



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 16, 2021

Contact: Rep. Tyler Vorpapel (608) 266-8530

Radio Address: Representative Tyler Vorpapel on the Importance of Civic Education

MADISON – Representative Tyler Vorpapel (R - Plymouth) released the weekly radio address on behalf of Wisconsin Legislative Republicans.

Across the nation, we are facing a civics education crisis. Civility, respectful discourse, and a basic understanding of how the U.S. government operates is severely lacking among students and adults.

Only 24 percent of students in eighth-grade were at or above proficiency in civics according to a 2018 civics report. Only 15 percent of students were at or above proficiency in U.S. History. These numbers are simply not acceptable.

A report in 2016 among 35 developed countries, ranked the U.S. 31st in voter participation. Our government is run by the people, which makes it critical that our public education system teach students how our government works and the importance of engaging in it as informed citizens.

As a society, we should strive for maximum civic engagement. We live in the greatest nation in the world and experience freedoms that many people in countries around the world never have the opportunity to experience.

We cannot take this for granted. We need to do a better job of informing our citizens of the vital role we all play in our government. We must fight against civic ignorance. As we emphasize civic education, we encourage diversity of thought, critical thinking, and open dialogue and debate.

Audio: http://legis.wisconsin.gov/eupdates/asm63/Rep_Vorpapel_09.16.2021_Radio_Address.m4a

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