

Proposal With Proof

Use research, civic action, and economic choices to evaluate a school proposal.

S.CE.i “developing products that reflect an understanding of research, content, and civics and economic concepts.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the two research sources, circle each piece of evidence from those sources, and number the civic or economic ideas you find 1 and 2. These details show how a proposal can support a community decision.

A Refill Station Proposal

- ① At Lincoln Middle School, the student council prepared a one-page proposal asking the principal to add a water refill station near the gym. The proposal was a civic product because it asked a public school leader to make a decision for the school community. Before writing, the council used two research sources: a student survey and the district’s facilities report. The survey asked students where they filled water bottles, while the report listed the condition of existing fountains.
- ② Survey results showed that 68 of 90 students carried reusable bottles, but 41 said the gym fountain had a slow flow. The facilities report stated that replacing the fountain would cost \$1,200. The council included both findings, not just opinions, in its proposal. It also explained an economic tradeoff: money spent on the station could not be used that year to buy new cafeteria tables. By naming this choice, the council showed that a budget has limits.
- ③ Finally, the proposal recommended using money from the school improvement fund and requested a meeting with the principal. It gave a reason for the recommendation: reliable water access could help students refill bottles during practices. The council did not claim that every student wanted the station. Instead, it cited its sources and described the cost. The principal could use this researched product, along with other needs, to decide whether the project served the community fairly.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What two research sources did the student council use, and what kind of information did each source provide?

2 Which survey finding gives evidence that the gym fountain may need attention? Explain how the finding supports the proposal.

3 What economic tradeoff did the council explain?

4 How did the council use a civic process to try to influence a school decision?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write an 80- to 100-word proposal about a different school need. Name two research sources and what each found, make a request to a school decision maker, and explain one budget tradeoff.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the two research sources, circle each piece of evidence from those sources, and number the civic or economic ideas you find 1 and 2. These details show how a proposal can support a community decision. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two research sources did the student council use, and what kind of information did each source provide?	The council used a student survey about water-bottle use and fountain access, and the district's facilities report about the condition and replacement cost of fountains.
2	Which survey finding gives evidence that the gym fountain may need attention? Explain how the finding supports the proposal.	Forty-one students said the gym fountain had a slow flow. This supports the proposal because it shows that students reported a problem with the existing fountain.
3	What economic tradeoff did the council explain?	If money is spent on the refill station, it cannot be used that year to buy new cafeteria tables.
4	How did the council use a civic process to try to influence a school decision?	The council prepared a proposal for the principal and requested a meeting. It used research to ask a school leader to make a decision for the community.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Proposal to the principal: Add a covered bike rack near the front entrance. In a survey of 50 students at a hypothetical school, 18 said they bike to school and 12 reported leaving bicycles in the rain. The school maintenance log also recorded three bike-rack repair requests this year. I request that the principal ask the school improvement committee to price a rack. Buying it may mean delaying the purchase of two hallway benches, but it could protect bicycles used by students.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the survey, facilities report, evidence, tradeoff, and civic action. For the proposal, look for two identified sources with findings, a clear request to a decision maker, and a realistic tradeoff.