

KIDS VOTING 2010
Educator Advisory Council
Getting Started

February 8, 2010

COMCAST Update - Ms. Janet Steiner, Government Affairs, Philly Suburbs North

Welcome/Introductions

Highlights 2009 - What Worked?

KV USA

KV Southeast Pennsylvania

Creating Interest/Gaining Support for Student Learning/Authentic Voting

- Central Office/Building Principal (Kids Voting Coming^{DC2}/KV FACTS^{DC3})

- Teachers (Suggested Lessons^{T1}/ PA Standards Supported by KV Curriculum^{T2}/Not an Add On^{T3})
Teacher Orientation/Training
Summer Workshop

- Parents - (sample principal letter to parents^{P1}/ Kids Voting Coming^{DC2} for school newsletter)
Reaching Out to PTO

Connecting with Kids

Civics Alive The KV Curriculum

Online Survey

Building Events^{P2}

Making It Happen

Important Dates 2010^{DC4}

Timeline^{DC5}

Volunteer Coordinator- Find One! (District Volunteer Coordinator Responsibilities^{VC1})

Supply Inventory - Find Your Stuff from 2008

Verifying Contact Information - Please check information

Sharing/Questions

Next Meeting Date: _____

Handouts indicated on agenda will be available on website

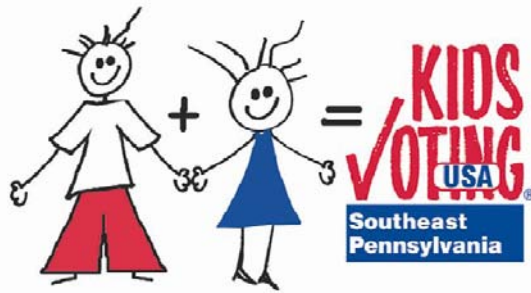
Additional Handouts

LWV Legislative Guide

Ten Arts of Democracy

brochure

2008 ballot



KIDS VOTING COMING

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The culminating activity will be the actual vote. Kids Voting Southeast Pennsylvania has made arrangements with election officials for students to vote at the polls on November 2nd. Look for information regarding specific hours at your local polling location. Volunteers will be available to assist students with the voting process. The results of their vote will be published in *The Intelligencer* and the *Courier Times*, along with the official adult returns.

If you have any questions concerning Kids Voting please contact Richard O. Coe, Ed. D., Executive Director, Kids Voting Southeast Pennsylvania, P.O. Box 372, Washington Crossing, PA 18977, Phone: 215.345.3372.

E Mail: kidsvoting@comcast.net, Web site: www.kidsvotingsoutheastpa.org

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<p>If you would like to volunteer please contact your school building principal.</p>		
Name:	Phone#:	Email:

Facts about Kids Voting for Educators and Parents

✓ **DEMOCRACY COMES ALIVE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

Classroom activities focus on democracy in America, active citizenship, elections and voting.

Families dialogue about current events .

✓ **AN AUTHENTIC VOTING EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS**

Students vote at actual precinct sites with their parents.

Kid Voting stations are supervised by trained volunteers.

Student ballots are similar to official ballots.

Results are published in *The Bucks County Courier Times* and *The Intelligencer*.

✓ **REGIONAL IMPACT**

Kids Voting is endorsed by School Districts, the County Commissioners, the United Way, the League of Women Voters, business and community leaders.

Kids Voting Southeastern Pennsylvania includes all thirteen Bucks County School Districts and two school districts in Eastern Montgomery County.

✓ **NONPARTISAN/NONPROFIT**

Kids Voting does not endorse candidates, political parties or political positions.

Kids Voting is funded entirely by contributions from the community.

✓ **STUDENT RESULTS**

Pennsylvania Civics and Government Instructional Standards are supported by the Kids Voting Curriculum.

Kids Voting increases the likelihood that young people and adults will vote.

Kids Voting lays the foundation for Civic Responsibility and Public Service.



Important Dates In 2010

February 2010

15 Presidents' Day

April 2010

19 Last day to register to vote in May primary

May 2010

1 Law Day

11 Last day to request an absentee ballot

14 Last day absentee ballot may be received by County Board of Elections

18 **PRIMARY Election**

25 Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots (must be postmarked no later than May 17)

31 Memorial Day

June 2010

14 Flag Day

July 2010

4 Independence Day

September 2010

6 Labor Day

Back-to-School Nights - Post signup sheet to recruit Election Day volunteers for adopted precincts

Remind parents to vote.

Have voter registration forms and Kids Voting materials available.

17 Constitution Day

October 2010

Kids Voting Month - Hold school wide student registrations.

4 Last day to register before the General Election

26 Last day to request an absentee ballot

29 Last day absentee ballot may be received by County Board of Elections

November 2010

2 ELECTION DAY



Timeline

District KV Coordinator/Social Studies Coordinator

Winter/Spring:

- Communicate with district administrators (*see Kids Voting Coming/Facts About KV*).
- Recruit a district volunteer coordinator (*see District Volunteer Coordinator Responsibilities*).
- Communicate with principals.
- Assist the volunteer coordinator in communicating with parent groups and obtaining a firm commitment before school is out as to which precincts they will adopt in November.
- Seek a lead teacher at each school to serve as ambassador and cheerleader for Kids Voting.
- Organize/choose lessons for grade levels (possibly with district social studies committee) and distribute them (*see Suggested Lessons*).
- Find a teacher to work with and organize student volunteers at the high school level. (*see Attention High School Clubs*). Student groups/clubs can adopt precincts and be an extra pool of volunteers for those precincts needing more volunteers.
- Encourage staff to attend Kids Voting training.

Summer/Fall:

- Follow-up with principals and teachers.
- Assist volunteer coordinators as needed.

Principals

Winter/Spring

- Communicate to the faculty that the district is involved with Kids Voting - faculty orientation (can use Power Point on web site).
- Communicate with parents and recruit volunteers (*see Sample Letter to Parents/Kids Voting Coming*).

Fall

- Get the voting message out to parents/students (*see Kids Voting Coming/Facts About KV*).
- Promote classroom/school wide voting activities.

Volunteer Coordinator

Late Winter/Early Spring

- Recruit Volunteers.
- Be in touch with parent groups at each school and get a commitment from them as to which precincts they will adopt for November. Suggest they have a committee sign up in the fall for volunteers at the polls. (Use *Adopt a Precinct* booklet).

- Work with high school(s) to determine which students organizations/clubs will adopt a precinct and be a pool of volunteers for those precincts that need help (*see Attention High School Clubs*).
- Once a precinct is adopted, have the group identify a Precinct Captain and obtain their contact information. Provide captain with the *Welcome Precinct Captain* letter and an *Adopt a Precinct* booklet.

Summer

- Recruit community organizations to adopt remaining precincts (*see Adopt A Precinct Recruitment*).
- Have precinct captains make a site visit in the summer/early fall to obtain permission from the local site and ask them for a separate room to set up Kids Voting. Ask them to provide two or more tables and some chairs. Some polling sites have special restrictions. Have them report this information to you so you can keep a master list.

Fall

- Communicate with precinct captains/schools and provide assistance as needed.
- Participate in training of precinct captains in late September or early October.
- Remind precinct captains to communicate with their precinct Election Judge in early-October to introduce themselves and assure them that Kids Voting will not interfere with the actual voting.
- From your precinct captains, obtain a list of volunteers at each precinct including name, address and phone numbers. Have captains send the list to you (District Volunteer Coordinator) and to the Election Judges.
- Election Night – be at Election Headquarters for your district and handle requests from polling sites.
- Election Night – collect ballots dropped off mid-way through the night and work with a volunteer team to check that ballots were completed accurately.
- End of Election Night – help collect, organize all supplies. Deliver or have someone deliver supplies to District Headquarters.

Teachers

Spring

- See list of *Suggested Lessons* and go to Kids Voting website to access lessons.
- Participate in orientation of program.
- Current events - Discuss primary elections. Have students go to our Kids Voting website www.kidsvotingsoutheastpa.org for online surveys and primary election voting.

Summer

- Attend staff development in-service (optional) – 6 hours, date and location to be announced.

Fall

- Go through a registration process.
- Teach at least 3 Kids Voting lessons (as per your district).
- Show and explain the ballot (ballot will be on website).
- Participate in classroom/school wide voting activities - this is highly recommended as not all kids will be taken to the polls by their parents.
- High school students should vote at school.
- Encourage children to go to the polls on Election Day.
- Debrief Kids Voting experience.

- Do Kids Voting follow-up lesson.
- Remainder of the Year: incorporate Kids Voting lessons appropriately according to your curriculum

Community Relations/Public Information Officers

Spring

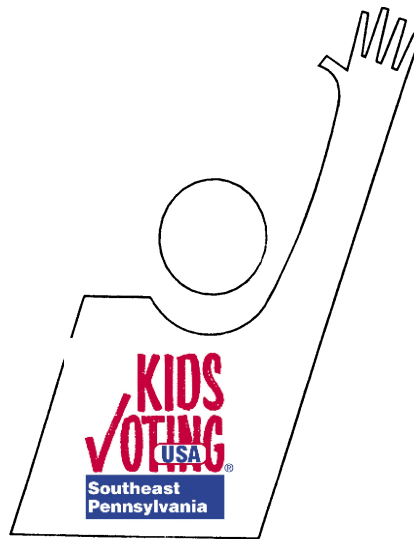
- Promote/advertise any voting activities done in classrooms for the primary elections and share with Kids Voting any internal publications where Kids Voting is included. Possibly include any information on district and/or school web sites.

Summer

- Get the message out about Kids Voting in summer district newsletter.
- On the November page of the school calendar, place Kids Voting graphic and times kids can vote on Election Day with a possible note to encourage parents to take their kids to the poll. If your school/district has photos from 2008 or before, you may want to include these in the calendar.

Fall

- Promote/advertise any voting activities done in classrooms for the general election and share with Kids Voting any internal publications where Kids Voting is included. Possibly include any information on district and/or school web sites.



ATTENTION: HIGH SCHOOLS CLUBS

Kids Voting Southeast Pennsylvania Needs You!!

- ☆ Kids Voting Southeast Pennsylvania is a non-profit, non-partisan education program designed to promote greater voter participation and to educate students in Bucks and Montgomery Counties regarding the voting process.
- ☆ On November 2 over 100,000 students in grades K - 12 will be able to go to the polls.

We would like your club to consider sending its members to help staff precincts in your district.

- ☆ We are looking for High School students to help. We need to have volunteers for Kids Voting at several precincts. That's quite an undertaking! So please consider becoming a part of our program. This volunteer opportunity is completed in one day, but will make a difference in our community for generations to come.

If you can help, please fill in this form and send it as soon as possible to: (ADD YOUR CONTACT INFO.)

For more information about Kids Voting Southeast Pennsylvania, visit our web site at:

www.kidsvotingsoutheastpa.org/ or by mail, P.O. Box 372 Washington Crossing, PA 18977

Phone 215.345.3372 or email kidsvoting@comcast.net

Club: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email address: _____

District Letterhead

Dear Parent or Guardian,

This year your child will take part in the national **Kids Voting USA** project, which involves millions of students of all grade levels across the United States. Included will be lessons about democracy, along with nonpartisan activities and an opportunity to vote at their official polling places on Election Day, using ballots that replicate those used by registered voters. Recent research has demonstrated that the critical thinking and decision-making skills your child will acquire during the program are enduring and significant.

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If you would like to volunteer, please contact your school building principal.
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Name:	Phone#:	Email:
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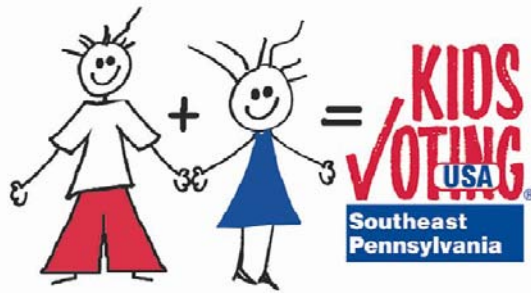
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E Mail: kidsvoting@comcast.net, Web site: www.kidsvotingsoutheastpa.org.

Sincerely,

YOUR NAME

Title



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Suggested Lessons for Implementing Kids Voting

Grades K-2	
Theme: Elections and Voting	
Concept 1 - My Vote Gives Me Power	Voting Chain
Concept 2 - I Study the Candidates and Issues	Election Bulletin Board
Concept 3 - I Register and Vote	Kids Voting Registration and Voting Simulation
Concept 4 - I Continue to Make a Difference	The Wish Tree
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Duck for President</i>
Culminating Activity	I Go to the Polls
Theme: Democracy and the People	
Concept 1 - What is Democracy?	Who's the Leader?
Concept 2 - Democracy in America	If I Were . . .
Concept 3 - A Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities	"I Can Vote" Song (or use any patriotic song)
Concept 4 - Democracy in the World	Democracy In the Print
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>D is for Democracy: A Citizen's Alphabet</i>
Culminating Activity	Democracy and Me
Theme: Active Citizenship	
Concept 1 - Gathering & Weighing Information	I Heard, I Think, I Know . . .
Concept 2 - Communicating Your Position	Spokespeople for Kids Voting USA (League of Women Voters poster)
Concept 3 - Working Together	Match Community Helpers
Concept 4 - Having an Impact	If Elected . . .
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Miss Rumphius</i>
Culminating Activity	What's The Problem?

Grades 3-5	
Theme: Elections and Voting	
Concept 1 - My Vote Gives Me Power	Voter Apathy Experience
Concept 2 - I Study the Candidates and Issues	Meet the Candidates
Concept 3 - I Register and Vote	Kids Voting Registration and Voting Simulation
Concept 4 - I Continue to Make a Difference	Watching the Returns
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>The Vote: Making Your Voice Heard</i>
Culminating Activity	I Go To The Polls
Theme: Democracy and the People	
Concept 1 - What is Democracy?	Our Homes, Our Town, Our Country
Concept 2 - Democracy in America	The President's Hats
Concept 3 - A Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities	Pledge Anew
Concept 4 - Democracy in the World	Pen Pals
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Ideas of the Modern World: Democracy</i>
Culminating Activity	Go Ask City Hall
Theme: The Right to Vote	
Concept 1 - What is Suffrage?	Nonvoter Simulation
Concept 2 - Suffrage Today	Know the Vote
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>The Day Gogo Went to Vote</i>
Culminating Activity	Get Out The Vote!
Theme: Active Citizenship	
Concept 1 - Gathering & Weighing Information	Using the World Wide Web
Concept 2 - Communicating Your Position	Debates For Classroom Decisions
Concept 3 - Working Together	Building A Story
Concept 4 - Having an Impact	Dollars and Sense
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>The Kid's Guide to Social Action</i>
Culminating Activity	Learn and Serve

Grades 6-8	
Theme: Elections and Voting	
Concept 1 - My Vote Gives Me Power	Apathy Cartoon Analysis
Concept 2 - I Study the Candidates & Issues	Rate the Candidates
Concept 3 - I Register and Vote	Kids Voting Registration and Voting Simulation
Concept 4 - I Continue to Make a Difference	Election Accountability
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Landslide: A Kid's Guide to U.S. Elections</i>
Culminating Activity	I Go To The Polls
Theme: Democracy and the People	
Concept 1 - What is Democracy?	Types of Government
Concept 2 - Democracy in America	If Elected . . .
Concept 3 - A Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities	The "Right" Way
Concept 4 - Democracy in the World	Democracy: Who? What? Where?
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Government: How Local, State and Federal Government Works</i>
Culminating Activity	Democracy, Taking A Stand
Theme: The Right to Vote	
Concept 1 - What is Suffrage?	Suffrage Sequence Cards
Concept 2 - Expanding the Right to Vote	1965 Alabama Literacy Test
Concept 3 - Suffrage Today	Voting Barriers
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>A Time for Courage: The Suffrage Diary of Kahtleen Bowen</i>
Culminating Activity	Use It Or Lose It!
Theme: Active Citizenship	
Concept 1 - Gathering & Weighing Information	The Decision-Making Chart
Concept 2 - Communicating Your Position	Debate The Issue
Concept 3 - Working Together	You Can Vote
Concept 4 - Having an Impact	It's Official
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	Fight On: Mary Church Terrell's Battle for Integration
Culminating Activity	Toward a More Perfect Community

Grades 9-12	
Theme: Elections and Voting	
Concept 1 - My Vote Gives Me Power	
Concept 2 - I Study the Candidates and Issues	
Concept 3 - I Register and Vote	
Concept 4 - I Continue to Make a Difference	
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Presidential Leadership</i>
Culminating Activity	Candidates' Night
Theme: American Democracy & Citizenship	
Concept 1 - What is Democracy?	
Concept 2 - Democracy in America	
Concept 3 - A Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities	
Concept 4 - Democracy in the World	
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Common Sense, Rights of Man, And Other Essential Writings of Thomas Paine</i>
Culminating Activity	Act From The Heart
Theme: Suffrage and The Right to Vote	
Concept 1 - What is Suffrage?	
Concept 2 - Expanding the Right to Vote	
Concept 3 - Suffrage Today	
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Voting and The Spirit of American Democracy</i>
Culminating Activity	A Game of Cards
Theme: Active Citizenship	
Concept 1 - Gathering & Weighing Information	
Concept 2 - Communicating Your Position	
Concept 3 - Working Together	
Concept 4 - Having an Impact	
Overarching Questions (one question for each concept listed above)	Use one or more of the questions provided
Literature Connection Activity	<i>Teen Power Politics</i>
Culminating Activity	Service-Learning Action Plan

**Pennsylvania Civics and Government Standards
Supported by Kids Voting Curriculum**

For Grades K-3

5.2.3 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

- 5.2.3 A Identify examples of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- 5.2.3 B Identify personal rights and responsibilities.
- 5.2.3 D Identify the importance of political leadership and public service in the school, community, state and nation
- 5.2.3 E Describe ways citizens can influence the decisions and actions of government.
- 5.2.3 G Identify ways to participate in government and civic life.

5.3.3 How Government Works

- 5.2.3 A Identify the elected representative bodies responsible for making local, Pennsylvania and United States laws.
- 5.2.3 E Identify positions of authority at school and in local, state, and national governments.
- 5.2.3 F Explain what an election is
- 5.2.3 G Explain why being treated fairly is important

For Grades 4 -6

5.2.6 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

- 5.2.6 A Compare rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- 5.2.6 B Explain the relationship between rights and responsibilities
- 5.2.6 D Describe the importance of political leadership and public service.
- 5.2.6 E Identify examples of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- 5.2.6 G Explain the importance of participating in government and civic life.

5.3.6 How Government Works

- 5.3.6 A Compare the structure, organization and operation of local, state and national governments.
- 5.3.6 E Identify major leaders of local, state and national governments, their primary primary duties and their political party affiliations.
- 5.3.6 F Describe the voting process.

Pennsylvania Citizenship Standards Supported by Involvement with Kids Voting

Civics and Government

Grades 7 – 9

5.2 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

- A. Contrast the essential rights and responsibilities of citizens in systems of government.**
- B. Analyze citizens' rights and responsibilities in local, state and national government.**
- D. Analyze political leadership and public service in a republican form of government.**
- E. Explain the importance of the political process to competent and responsible participation in civic life.**
- G. Analyze political and civic participation in government and society.**

5.3 How Government Works

- E. Explain how citizens participate in choosing their leaders through political parties, campaigns and elections.**
- F. Explain the election process.**

Grades 10 – 12

5.2 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

- A. Evaluate an individual's civic rights, responsibilities and duties in various governments.**
- B. Evaluate citizens' participation in government and civic life.**
- D. Evaluate political leadership and public service in a constitutional democracy.**
- E. Analyze how participation in civic and political life leads to the attainment of Individual and public goals.**
- G. Evaluate what makes a competent and responsible citizen.**

5.3 How Government Works

- E. Evaluate the roles of political parties in election campaigns.**
- F. Evaluate the elements of the election process.**
- J. Evaluate the role of the media in political life in the U.S., and explain the role of The media in setting the public agenda.**

KIDS VOTING NOT AN "ADD ON"

Let the Kids Voting *Civics Alive* Lessons HELP your STUDENTS LEARN

Academic Standards For Civics And Government

Civics and Government have always been a part of our curriculum.

- The Free public School Act of 1834 stated that “These schools were created to educate children to be useful citizens.....and aware of their duties as citizens.....”
- The Public School Code of 1949 directs teaching to “instill into every boy and girl.....their solemn duty and obligation to exercise intelligently their voting privilege....”
- The Academic Standards of 2002 include as a major strand (5.2) “Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship”

The Standards address:

- Rights and responsibilities of citizenship
- Conflict resolution in society and government
- Leadership and Participation
- Citizen influence on decisions and actions of government

The Kids Voting, *Civics Alive* curriculum includes the "principles" listed above. Kids Voting is not an Add On, but another way to introduce essential concepts. The curriculum generates student interest, involvement, and enthusiasm. Activities offer engaging and authentic methods to enhance instruction.



District Volunteer Coordinator Responsibilities

- Obtain list of precincts from your Kids Voting district.
- Recruit groups who will "Adopt-A-Precinct" or two and be willing to staff volunteers at that precinct.
 - 1) Contact parent groups at each elementary and middle school and determine which precinct(s) they will be adopting. It is best to get a commitment to adopt-a-precinct BEFORE school is out for as many precincts as possible.
 - 2) Work with high schools to determine which precincts student organizations/clubs could adopt with the help of at least one adult leader
 - 3) Recruit community organizations to "Adopt-A-Precinct". We will give you some Kids Voting brochures to help with this.

Sources of Volunteers

AARP
Alumni associations
American Association of University Women
Assistance League
Auxiliary organizations
Bar Association
Board of Realtors
Boy Scouts
Chamber of Commerce
Civitan
College/University student groups
Cub Scouts
Employee groups
Girl Scouts
Home School groups
Jaycees
Junior Achievement
Junior League
Kiwanis
Knights of Columbus
Labor unions
League of Women Voters

Lions Club

National Honor Society, Student Council, World Affairs Club (other high school organizations/clubs)

Press associations

Retired Educators

Rotary Club

Senior Centers

Teachers' unions

Veterans associations

Volunteer Centers

- When a precinct has been adopted, have the group identify a Precinct Captain and obtain their contact information. For the elementary schools, this is important to do in the spring, probably after PTO/PTA elections so they are good to go and have an established captain for their adopted precincts.
- Have the parent groups consider making Kids Voting a committee for the 2010-2011 school year, so that the Precinct Captains can sign parents up in the fall.
- Provide each new Precinct Captain with a list of their duties which will be given to you by Kids Voting and will be listed on our web site.
- Ask each Precinct Captain to make a sight visit in the summer/early fall to obtain permission from the local site and ask them for a separate room to set up Kids Voting. Have them report this information to you and you can keep it on a master list.
- Communicate with Precinct Captains in the fall and provide assistance as needed.
- Have Precinct Captains keep track of all contact information for their volunteers so that you can send thank you's.
- Participate in training of precinct captains in the fall,
- On Election Night, be at Election Headquarters for your district and handle requests, if any, from polling sites (more ballots, etc).
- On Election Night, collect ballots dropped off mid-way through the night and work with a volunteer team to check that ballots were completed accurately.
- At the end of Election Night, help collect, organize, and inventory all supplies. Deliver or have someone deliver supplies to designated district location. E-mail inventory list to Richard Coe within one week after the election.