Jeremy Ferguson

Key Concepts Workshop

7th grade Civics

How to implement concepts from the Sphere Summit:

1. Civil discourse: I will go over the procedures of acknowledging the person’s point of view and finding common ground before going over your personal response. I will model how to engage in civil discourse by having another adult and I debate a hot topic category. I will show a video clip of civil discourse between opposing viewpoints. The students will then engage in small group discussions. The following class we will open up the dialog for the whole class to engage in civil discourse.
2. Liberal Democracy: I will integrate a lesson on the differences between political parties and systems of government by using the key speaking points from different panelists and speakers to address the rise of populism and how “the people” excludes those who did not vote for the winner. Thus the losers are painted as the enemy and excluded from decision making and voice is ignored or demonized.