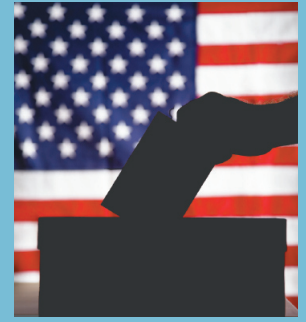


BALLOT BOX BULLETIN

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KidsVention Celebrates Citizenship

Fifth and seventh grade students and their teachers – over 2,200 – from the Clark County School District in southern Nevada focused on civic education and engagement at KidsVention on October 21, 2011, in Henderson, Nevada. KidsVention is the highlight of the year for these students, as they participate in this mini-political convention without partisan politics.

The event began with the presentation of the Colors and Flag Salute, led by the Basic High School Marine Corps JROTC, followed by the singing of the “Star Spangled Banner” by the Del Webb Middle School Concert Choir. Each school present was recognized during the “Roll Call of the States”. Students then listened to debates on current topics, presented by elected officials and debate students from Green Valley and Foothill High Schools. Elected officials that participated were Nevada State Assemblyman Lynn Stewart, Nevada State Senator Joe Hardy, Las Vegas City Councilman Ricki Barlow, and Clark County Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani. The debate topics were: the United States should end its use of the penny, students should be allowed to use social network sites in class for educational purposes, suspension from school is an effective method of discipline, and school districts should be allowed to use advertising on school buses.

Local newsman, Gary Waddell of 8 News NOW (CBS), served as Master of Ceremonies, and the debate topics were introduced by Henderson City Mayor Andy Hafen, CCSD Board of Trustees Member Deanna Wright, Terri Janison of the Governor of Nevada’s office, and CCSD Deputy Superintendent Pedro Martinez. Students voted on each debate with great vigor!

The program also included choral presentations by George Dare, a local singer and composer, and included the back-up singers of the Del Webb Concert Choir. Their selections were “Let Freedom Ring “ (KVUSA’s theme song), “We Call Henderson Home”, and “Shine, Las Vegas”. All three numbers were composed by Mr. Dare. The program concluded with a presentation of “Sojourner Truth”, delivered by Kim Russell, a local performer; reading of the debate results, which were received with even more enthusiasm from the students; and a rendition of “America the Beautiful”, with audience participation and led by the Del Webb Choir.

KidsVention is organized and facilitated by the Board of Directors of Voices In Voting/Kids Voting Greater Las Vegas. Expenses for the event were covered by the Board partners, elected officials, SCE Federal Credit Union, SONEPCO Federal Credit Union, Silver State Schools Credit Union, 8 News NOW and their Community Pride partners, Wells Fargo, Clark County School District, Nevada PTA, League of Women Voters of the Las Vegas Valley, NV Energy, City of Henderson and the Henderson Pavilion, Professional Fiduciary Services of Nevada, and a number of individuals.



OTHER NEWS

More than 900 students worked as Poll Workers

Dave Fields had his first experience working at the polls as a Youth at the Booth student from Hilliard Davidson High School in 2007.

He is now a graduate of The Ohio State University, and an Intern Teacher at Independence High School in Columbus. As a teacher, he feels that one of the best ways to interest his students in government is to introduce ways to be involved in their community. He has found it important to discuss and know our history, but he finds students relate more to what's going on now. Kids Voting's Youth at the Booth experience is an excellent way for high school seniors to begin that process.

Kids Voting Central Ohio recruited and trained more than 900 students to work as Precinct Election Officials this month in Franklin County.



Jennifer Long and Chelsie Johnson, Youth at the Booth, with David Fields, a former Youth at the Booth and now an adult poll worker - November 8, 2011.

December

Educator of the Month

KVUSA is pleased to announce that **Doug Ewart** is the December Educator of the Month. Mr. Ewart is the Guidance Counselor for Groveport Madison High School in Groveport, Ohio, which is part of Kids Voting Central Ohio. Mr. Ewart serves on the Kids Voting Central Ohio Advisory Board and acts as the Kids Voting cheerleader in the district serving as the liaison to all the school buildings. He has coordinated Kids Voting presentations to teachers to assure that teachers are using the materials in their classrooms. Doug takes an added initiative to recruit students to participate and often drives them to the various events. He was instrumental in bringing the Kids Voting and the Youth at the Booth program to Grovesport Madison High School.

Kids Voting USA truly appreciates the work and passion Mr. Doug Ewart demonstrates for our program.



Engaging Today's Youth
for Tomorrow's Civic Leadership
Symposium 2012

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www.kidsvotingusa.org/EYT2012

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