands on today's educators and schools, it often gets crowded out by federal and state mandates, and other pressing issues facing today's educational systems. The conference will help educators learn new and alternative approaches to incorporate civics education, foster greater emphasis on the need for civics engagement by young people and provide valuable input to a report and policy recommendations on the future of civics education.

Participants of this conference will be able to:

- Hear about new and varied approaches to teaching civics including cross-curriculum approaches.
- Be inspired by and learn from teachers and administrators who provide action civics learning opportunities for students.
- Identify online resources and teaching strategies to provide the tools and experiences needed to develop a sense of civic responsibility in youth.
- Provide valuable feedback to conference facilitators as they craft a report and policy recommendations in support of civic education.



9:00 a.m. WELCOMING REMARKS
David Yepsen, Director, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute

9:05 a.m. KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Gery Chico, Chairman, Illinois State Board of Education



10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. "6 APPROACHES TO TEACHING CIVICS"
Shawn Healy, Resident Scholar and Director of Professional Development, McCormick Foundation Civics Program



Highlights from a national report issued September 16, 2011.

10:45 a.m. PANEL DISCUSSION on successful approaches for rural schools
Moderator: **Shawn Healy**
Panelists:

- **Daron Absher**, Social Studies Department Chair, Carbondale High School
- **Jamie Nash Mayberry**, History Teacher, Shawnee High School
- Other panelists TBA

11:45 a.m. Lunch buffet

12:30 p.m. "ACTION CIVICS"
Jill Bass, Director, Center for Action Civics, Mikva Challenge Program
Focus on lessons learned from establishing action-oriented civics projects, covering the challenges and rewards of getting young people civically engaged.



1:30 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Jan Waggoner, Director of Teacher Education, SIUC College of Education and Human Services
- Suzanne Schmitz, Assistant Professor (retired), School of Law

Jan Waggoner and **Suzanne Schmitz** will combine efforts to lead an interactive discussion with the audience on topics such as online resources, best practices, teaching methods, the state of civic education in today's schools, how to help teachers be more effective in teaching civics education and other topics.

2:30 p.m. DISMISSAL/CLOSING REMARKS
Marc Kiehna, Regional Superintendent of Schools, Monroe/Randolph Counties



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