**PUBLIC POLICY**

**Part A. Notes**. Use the PowerPoint that we go over and discuss as a class to take notes in the blank spaces below.

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| **DESCRIPTION** | **KEY TERM** |
| 1) A system where the government shares power between different levels is called: |  |
| 2) Government is like a: |  |
| 3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ government handles issues like police, water, and building permits. |  |
| 4) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ government handles issues like education, healthcare, and recreation. |  |
| 5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ government handles national issues like national parks, the military, and space exploration. |  |

Now, make a list of three problems that exist in our communities and our society. You may choose problems that we discussed in our bell ringer. Next to each problem, decide which level of government would best solve it. Write L for local, S for state, or F for federal next to each problem.

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| **PROBLEM** | **LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT THAT WOULD BEST SOLVE IT, AND WHY** |
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How do we resolve community problems?

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|  | **STEP THAT WE TAKE** | **DESCRIPTION** |
| STEP 1 |  | What is the problem and who does it impact? |
| STEP 2 |  | What are some ways this problem can be resolved using public policy? |
| STEP 3 |  | Who would be responsible for resolving this problem? |
| STEP 4 |  | Who should we present our plan to and how can we make it a reality? |

What is PUBLIC POLICY?

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| **DESCRIPTION** | **DEFINITION** |
| A) Public is… |  |
| B) Policy is… |  |
| C) Put them together, and public policy means… |  |
| D) Community Service is… |  |

**Part B. Applying**. Look at the following examples of actions taken to solve a problem. Decide if each action would be an example of Public Policy or Community Service. Write “P” for Public Policy or “C” for Community Service. Then answer the multiple choice question below.

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| **PUBLIC POLICY OR COMMUNITY SERVICE?** | **ACTION TAKEN TO SOLVE A PROBLEM** |
|  | 1) Local government installs trash cans |
|  | 2) Students volunteer to pick up trash |
|  | 3) You offer peer tutoring for test prep |
|  | 4) School board ban on student cell phones because of cheating on tests |
|  | 5) A club collecting items for the homeless |
|  | 6) Local government funds homeless shelter and materials |
|  | 7) City fee to aid with road repairs |
|  | 8) Soccer team holds fundraiser to repair the road |
|  | 9) Local cycling group holds bicycle safety classes for the community |
|  | 10) Local government funds bicycle safety classes |

11) Luis owns a small store in the downtown business district. He learned that at the next monthly council meeting, the mayor will propose limiting the amount of time that people can park on the streets in the business district. Luis is afraid that if the city council approves the proposal, his business will suffer. Which of the following should be Luis’s **final** step in attempting to resolve this issue?

A) Prepare a map of the available downtown parking spaces

B) Present an alternate proposal at the next council meeting

C) Call council members with concerns about the proposed policy

D) Survey downtown businesses to determine their thoughts on the issue

ANSWER: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part C. Community Problems and Solutions**. Read the newspaper article and answer the questions using the graphic organizer below.

A close up of a newspaper

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| QUESTIONS | ANSWERS |
| 1) What is the problem? |  |
| 2) What is the proposed solution? |  |
| 3) What might be other public policy solutions? |  |
| 4) What might be other community service solutions? |  |
| 5) What types of government agencies might be able to help solve this problem? |  |
| 6) What do you think should be done? Which solution(s) would be best, and why? |  |