

# Give All Students an Authentic Election-Day Voting Experience



STORIES ABOUT PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES AND ELECTION RESULTS ARE DOMINATING OUR NEWS CYCLES, SPARKING EARLY AND ANIMATED CONVERSATIONS ABOUT MANY ASPECTS OF OUR ELECTORAL PROCESS.

This fall, you have the opportunity to move the story from “out there” to “in here” by showing your students firsthand how elections work and why voting matters.

**THE “KIDS VOTING” PROGRAM COMBINES CIVIC LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM WITH AT-HOME ACTIVITIES AND AN AUTHENTIC ELECTION-DAY VOTING EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES K-12.**

In the weeks before an election, teachers use our election curriculum -- which aligns with Minnesota’s social studies standards -- to teach students about the rights, responsibilities and mechanics of voting and citizenship. Students learn about the importance of participating in our nation’s democratic process and of being involved in their local community. In addition, they receive take-home materials to encourage discussions about voting and current events with family members and friends.

**ON ELECTION DAY, STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CAST A VOTE USING THE SAME PROCESS AND BALLOT SLATE AS THE ADULTS IN THEIR COMMUNITY.**

Votes are counted and reported by grade and by school district. Students participate in a reflection exercise the day after the election to reinforce their learnings.

***Join us this fall in providing your students with a transformative experience that will build their civic knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviors.***

***Participating in the “Kids Voting” program helps achieve four very important outcomes:***

- Preparing young people to be educated, engaged citizens.
- Supporting educators in teaching the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- Stimulating civic dialogue within families.
- Increasing participation in our democracy.

**IN THE 2014 ELECTION, MORE THAN 45,000 STUDENTS FROM 50 MINNESOTA COMMUNITIES CAST A BALLOT AS PART OF OUR PROGRAM.**



*In Minnesota, the Kids Voting program is coordinated by Minnesota Civic Youth. To learn more about the program or sign up to participate, contact **Amy Anderson at 651-955-1679 or amy@mncivicyouth.org**. Or visit [www.mncivicyouth.org](http://www.mncivicyouth.org).*

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**RESEARCH SHOWS THAT PRACTICING CIVIC HABITS AT A YOUNG AGE CAN SUPPORT A LIFETIME OF ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP!**