



# Stark State College Democratic Engagement Action Plan: 2022-23

*This plan was created using the Votes & Ballots Action Planning Form. We highly recommend editing and expanding upon this draft before submitting for review.*

*Throughout this document, we mention the Strengthening American Democracy Guide as a resource for your review. We encourage you to turn to that resource for guidance and support as you complete your action plan!*

## I. Executive Summary

This action plan was developed by Shari Brooks, Director of Student Life, Equity, and Leadership Programs to communicate our strategy for increasing both the registration and turnout rates of voters at Stark State College. The planned activities outlined here will be carried out over 2022-23, on and around our campus in North Canton, Ohio.

The following groups will be leading this work at Stark State College in order to accomplish our goals and further institutionalize our commitment to civic learning, democratic engagement, and youth participation in elections:

- Undergraduate Students
- Faculty
- Student Affairs Staff

***How can you improve this section?*** Visit the Strengthening American Democracy Guide and review the Guiding Questions to ensure your Executive Summary includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

## II. Leadership

Not yet determined will be overseeing our work to increase civic learning and democratic engagement on campus. They will be supported in this work by:

- Not yet determined

This coalition is diverse and inclusive of:

- Not yet determined

Our group plans to meet Not yet determined at Not yet determined

***How can you improve this section?*** Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your *Leadership Section* includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

### III. Commitment

Our institution and our campus leadership demonstrates commitment to improving civic learning and democratic engagement.

On campus, we've seen:

- Voter education resources
- Campus leaders promoting voting
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- Voter registration tables
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- Signage promoting Election Day
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On campus, we've experienced:

- Voting in student body elections
- Political speakers
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- Registering to vote
- Civic Holiday events (such as National Voter Registration Day, National Voter Education Week, and Vote Early Day)
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There is no mention of civic learning and democratic engagement - yet!

***How can you improve this section?*** Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your Commitment Section includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

## IV. Landscape

We do not have access to comprehensive demographic information about our student body at this time.

Our institution has also utilized the following data gathering tools:

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- National Survey of Student Engagement
- Community College Survey of Student Engagement
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They help to inform our institution's civic learning and democratic engagement efforts by Unsure

***How can you improve this section?*** Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your *Landscape Section* includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

## V. Goals

Before setting our civic learning and democratic engagement goals on campus, we took the following information into consideration.

We know our campus faces following challenges internally when it comes to get out the vote efforts and registering voters:

- Our institution's mission statement, values, and strategic plan do not mention civic learning and democratic engagement.
- We don't have someone whose job responsibility is to foster civic learning and democratic engagement on our campus.
- We don't have a coalition of people who are positioned to implement civic learning and democratic engagement on our campus.
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- We don't use the resources readily available to develop and implement civic learning and democratic engagement on our campus.
- The voter engagement work on our campus is very siloed within one office.
- We don't have sustainable or consistent funding.
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We also know our campus faces the following challenges externally when it comes to get out the vote efforts and registering voters:

- We don't have a working relationship with our local election office.
- We don't have working relationships with community partners who are invested in civic learning and democratic engagement.
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With that said, we know our campus has the following strengths when we approach our voter engagement work:

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- We have processes in place for registering large percentages of our students.
- We have ways in which we communicate voting information to our students.
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- Voter engagement efforts on campus are nonpartisan.
- We are able to engage student leaders for the leadership of our initiative.
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With this in mind, we have set the three goals that we would like to achieve over the next academic year:

1. Designate a leader for this initiative
2. Create a working group to move forward with this initiative
3. Develop working group's mission statement and goals

We have also set three goals that we would like to achieve over the next five years:

1. Incorporate civic learning and democratic engagement into the next Strategic Plan
2. Request and obtain consist funding to support these efforts
3. Develop a working relationship with the local election office as well as community partners

***How can you improve this section?*** Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your *Goals Section* includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

## VI. Strategy

Below, we have outlined a strategy describing how we will bring this vision to life in the coming months and years.

These are tactics that we **are already doing** in the **short term** (within the next year):

- Partner with the League of Women Voters

These are tactics that we **plan to do** in the **short term**:

- Not yet determined

These are tactics that we **hope to do** in the **short term**:

- Not yet determined

These are tactics that we **are already doing** for the **long term** (beyond the next year):

- Partner with the League of Women Voters

These are tactics that we **want to do** in the **long term**:

- Not yet determined

These are tactics that we **hope to do** in the **long term**:

- Not yet determined

***How can you improve this section?*** Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your Strategy Section includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

## VII. National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE)

We are not currently enrolled in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE).

***How can you improve this section?*** Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your NSLVE section includes everything that you feel should be addressed.

## VIII. Reporting & Evaluation

We plan to share this Action Plan internally when it is complete by taking the following actions:

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- Email to the President
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We plan to share this Action Plan externally when it is complete by taking the following actions:

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- Not yet determined

We will collect feedback on this plan by:

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- Not yet determined

We plan to evaluate our success by:

- Reviewing our NSLVE data and looking for improvements year over year
- Seeking out feedback throughout the action planning process from people outside of our action planning team
- Revisiting our goals, identifying goals achieved and not achieved, and adjusting our short and long-term goals accordingly
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***How can you improve this section?*** Visit the *Strengthening American Democracy Guide* and review the *Guiding Questions* to ensure your Reporting & Evaluation Section includes everything that you feel should be addressed.