

ELECTION PROJECT 2016

PERMISSION FORM

To parents/guardians:

It is time for my annual election project to teach students how to research the background and qualifications of candidates, as well as where candidates actually stand on the issues. I have done this project since I started teaching, and many of my current parents learned my passion for teaching these skills in a non-partisan fashion when they did this project as students.

This project is focused on issues, but because of the way the campaign has progressed, it is possible that students may be exposed to age-inappropriate content on the way to learning where the candidates stand on the issues. This project will be on an "opt-in" basis, and will require parent/guardian permission to do the project.

Students receive a page for every candidate on the ballot, and will research basic biographical information. They then pick 3 issues (such as taxes, crime, education, foreign policy, etc.) and research what each candidate will do about their 3 issues if elected. Finally, after the election, students will supply voting data to analyze for voting patterns.

I believe the project has strong value in teaching vital citizenship skills, but I realize not every parent or student is ready for some of the conversations that exposure to some campaign events may generate. I urge you to carefully consider what you and your student are prepared to handle before making a decision for them to participate or not participate in the project.

With great respect,

Robert R. Bower

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

After careful consideration, I have decided to allow _____ to complete the election project. I understand they may be exposed to controversial political opinions and/or content as they complete the project.

After careful consideration, I have decided not to allow _____ to complete the election project.

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY FRIDAY, OCT. 14TH