



MYVOTE CALIFORNIA STUDENT MOCK ELECTION 2008

Sponsored by Secretary of State Debra Bowen
and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell

MYVOTE

STUDENT MOCK ELECTION

Why Get Involved?

The MyVote California Student Mock Election is a civic engagement project designed to help young people discover the importance of elections and the power of their vote in our democracy. It gives high school and middle school students firsthand experience with the electoral process by giving them a chance to make their voices heard on the candidates and issues of importance to them and their families.

This fall, the MyVote California Student Mock Election will tap into the excitement of the presidential election with a **Student Mock Election to be held on Thursday, October 30**, less than one week before California's November 4, 2008, General Election. With engaging lesson plans and activities chosen by MyVote California Student Mock Election partner the California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools, teachers will have the tools they need to help their students become informed and involved voters in 2008 and beyond.

Here's How

- Step 1** A school decides to participate and the principal selects a school coordinator to register the school online at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/studentmockelection.htm. The coordinator is the school's primary contact, who receives and distributes updates on the Student Mock Election and reports the school-wide final vote tally to the Secretary of State.
- Step 2** The participating school decides how to run the Student Mock Election and where on campus the voting will take place. The election could become a project for the student council, either alone or with other student groups. It could also involve a broader committee of parents and community volunteers.
- Step 3** Teachers can use the standards-based curriculum and activities selected expressly for the student mock election by the California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools, available on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ca.gov.
- Step 4** The Student Mock Election committee makes this a campus-wide activity that encourages lively discussion and debate, role-playing of the candidates and presentation of their platforms, and other creative campaign-related activities.

Key Dates	July 1	Student elections curriculum available
	September 12	Schools registering by this date will receive materials by mail
	October 29	Schools registering by this date will print materials from the website
	October 30	Voting by students
	November 3	Announcement of statewide student election results
	November 4	2008 General Election

Register your school for the MyVote California Student Mock Election at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/studentmockelection.htm