

## **Mock Election 2010:**

### **Internet Research Guide and Recommended Activities**

Teachers may use as many or as few external resources or recommended activities as they see fit for their classroom type, curriculum, and grade level. As in any election, the more informed that voters are about the candidates and issues, the better prepared they will be for making decisions.

### **Recommended Activities**

- Invite local politicians and candidates to visit with students,
- Research candidates (official websites listed below) and key issues by browsing the internet and collecting news articles.
- Divide students into teams, and hold a mock debate about candidates and issues.
- Analyze and respond to political cartoons and advertisements.
- Have students write their own newspaper editorials endorsing candidates and arguing their stance on key local, state, or national issues. Send best submissions to your local or school newspaper.
- Take students on a brief field trip to your County Clerk's office or local polling place for a voting machine demonstration.
- Allow high school students who will be 18 years of age before the next general election to register to vote (registration cards available online at <http://elect.ky.gov/register.htm> or at your County Clerk's office).

### **Lesson Plans and Teacher Resources**

National Student/Parent Mock Election

<http://www.nationalmockelection.org/curriculum.html>

- General government and election classroom resources.
- Curriculum and lesson plans specific to the 2006 mock election issues.

Youth Leadership Initiative

<http://www.youthleadership.net>

- Government and civics lesson plans on campaign advertising, political ideologies, and other election related topics.
- Offers state-specific core content -argument.
- Requires that teachers register themselves.

Public Broadcasting: Democracy Project

<http://pbskids.org/democracvieducators>

- Lesson plans about voting, citizenship, political parties, etc.
- Interactive election website for students.

PBS News Hour Lesson Plans

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extraiteachers/>

- Mid Term Elections: The Impact of Local and National Issues
- Immigration Reform Lesson Plan

**Kentucky Elections**

Office of the Secretary of State: [www.sos.ky.gov/elections](http://www.sos.ky.gov/elections)

Kentucky State Board of Elections: [www.elect.ky.gov](http://www.elect.ky.gov)

Youth Leadership Institute: [www.youthleadership.net](http://www.youthleadership.net)

**National Political Party Sites**

The Republican Party: [www.gop.com](http://www.gop.com)

The Democratic Party: [www.dnc.org](http://www.dnc.org)

The Constitution Party: [www.constitutionparty.com](http://www.constitutionparty.com)

The Libertarian Party: [www.lp.org](http://www.lp.org)

The Green Party: [www.gp.org](http://www.gp.org)

**Candidate Web sites**

Rand Paul: [www.RandPaul2010.com](http://www.RandPaul2010.com)

Jack Conway: [www.JackConway.org](http://www.JackConway.org)