

Kids in the Classroom on Summit Day (Lesson for the Sub) & the Day After

Objective Lesson for the substitute teacher to keep students engaged. Students at school will have rewarding and fun day.

Handouts (9-1) Ballot; (9-2) Quotations: Citizenship, Civic Virtue, Civility

A. Warm-up

If you were voting for governor and U.S. Senator, what factors would be most important to you? Teacher lists them on the board.

B. Vote!

After a discussion of important considerations when voting, ask students for the names of the two major candidates in the races for Oregon governor and U.S. Senator. List these on the board. Distribute ballots. Notice that students may opt for “undecided” or “other” votes. There should be no talking while voting, thus respecting the “privacy of the voting booth” (even though Oregon’s vote-by-mail makes voting booths dinosaurs!). Students silently cast their votes by completing the ballot and placing in a box or other receptacle. Tally while students are working on their next project and give results at end of class (be sure to record results for teacher and students at the Summit). Teacher remains nonpartisan and does not contribute his or her views on the elections.

C. What will the sub do when the teacher is gone?

Great Quotes

Read aloud as a class the quotations found in Handout 9-2.

In small groups, interpret the group's favorite quote(s), in a:

1. bumper sticker,
2. poster,
3. rap or song.

The list may be separated into two parts – one sheet can go to half the class, the other to the other half. Present projects to the class.

D. And then what? Reporting back after the summit

1. Classroom students

Students finish presenting their quotes, cartoons, song, or other work to the class.

2. Summit Debrief

Youth Summit delegates share impressions of the Summit. They will include new information that they learned and individual responses to the questions they posed.

Hearing Questions: Civic virtue and the common good are important in this midterm election because ...
Some of the things I look for in deciding for whom to vote for U.S. Senator and Oregon governor are ...
The most important issues in this election are ... The reasons they are important ...

3. Post-Summit Survey

Teacher note: MANDATORY last thing: conduct post-summit survey (from Lesson 1) with all students and send results to CLP. We would love to read what they have to say – please send a select few!

E. Extended Activities

Homework / Journal Entry

Now that we know who the next office holders will be (media outlets begin predicting the winners after 8:00p.m. when the polls close), what questions do you hope they will tackle first and why?

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SECRET BALLOT

*Make one choice for governor and Senator;
fold in half for secrecy*

For Oregon Governor

_____ Chris Dudley - R
_____ John Kitzhaber - D
_____ Undecided
_____ Other

For U.S. Senate

_____ Jim Huffman - R
_____ Ron Wyden - D
_____ Undecided
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Quotations Citizenship, Civic Virtue, Civility

1. The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. —Mohandas Gandhi, Indian nonviolent civil rights leader (1869-1948)
2. What do I owe to my times, to my country, to my neighbors, to my friends? Such are the questions which a virtuous man ought often to ask himself. — Johann Kaspar Lavater, German poet and physiognomist (1741-1801)
3. What the people want is very simple. They want an America as good as its promise. — Barbara Jordan, American congresswoman and professor (1936-1996)
4. Public virtue is a kind of ghost town into which anyone can move and declare himself sheriff. —Saul Bellow, American novelist (b. 1915)
5. Americanism is a question of principles, of idealism, of character: it is not a matter of birthplace or creed or line of descent. —Theodore Roosevelt, Nobel Prize-winning 26th U.S. president (1858-1919)
6. If we are forced, at every hour, to watch or listen to horrible events, this constant stream of ghastly impressions will deprive even the most delicate among us of all respect for humanity. —Cicero (Marcus Tullius), Roman philosopher and statesman (106-43 B.C.)
7. Life is not so short but that there is always time enough for courtesy. —Ralph Waldo Emerson, American essayist, public philosopher and poet (1803-1882)
8. Like the body that is made up of different limbs and organs, all moral creatures must depend on each other to exist. —Hindu proverb
9. Politeness is the art of choosing among one's real thoughts. —Adlai Stevenson II, Senator, U.S. presidential candidate (1900-1965)
10. Beware the leader who bangs the drums of war in order to whip the citizenry into a patriotic fervor, for patriotism is indeed a double-edged sword. It both emboldens the blood, just as it narrows the mind.... —Shakespeare, (Julius Caesar)
11. Where there is no vision, the people perish. —Proverbs
12. Before I got into politics, I didn't know whether what I was doing even mattered. Now I know. One person can make a difference. I think it's something every person can learn. The main thing is, you can't be afraid. —Dennis Kucinich (U.S. House of Rep.-Ohio)
13. I like to believe that people in the long run are going to do more to promote peace than are governments. Indeed, I think that people want peace so much that one of these days governments had better get out of their way and let them have it. —Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th US president (1890-1969)

14. Our civic society is really all we have by way of nationhood. —Cokie Roberts (television journalist)
15. We live in a world of increasing dependence on electronic records and retrieval, unprecedented security and preservation concerns, and insufficient attention to civic and democratic education. —Allen Weinstein
16. I'm a civic busybody and I've been blessed with an active career. —George Takei, actor and activist
17. If once you forfeit the confidence of your fellow-citizens, you can never regain their respect and esteem. —Abraham Lincoln, 16th U.S. president (1809-1865)
18. Distrust of authority should be the first civic duty. —Norman Douglas
19. Voting is a civic sacrament. —Theodore Hesburgh
20. This City is what it is because our citizens are what they are. —Plato
21. Media corporations have a civic responsibility not only to prevent fraud and financial abuse, but also to not corrupt or degrade our culture. —Charles W. Pickering
22. It is poor civic hygiene to install technologies that could someday facilitate a police state. —Bruce Schneier
23. It is the State which educates its citizens in civic virtue, gives them a consciousness of their mission and welds them into unity. —Benito Mussolini
24. A constitutional democracy is in serious trouble if its citizenry does not have a certain degree of education and civic virtue. —Phillip E. Johnson
25. We the people are the rightful masters of both Congress and the courts, not to overthrow the Constitution but to overthrow the men who pervert the Constitution. —Abraham Lincoln
26. Justice in the life and conduct of the State is possible only as first it resides in the hearts and souls of the citizens. —Plato
27. The strength of the Constitution lies entirely in the determination of each citizen to defend it. Only if every single citizen feels duty bound to do his share in this defense are the constitutional rights secure. —Albert Einstein

Sources: <http://josephsoninstitute.org/quotes/citizenship.html>;
<http://www.goserenade.org/quotes.html>