Fall 2022

Hello Teachers!

Thank you for all you are doing to help your students learn. We admire you in so many ways.

We know that teaching midterm elections might not be top on your list so our **Super Civics** teacher team has created quick grade-level lessons we call **Midterm Election Challenges**. The Election Challenges support the *current 2011 MN Academic K - 6 Standards for Social Studies*, specifically citizenship and government, and when applicable also support geography and history benchmarks. These lessons, with Google slide visuals, may be used in whole group, small group, or at home if remote learning is needed.

The Midterm Election Challenges also provide opportunities for literacy integration. For each grade level Midterm Election Challenge, you will find a specific picture book title with video link to use as an anchor text for learning. These titles were carefully chosen and vetted to support teaching about voting and elections for each grade level. Below you will find additional information regarding the use of the highlighted literature:

- A. Each anchor text may be used with a print/digital copy and/or an online video version linked in the slides.
- B. Ask your school's library media specialist to help you locate digital or print copies of these books for your students. Some schools have ebook platforms such as TumbleBooks or MackinVia that will allow students to access books online for free.
- C. Please be aware, when choosing video versions of any texts, not all YouTube read-alouds meet the publishers' copyright guidelines and may be violations of copyright.

All grade levels use the term 'citizen' to introduce the challenges. The introductory slides describe what 'citizen' means to our classroom community. "All kinds of people make up communities, they are residents, and neighbors, and many of us who make up communities are citizens. Today each of you are citizens in our community." In some grade levels, students will explore or define the term. United States citizen with regard to voting. Please be mindful that content about citizenship and voting may be sensitive for some students and families. When applicable, teacher notes have been added to draw your attention to points to consider as well as extension opportunities for deeper understanding.

The 2022 Midterm Election Challenges are available at the top of the <u>Super Civics Toolbox</u>. You will also find that the Super Civics Toolbox is a fast growing collection of additional resources and lessons for teaching citizenship and government.

Thank you again for your efforts to inspire Super Citizens.

Your friends at Learning Law and Democracy,

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