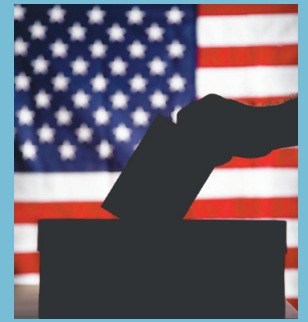


BALLOT BOX BULLETIN

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF KIDS VOTING USA MARCH 2011



OTHER NEWS

KVUSA 2011 Calendar

March 23rd at 10am CST -
DCD Webinar

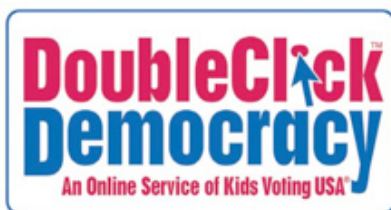
March 24th at 2pm CST -
DCD Webinar

August: Web site Renovation

October: Annual Conference

KVK Celebrates Kansas Day

Kids Voting Kansas participated in the festivities at the Kansas History Day Museum on Kansas Day. Kansas was celebrating its 150th birthday. Kids Voting Kansas utilize DoubleClick Democracy and created a ballot where students voted for their favorite notable Kansan. The students were given ten candidates to choose from. 429 students voted that day. Amelia Earhart was the winner collecting 194 votes and George Washington Carver and Dwight David Eisenhower tied for second with 61 votes each.



Are You Using DoubleClick Democracy?!

Learn how to utilize this free resource to provide your students with additional voting experiences. Sign up to attend a DCD webinar today!!

*Don't forget to
follow KVUSA on
facebook!*

facebook

Liberty Ball Game Raises More than \$10,000

The 14th Annual Kids Voting South Dakota Liberty Ball Game was held on Thursday, February 24th. The event began with a taco feed sponsored by Taco John's and Coca Cola of Pierre, followed by live entertainment from Gordy Pratt and the Capital City Children's and Youth Chorus, and both a silent and live auction. The main attraction, the basketball game between the legislators of the House of Representatives and Senate, tipped off at 7pm. Every child that attended the event received free items and had the opportunity to compete in a free-throw event.

This year's game was unique as the Senate won 93-88. This was the first win for the Senate in three years. Additionally, the event raised \$11,061. It almost doubled the efforts last year when the event brought in \$6,432.

"This is definitely the largest number of legislators we've had volunteer this year, said DeVee Dietz, state director for Kids Voting South Dakota (*Capital Journal*, Ruth Brown). "This has been a really good time all around and it has given the legislators a nice opportunity for fellowship and to have some fun with competition."



Are You Using DoubleClick Democracy?

Written by: Bobby Fox, KVUSA Board Member & KV Tampa Bay Executive Director

DoubleClick Democracy (DCD) is an online voting service available to the Kids Voting affiliates at no cost. The program is available year round and can be used to host school based elections. DoubleClick Democracy is a resource to add to your tool kit.

Most of us have faced budget challenges over the last few years. The current version of DoubleClick Democracy was born in 2008 to reduce costs while providing a quality voting experience. DCD has allowed KVTB to reduce election costs from 15-cents per student to 2-cents per student. In addition to the cost savings, the system has allowed KVTB to host hundreds of school based elections since 2009. Some examples of school based elections are homecoming elections, student government elections and book awards.

Do you remember when people would say, “Kids Voting, what is that?” We have all worked very hard to increase brand recognition. KVTB has used DCD to grow our local brand. The more it is used by students and teachers, the more confident and comfortable the users become. The marketing has paid off in Tampa Bay. More often than not, kids now see the logo at events and say, “Hey, I did that in school.”

KVUSA will be hosting a series of webinars focused on DoubleClick Democracy. If you are interested in learning how to use online voting to grow your affiliate, register for a webinar.

★ March ★ Educator of the Month

KVUSA is pleased to announce that **Rich Pyszczek** is the March Educator of the Month. Mr. Pyszczek is a teacher at the International Preparatory School at Grover in Buffalo, New York. Rich Pyszczek has been an advocate of Kids Voting in his classroom year after year. He not only uses the supplied curriculum, but also takes advantage of UB Kids Voting WNY activities offered such as the Speakers Bureau to bring civics into his classroom. This election cycle, Mr. Pyszczek brought three students to a candidate debate for the 144th NYS Assembly District and each student asked questions of their candidates. He worked with each of the students to identify the issues within their community that were most important to them and then helped them develop their questions.

Kids Voting USA truly appreciates the work and passion Mr. Rich Pyszczek demonstrates for our program.

Kids Voting USA thanks the Gannett Foundation for their continuous support of the organization!



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