BLM 1 – Types of Citizens

	Personally Responsible Citizen	Participatory Citizen	Justice-Oriented Citizen
Description	 Acts responsibly in the community Works and contributes back to larger community Obeys laws Recycles Volunteers to lend a hand in times of crisis 	 Active member of organizations and/or improvement efforts Organizes community efforts to care for those in need, promote economic development, or clean up/protect environment Knows how governing agencies work Knows strategies for accomplishing collective tasks 	 Critically assesses social, political, and economic structures to see beyond surface causes Seeks out and addresses areas of injustice Knows about democratic social movements and how to effect systemic change
Sample Action	 Contributes food to a food drive 	 Helps to organize a food drive 	 Explores why people are hungry and acts to solve root causes
Core Assumptions	 To solve social problems and improve society, citizens must have good character; they must be honest, responsible, and law- abiding members of the community 	 To solve social problems and improve society, citizens must actively participate and take leadership positions within established systems and community structures 	 To solve social problems and improve society, citizens must question and change established systems and structures when these reproduce patterns of injustice over time

Adapted from Westheimer, J. Kahne, J. (2004) What kind of citizen? The politics of educating for democracy