

2012 Kentucky Student Mock Election Program

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 information voters have about the candidates and issues, the better prepared they will be to make 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 the best submissions to your local or school newspaper.
- Take students on a 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 are available online at elect.ky.gov or in your county clerk's office.

Lesson Plans and Teacher Resources

National Student/Parent Mock Election

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

- General government and election classroom resources
- Curricula and lesson plans specific to the 2012 mock election issues

Youth Leadership Initiative

<http://youthleadership.net/>

- Government and civics lesson plans on campaign advertising, political ideologies, and other election-related topics
- Simulated Senatorial campaign

PBS LearningMedia

<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/election/>

- Election-related resources and lesson plans
- Games and interactive activities

Kentucky Elections Information

- Office of Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes: www.sos.ky.gov
- Kentucky State Board of Elections: www.elect.ky.gov

National Political Party Websites

- The Republican Party: www.gop.com
- The Democratic Party: www.dnc.org
- The Constitution Party: www.constitutionparty.com
- The Libertarian Party: www.lp.org
- The Green Party: www.gp.org

Candidate Web Sites

- Barack Obama: www.barackobama.com
- Mitt Romney: www.mittromney.com
- Charles Hatchett: www.hatchettforcongress.net
- Ed Whitfield: www.whitfieldforcongress.com
- Brett Guthrie: www.brettguthrie.com
- David Williams: No website
- Craig Astor: craigastor.com
- Brooks Wicker: www.brookswicker.com
- John Yarmuth: www.yarmuthforcongress.com
- Robert Devore, Jr.: www.voterobertdevore.com
- William Adkins: billadkinscongress.com
- Thomas Massie: www.thomasmassie.com
- Hal Rogers: www.facebook.com/CongressmanHalRogers
- Ken Stepp: www.steppforcongress.blogspot.com
- Andy Barr: andybarrforcongress.com
- Ben Chandler, III: www.benchandlerforcongress.com
- Randolph Vance: www.facebook.com/RandolphVanceForCongress