



CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT

TEACHING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRACY

A Newsletter for Sponsors, Participants, and Friends of Classroom Law Project

Volume 18

Number 1

Fall 2004

In This Issue

- 2 Workshops, October 8
- 3 Mock Trial News
- 3 Court Tours
- 4 Project Citizen News
- 5 We the People News
- 6 Lesson: Campaign Advertising
- 7 Hot Website
- 7 Get on the Bus
- 7 Donor Information
- 8 Calendar



Students intent on listening to the thoughts of others.

Electing a President:

Becoming an Informed Voter

Youth Summit 2004

Democracy is not a spectator sport. That saying pops up a lot — especially in a presidential election year. Getting involved includes voting. But do we really want any old yahoo casting his or her ballot? Or is it informed voters that we are after? We at Classroom Law Project claim it is the latter. And that is what this year's Youth Summit aims to do: provide students with the skills to become informed voters.

Students will grapple with questions associated with electing a president as they prepare for Classroom Law Project's Annual Youth Summit. Held on Thursday, October 28, at Portland State University, it will bring together approximately 150 middle and high school students from across the state. At the Summit, students will hear from politicians, civic leaders and activists about what it takes to be an informed voter in this election year. At the end of the day, students will cast their ballot for president.

To participate, teachers agree to attend two workshops, one before and one after the Summit, use the Youth Summit curriculum in their classrooms, as well as bring students to the Summit itself. The workshops will be in Tigard at the offices of the Oregon Education Association

(thank you, OEA!). The first is Wednesday, September 29, and the second is Thursday, November 4. Both are from 4-8:00pm, dinner included. There is no registration fee and it is open to middle and high school teachers.

The Youth Summit program and materials are provided free of charge because of the generosity of several organizations. Classroom Law Project appreciates the support of: Oregon Education Association, Portland State University, US Dept. of Justice - Youth and Justice program, and others. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis but with preference given to teachers from CLP member districts. If you would like to know more about this program, contact CLP at 503-224-4424, or office@classroomlaw.org.



GOLFING WITH CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT

Links & the Law

3rd Annual Classroom Law Project GOLF TOURNAMENT **September 15, 2004**

This is so fun. Play hooky on September 15 and spend the day on the links at beautiful Langdon Farms Golf Club in Aurora. This popular event boasts limited player slots, valuable give-aways, and great food and beverages for every player. Contact CLP to sponsor a hole or to play, 503-224-4424, or office@classroomlaw.org.

Please Come!



October 8 is Workshop Day!

Many districts still offer teachers' Inservice Day on October 8. For those that do, we have two great opportunities to share. One is in Eugene and one is in Salem. Choose the one that best suits your needs. Above are the satisfied customers from the CLP's Summer Institute, June 2004.

EUGENE - We the People Day

Sheldon High School is the place and Friday, October 8, is the day for day-long workshops focusing on two award-winning programs developed by the Center for Civic Education. Workshop leaders will be mentor-teachers with a wealth of experience in the programs and led by Marilyn Cover, Classroom Law Project Executive Director. Choose from either *We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution* or *Project Citizen*.

We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

upper elementary, middle, and high school

This is an interactive, hands-on workshop. It will explore this nationally acclaimed program that focuses on the history and principles of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. The curriculum employs critical thinking exercises, problem-solving activities, and cooperative learning techniques in order to develop participatory skills necessary for students to become active, engaged citizens. Importantly, it correlates with many Oregon social science analysis and other standards. Teachers will get a free classroom set of books.

We the People: Project Citizen

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. • 5th-8th grade

Teachers will explore how to use this service-learning-with-a-civics-twist curriculum in their classrooms. The program dives into public policy by asking students to work cooperatively on an issue of local concern. It culminates in the presentation of a portfolio that explains the issue, solutions, and action plan. Importantly, it offers excellent inter-disciplinary opportunities with connections to many Oregon standards and benchmarks. Teachers will get a free classroom set of books.

For registration information, contact Classroom Law Project at 503-224-4424 or office@classroomlaw.org.

SALEM - Oregon Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference

Also October 8, is the popular OCSS annual conference featuring a wide array of topics from which to choose. In addition to several hour-long introductory workshops offered by Classroom Law Project, the conference typically hosts workshops by the Oregon Geographical Alliance, Oregon Historical Society, and many others. Plus there will be an exhibitor fair and keynote address. For more information, contact OCSS via conference chair, Shirley Lomax at ladyatfals@aol.com.

Mock Trial News

Science Experiment Backfires

When little Andy's science experiment exploded taking some of the young scientist's finger with it, other fingers began to point. The kid should have known better. The teacher did not adequately supervise. Where were the parents? Who is to blame? Join case of *Parker v. Paradise County School Board* and find out.

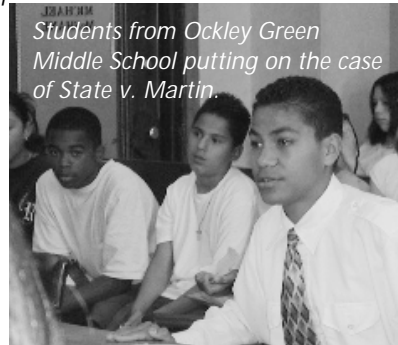
Classroom Law Project's 19th Annual High School Mock Trial Competition gears up this fall. Regional competitions will be held on or about February 26 (subject to approval from the Regional Coordinator nearest you), and State Finals will be March 11-12, in Portland.

NEW THIS YEAR: Calling All New Schools, FREE Registration!

Nine regional competitions are held around the state. They happen in Eastern, Central, and Southern Oregon, as well as the Valley and Portland. Many regions need more schools in order to keep things interesting. Classroom Law Project will waive the \$150 registration fee for schools entering for the first time or after a 4 or more year hiatus. Lack of help holding you back? Let CLP know; we will contact local attorneys to try to get the support you need.

Important Dates

- Mid-October ... Registration forms available
- Nov. 14 Mock Trial Coaches' Workshop - Portland
- Dec. 17 Team registration deadline, late fees begin
- Jan. 7 Last day registrations accepted
- Jan. 14 Listserve begins; No refunds after this day
- Feb. 25 Grants Pass regional competition
- Feb. 26* All other regional competitions*
- Mar. 11-12 State Finals competition - Portland
*subject to Regional Coordinator's approval



Students from Ockley Green Middle School putting on the case of *State v. Martin*.

Not for High School Only

Many local middle schoolers enjoy using the high school case for their first mock trial experience. The facts remain the same but the rules are simplified. It is a particularly effective end-of-school activity, especially when the nearby high school mock trial team members come to help. Think about it!

Popular Courthouse Tours Are Back!

This program for fifth grade through high school, provides students with an opportunity to get a "real life" view on what happens in the largest county courthouse in the state. It fills up fast - very fast - so get your registration in today.

Why so popular, you may ask? The tours are unpredictable, interesting, educational, and the real deal. It begins with an orientation at the old federal courthouse, then goes to arraignments at the Justice Center, and on to trials in the Multnomah County Courthouse. It is all done under the direction of experienced tour guides. Students may observe defendants at many stages of the



Judge Michael McShane, Multnomah County Circuit Court, lets a student have a view from the bench.

criminal process, from arraignment through sentencing, as well as civil matters. They will see attorneys question, witnesses testify and judges clarify in both criminal and civil cases. MTV it is not.

It is a field trip organized by Classroom Law Project with the help of the court administrator's office. You can register by using the form below (telephone reservations *not* accepted). A separate form must be mailed for each visit. There is a limit of 50 students per tour group and each group must include one adult for every eight students. You may use the form from the flyer sent to your school or the one below:

2004-2005 COURTHOUSE EXPERIENCE RESERVATION FORM

Please use a separate form for *each* reservation.

Name _____ School _____ District _____
 Work _____ Fax _____ Home _____
 Address _____
 Email: _____
 Date Preferences 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____
 Time: 9 a.m. - 12 noon Grade(s) _____ No. of Students _____
 Principal's Signature _____ Date _____

Yes No Send materials on the justice system to prepare students for the court tour.

IMPORTANT: Adult chaperones required; all groups must bring one adult per 8 students. LIMIT: 50 Students per Tour Group.

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO: Multnomah Court Administrator, Multnomah County Courthouse, 1021 SW Fourth Ave., Room 236, Portland, OR 97204

Project Citizen News

Chehalem Valley Middle School in a Three-Peat!

In its third attempt in as many years, Chehalem Valley Middle School eighth grader's Project Citizen portfolio won the right to represent Oregon in the national competition.

On May 19, at the State Capitol in Salem, five classes from around the state brought their portfolios to the capitol to be judged. Each portfolio consisted of four posters plus a notebook that explained a public policy issue that concerned the students and, importantly, what they could do about it. Chehalem Valley faced stiff competition from Mt. Tabor in Portland with two portfolios, plus Portland's NW Academy, and Sutherlin Middle School. In the end, judges—including Chief Justice Wallace Carson, Jr., Justice Thomas Balmer, teacher and We the People coach Diane Thelen-Sager, and law student and former teacher Mavel Morales—determined that students from Chehalem Valley created the best portfolio. Their portfolio explained better than any other their problem, solutions and action plan. Its topic: the yukky restrooms in Newberg's public parks.

National judges convening in Salt Lake City last July were also impressed. Chehalem Valley again came out on top. Its portfolio was in the top group of blue ribbon winners.

The competition was held in conjunction with the National Conference for State Legislators annual meeting and garnered an audience of lawmakers from throughout the country.

Kudos to teachers Cis Brower and Terry McElligott for guiding their 8th graders to another top finish. Hats off to the other classes and their teachers who competed so well in the state showcase. They included:



Middle school students at the State Showcase in the Capitol in Salem admiring a Project Citizen portfolio.

- (1) *When Fat Attacks: Teen Obesity, and*
(2) *The Problem with Teen Pregnancy*
Mt. Tabor Middle School, Portland;
Mike Bixel, teacher
- (3) *To Medicate or Confiscate:*
The OR Medical Marijuana Act
Northwest Academy, Portland;
Audrey Lingley, teacher
- (4) *Trying on Freedom for Size*
(Hats and the School Dress Code)
Sutherlin Middle School, Sutherlin;
Pam Hughes, teacher

Free Books!

Project Citizen is a superb curriculum geared for 5th-8th grade, that incorporates elements from service-learning and civic education. In it, entire classes work cooperatively on a public policy problem of their choice, consider solutions to the problem, and make an action plan. Classroom sets of books are available without charge as are workshops. Teachers are strongly encouraged to attend a workshop so they can get the most from the texts. CLP is happy to do a workshop in your building; call us for more details:

503-224-4424

office@classroomlaw.org.

To Learn More

To learn more about Project Citizen—the curriculum, workshops, how to get free books, and the like—contact CLP or your district coordinator. District coordinators are arranged by congressional district; your coordinator is the one where your school is located. You may also contact Classroom Law Project, the coordinator for the State of Oregon, 503-224-4424 or office@classroomlaw.org.

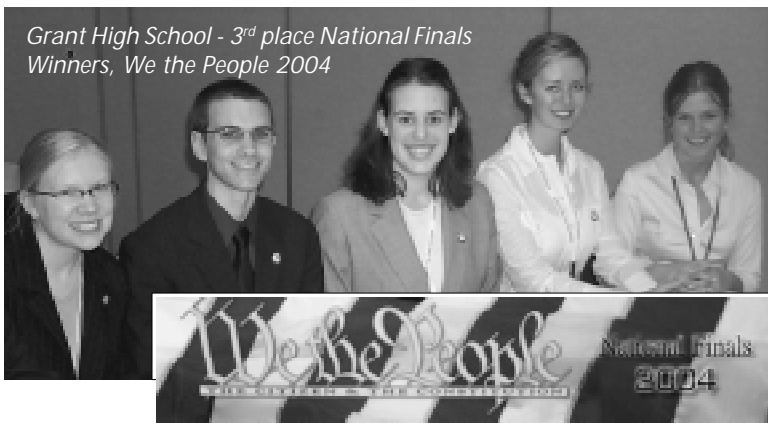
Congressional District 1 (Rep. David Wu)
Terry McElligott, Teacher
Chehalem Valley Middle School
403 W Foothills Drive
Newberg, OR 97132-9509
ph: 503-554-4600 fax: 503-537-3239
mcelligott@newberg.k12.or.us

Congressional Dist. 2 (Rep. Greg Walden)
Rebekah Fuss, CLP Administrative Asst.
Classroom Law Project
602 SW Main, Suite 102
Portland, OR 97205
Ph: 5030224-4424 fax: 503-224-1721
Office@classroomlaw.org

Cong. Dist. 3 (Rep. Earl Blumenauer)
Audrey Lingley, Teacher
NW Academy
1130 SW Main
Portland, OR 97205
h: 503-223-3367 fax: 503-402-1043
a_lingley@yahoo.com

*Congressional Dist. 4 (Rep. Peter DeFazio), and
Congressional Dist. 5 (Rep. Darlene Hooley)*
Kris Schuttpelez, Teacher-retired
1114 Takena SW
Albany, OR 97321
ph: 541-926-8485
schuttpelez@comcast.net

Grant High School - 3rd place National Finals
Winners, We the People 2004



We the People News

Curious about the Competition?

Ready for your high school class to take the plunge and participate in the competition? But not sure about doing every unit? Don't know how to sign up or what it costs? Not to worry, call Marilyn, Barbara, or Rebekah at Classroom Law Project and they will help.

There is NO registration fee. In fact, there is no registration form. However, your district coordinator needs to know by mid-November of your intent to compete. Then she or he can make appropriate arrangements for your class(es). Contact your coordinator (see below) or Classroom Law Project to get on the roster. It is OKAY if you want your students to get their feet wet by doing fewer than all 6 units. Again, let us know by mid-November so that we can plan accordingly.

The District-level competitions will take place January 11, 12, or 13 (contact your coordinator for details). The classes scoring the most points at the district meets will advance to the state finals held in Portland on Friday, January 21. Students will have the opportunity to meet Supreme Court justices and other civic leaders at the state competition.

The State-level questions are used for both the District and State competitions. They become available online in early October at civiced.org. The questions that come with the classroom set of books may be used for practicing but they will NOT be used in competition.

NOT just a High School Program

Did you know free classroom sets of books are also available for 5th and 8th grade? Like the high school level, the curriculum for the earlier grades strongly encourages doing simulated congressional hearings. These do not have to be competitive. They can be informally done at the end of a unit, or done in a more formal fashion in front of other classes, parents, and community leaders. Contact CLP or your district coordinator for more information.

Important Dates

- Oct. 8 Curriculum workshop for teachers
- Oct. 16 Workshop for Coaches of WTP high school teams
- Dec. 1 Notify your District Coordinator of your intent to compete
- Jan. 11-13 District competitions
- Jan. 21 State Competition - Portland

Coaches' Workshop

To help coaches — teacher-coaches, attorney-coaches, professor-coaches, you name it — Classroom Law Project offers a workshop that sorts through questions. The workshop is free. It is 10:00-2:00 Saturday, October 16, at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland. Lunch is provided so we need a headcount. So be sure to let us know you intend to come. This workshop is invaluable for veterans and rookies alike. You will not want to miss it. Call today to reserve your place: 503-224-4424 or office@classroomlaw.org.

Contact your District Coordinator

To learn more about the programs, workshops, simulated hearings (either competitive or non-competitive), how get free books, and the like, contact your district coordinator. They are arranged by congressional district; your coordinator is the one where your school is located. You may also contact Classroom Law Project, the coordinator for the State of Oregon, 503-224-4424 or office@classroomlaw.org.

Congressional District 1
(Rep. David Wu)
Susan Marcus, Teacher-retired
6255 SW Hamilton Way
Portland, OR 97221
ph: 503-292-9452
swmarcus@aol.com

Congressional Dist. 2
(Rep. Greg Walden)
Brian Johnson, Teacher
Pendleton High School
1800 NW Carden Ave.
Pendleton, OR 97801-2899
Ph: 541-276-3621
fax: 541-966-9268
brian_johnson@pendleton.k12.or.us

Cong. Dist. 3
(Rep. Earl Blumenauer)
John Garrow, Teacher
Reynolds High School
1698 SW Cherry Park Road
Troutdale, OR 97060-9633
h: 503-667-3186
fax: 503-669-0776
john_garrow@reynolds.k12.or.us

Congressional Dist. 4
(Rep. Peter DeFazio)
Gayle Faust, Teacher
Cal Young Middle School
2555 Gilham Road
Eugene, OR 97401-1698
h: 541-687-3234
fax: 541-687-3674
faust_g@4j.lane.edu

Congressional Dist. 5
(Rep. Darlene Hooley)
Chuck Chamberlin, Teacher
South Salem High School
1910 Church Street SE
Salem, OR 97302-3099
ph: 503-399-3252
fax: 503-375-7805
charles@viser.net,
chamberlain_chuck@salkeiz.k12.or.us



Following is a lesson from Project Vote Smart that will help your students sort through campaign advertising. This lesson, along with many others, is featured in this fall's Youth Summit.

LESSON: Campaign Advertising

Types of Ads

Objective - To learn to recognize the different types of political ads and gain an understanding of why candidates may chose to conduct issue-less campaigns

4
main
types
of ads

Negative

One candidate portrays the other in an unfavorable light.

Warm & Fuzzy

Candidates make the viewer feel good about the country or his/her campaign.

Humorous

Candidates elicit a laugh or smile from the viewer.

Scary

Candidates evoke images of fear (usually combined with a Negative ad)

Can you think of examples that fit into each of the four types? After you have closely observed some political ads, answer the following questions.

1. What are the key messages communicated in each advertisement?
2. Which type of ad was more memorable? Why?
3. Which do you think would be most effective in convincing viewers to vote for (or against) a candidate?
4. Did you learn from the ads? Did they help you to decide which candidate to support?
5. What do all types have in common? Do they provide factual information or do they evoke an emotional response?
6. During which programs do the ads play? What time of the day do you see the most ads?
7. What are the limitations of a 30 second commercial?
8. How important is a candidate's look in these ads? What type of image are they trying to create?
9. If you were the campaign manager for a candidate for congress in your district, what type of ad would you try to create?



Hot Website

First Amendment: A Cool Find

Attention government and civics teachers: www.firstamendmentschools.org is a keeper.



You know when you get into teaching about the first amendment and someone asks whether students may pray at school-sponsored events, or if the school can adopt mandatory uniform policies, or about teachers wearing religious jewelry to school? What about religious clothing like headwear? Now you have a definitive place to turn for the answer. This website is co-sponsored by the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) and the First Amendment Center and has a fabulous frequently asked questions section that delivers the real skinny — Supreme Court cites and all. Hint for AP teachers: this is a great jumping off place for students' research papers. Check it out.



This just in from the Oregon Bus Project ...

My name is Alex Byers and I am currently an intern with the voter registration group, Voters Wanted, a group within the non-partisan group, the Oregon Bus Project. This fall we are attempting to set up voter registration drives and assemblies in high schools across the state. With these assemblies we hope to inspire teenagers in Oregon to become more involved in their communities and become more politically and civically minded. The voter registration drives will be geared towards high school seniors who will be 18 on or before election day, November 2nd. Please contact me if you are interested in setting up either an assembly or a voter registration drive, or both, at your high school this fall. My email address is alex_byers@yahoo.com.

Classroom Law Project Needs Your Help!



Classroom Law Project is a non-profit organization. To keep our programs running, we depend on donors and volunteers.

All donations support programs for kindergarten through high school students and their teachers that make civics "come alive" in their classrooms. Classroom Law Project was founded on the belief that the way to preserve democracy is to teach democracy. And the best way to teach democracy is to incorporate lessons and principles into the school curriculum. Classroom Law Project provides teachers with lessons

and hands-on activities of how government works and provides them with the knowledge and tools necessary to help students participate as active citizens in our contemporary democratic society.

You may know Classroom Law Project by this newsletter, or perhaps by the Mock Trial competition, or We the People: Constitution program, or Youth Summit, or Law Day, or, or, or — the list is long. Whatever your interest, know that your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law and your dollars go directly to programs. Won't you help? Please consider donating today. Thanks.

Yes, I want to help students become active citizens by making a contribution!

Ms./Mr./Mrs. _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Amount \$ _____ Check payable to **Classroom Law Project**

VISA or MasterCard card no. _____ exp. date _____

Classroom Law Project 2004-05 CALENDAR

Teacher consultations, lending library, and other workshops are ongoing throughout the year

August 2004

- 31 Street Law Seminar, Lewis & Clark Law School (semester-long course bringing law students into high school classrooms begins)

September

- 15 3rd Annual Golf Tournament - Langdon Farms
29 Youth Summit Professional Development Seminar for Teachers - Tigard

October

- 5 Court Tours begin today
8 **We the People - the Citizen & the Constitution** and **Project Citizen** Professional Development workshop - Eugene
8-12 Annual **Project Citizen** National Conference - St. Louis
16 **We the People** Coaches' Workshop - Portland
22, 23 **Project Citizen** Professional Development workshops - Eastern Oregon, Southern Oregon, Portland-metro (tentative)
28 Youth Summit for Middle and High Schoolers - Portland State University

November

- 4 Youth Summit Professional Development Seminar for Teachers - Tigard
14 Mock Trial Coaches' Workshop - Portland
18-21 National Council for the Social Studies Annual Meeting - Baltimore

December

- 4-6 Congressional Conference on Civic Education - Washington, D.C.
10 Mini-Mock Trial event - Portland

January 2005

- 11-13 District **We the People** competitions - Pendleton, Eugene, Portland
19, 20 **Project Citizen** Workshops (tentative)
21 State **We the People** competition - Portland

February

- 25 Mock Trial Regional Competition - Grants Pass
26 Mock Trial Regional Competitions - 9 events statewide

March

- 11-12 High School Mock Trial State Finals Competition - Portland

April

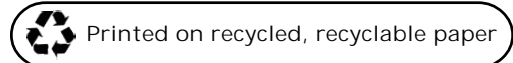
- mid Legal Citizen Dinner - Portland
30-May 2 **We the People** National Finals - Washington, D.C.

May

- 3 Law Day Conference for High Schoolers - Portland State University
18 **We the People** Day for 5th-8th Graders at the Capitol, **Project Citizen** Competition and Constitution Hearings - Salem
19-27 Civitas International - US Delegation to Croatia - Croatia

June

- 26-30 Summer Institute for Educators - Lewis & Clark Law School, Portland



CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT
620 SW MAIN STREET, SUITE 102
PORTLAND, OR 97205

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Portland, OR
Permit No. 4391