League of Women Voters of Northern Fairfield County Mock Voter Registration Lesson Plan

(April, 2019)

Pre-Assessment Data:

The League of Women Voters of Northern Fairfield County (LWVNFC) has been conducting voter registration in area high schools, colleges and universities over the past several years. We have observed that completing the CT voter registration form or registering online is often a daunting, confusing and possibly embarrassing task for students. They are often unfamiliar with the voting process and with the choices they are being asked to make. An example of this would be Line 9 on the Registration form asking if they wish to join a political party.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will become familiar with the steps needed to complete CT's Voter Registration hard copy voter registration form or register on line at the CT Secretary of State's website. Students will learn what information they will need: their DMV number or the last 4 digits of their social security number. The lesson defines terminology that appears on the form and gives a framework for becoming motivated, informed and active participants in the political process.

The lesson is designed to impart information and encourage the involvement of young people who are eligible to vote. It is intended to also inform students who are currently ineligible by virtue of their age, immigration status or revocation of voting rights.

Modifications/Accommodations:

This length and content of the lesson can be modified in relationship to time limits and the educational needs of the students.

Research-Based Strategies:

Analysis by CIRCLE (https://civicyouth.org/full-analysis-young-voters-in-the-2016-generalelection/ and https://civicyouth.org/an-estimated-24-million-young-people-vote-in-2016- election/)

Harvard Kennedy School (http://www.iop.harvard.edu/survey/details/harvardiop-fall-2015-poll)

Materials & Resources:

• Power Point Presentation

- Sample Voter Registration Form

- Graphic Organizer

Note: Words or phrases **highlighted** in the power point presentation indicate terms that instructors may need to define for their students.

LWV flyers and materials

Important Links to LWV flyers and Information:

(*Insert pdf links to LWV flyers*) _____

Important CT Government Contact Information:

•CT Secretary of State's office   (860) 509-6200

> **https://portal.ct.gov/sots**

> **What you can find on the Secretary of State's Website?**

>> **Register To Vote Online (choose Eng. Or Spanish)**

>> **https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do**

>> **If you want to register online use your   digit DMV license number**

>> **If you use the last 4 digits of SS # you will have to print out the form sign and mail it.**

• To print hard copies of the English Language Voter Registration Form:

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sots/ElectionServices/ElectForms/electforms/VoterRegCardEnglish2015pdf.pdf?la=en

• To print hard copies of the Spanish Language Voter Registration Form:

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/sots/ElectionServices/ElectForms/electforms/VoterRegCardSpanish2015pdf.pdf?la=en

We recommend that a student enclose his/her downloaded voter registration application in a stamped envelope addressed to the local Registrar, as the US Postal Service cannot guarantee

the intact delivery of a form printed on standard office paper. Registrars' addresses may be found on the same website. Here's the link to all the addresses.

https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Find-your-town-clerk-registrar-and-elected-officials/

One is not an official voter until his/her application is approved by the Registrar of Voters. Confirmation of voter status should be received within 3 weeks. If not, one should contact the Registrar in his/her town hall. The following link enables one to check registered voter status in CT, party affiliation if any, and location of voter's polling place.

https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/lookup.aspx