



**CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE**

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**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

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March 28, 2016

**CALIFORNIA STUDENT MOCK ELECTION**  
**REGISTER YOUR SCHOOL TODAY!**

Dear County and District Superintendents, Charter School Administrators, High School and Middle School Principals:

The 2016 Presidential election cycle is here and it is once again time to get your students involved and excited about civics. The California Secretary of State and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction are partnering to host another California Student Mock Election on Tuesday, October 11, 2016.

Working with the California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools, and in coordination with the National Student Mock Election, the California Student Mock Election helps young people experience the importance of elections and the power their vote has in our democracy. This year it builds on the excitement of a Presidential election by giving California's high school and middle school students a chance to have their say on who they want to be the next President of the United States. Once their votes are counted, students can compare their choices to those of their peers at schools from all over the state.

We encourage you to incorporate this valuable program into your classroom schedule. Registration for the California Student Mock Election is now open and can be found on the Secretary of State's website at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/student-mock-election/>. You will also find a collection of standards-based lesson plans designed to engage your students, and ideas that other schools have used to hold a successful Mock Election.

All schools that register by August 20, 2016 will receive printed ballots, posters, "I Voted" stickers, and other materials by mail. These materials will also be available to print on the Student Mock Election Web site for schools that register after August 20.

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With your involvement, students will discover that democracy only flourishes when we all take part and participate in our civic duty. Together, we can inspire a new generation of active and informed voters.

If you have any questions about the California Student Mock Election or other civic engagement opportunities, please feel free to contact Student Mock Election Team at (916) 651-3070 or by email at [MyVote@sos.ca.gov](mailto:MyVote@sos.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alex Padilla". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alex" and last name "Padilla" clearly distinguishable.

Alex Padilla

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Torlakson". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name "Tom" and last name "Torlakson" clearly distinguishable.

Tom Torlakson