

Leadership for Civic Learning and Engagement



www.wevotehawaii.org

WeVoteHawaii (WVH) is a non-profit, nonpartisan, grassroots organization partnering with public, private, charter and home schools, statewide, whose mission is: 1) to prepare youth for a lifetime of voting and 2) to develop youth leadership for civic engagement. **WeVoteHawaii** was initiated in 1998 with participation by all Rotary Clubs in Hawaii as Kids Voting Hawaii (KVH), the only statewide youth voting experience in the nation. In the 2012 Presidential General Election, over 121,000 students voted on computers using the KVH on-line ballot created by community partner, Commercial Data Systems.

WeVoteHawaii provides K-12 age-appropriate curriculum, an interactive website, and community activities which align with the Hawaii State Social Studies Standards and address the “civic responsibility” and “civic character” measurements. High technology combines with civics lessons to inspire youth to explore the General Election candidates and issues, engage in dialogue with their peers and parents, and prepare for a lifetime of voting as an aspect of civic engagement.

The **WVH** on-line ballot has the same federal, state, and local races/candidates as the official Hawaii adult ballot, *plus* student-generated issues of concern. Students access the appropriate ballot for their residence by inputting the district & precinct where they live. They receive their individual passwords from their teachers, which allows them to vote **ONLY ONCE**. The statewide votes are tabulated and the **WVH** results are announced on General Election Night.

TIMELINE

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|---------------------------|---|
| Sept. – Oct. | Printing & distribution of Student Passwords by School Level Ambassadors (SLA’s)

On-campus spirit-building (e.g., voter registration drives, school rallies, candidate forums) |
| Sept. 26 - Oct. 21 | “Practice” ballot voting for WVH General Election |
| Oct. 25-Nov. 8 | WeVoteHawaii GENERAL ELECTION 2016 Nov. 8
(individual student passwords required) |
| Nov. 8 6 PM | Results posted online |

For more information and to get student passwords, go to: www.wevotehawaii.org



2016

www.wevotehawaii.org

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WeVoteHawaii (WVH), formerly known as Kids Voting Hawaii, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots organization that promotes citizen participation by providing K-12 students in public, private, charter and home schools the opportunity to experience democracy first hand, by voting online in Hawaii's General Elections.

Since 1996, WVH has been providing an age-appropriate curriculum and classroom activities, which align with the Hawaii State Social Studies Standards, and address the 'civic responsibility' and 'civic character' measurements

Internet technology combines with civics education to inspire our youth to explore candidates and issues, engage in dialogue with their peers and families, develop leadership potential, and prepare for a lifetime of voting.

IMPORTANT DATES

- July-September School Principal selection of School Level Ambassador (SLA). Principals will be contacted by a WVH coordinator or liaison for the name and email address of the SLA (due by end of August).
- September Instructions posted on the website School Password emailed to each Principal & SLA by September
- Sept. 26 **Practice ballot voting for WVH General Election begins** (Student Passwords NOT required)
- Sept. 26-Oct. 21 Printing & distribution of Student Passwords for WVH General Election by School Level Ambassadors or designee(s)
- Sept. –Nov. 8 On-campus spirit-building for participation in the online voting, e.g., voter registration drives, school rallies, candidate forums
- Oct. 25-Nov. 8 **WeVoteHawaii GENERAL ELECTION** with required student passwords & voting district and precinct numbers WVH GENERAL ELECTION results posted online at 6 PM, Tuesday, Nov. 8th

For more information and updates, go to our website www.wevotehawaii.org

WeVoteHawaii

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Complex Area Superintendents (State D.O.E.)

- Encourage Principals in their respective complex areas to promote civic responsibility through student participation in **WeVoteHawaii**. Participation in WVH is one measure of Civic Responsibility for the Trend Report: Educational & Fiscal Responsibility.
- Provide information to Principals about WVH. (The WVH team is available to do presentations at Principals' Meetings).
- Inform Principals to: 1) review the roles & responsibilities for Principals and School Level Ambassadors (SLA) and 2) select their own SLA and email the name and email address to their WVH District Coordinator or Complex Liaison who contacts them.

DOE Principals and Heads of Schools (private & charter)

- Support civic responsibility and **WeVoteHawaii** by encouraging teacher, student, and parent participation.
- Encourage involvement of the Student Council and other student groups.
- Select a School Level Ambassador (SLA) and email the SLA name and email address to their WVH District Coordinator or Complex Liaison who contacts them.
- Receive School Password via WVH email and verify that the SLA has it.
- Inform the office staff who the SLA is, so they know to whom they can direct questions regarding WVH.
- Publicize WVH in school newsletters and bulletins.

District Coordinators—State D.O.E. Schools

- Identify Complex Liaisons (CL) and send names and contact information to WVH Education Committee Chair.
- Email SLA names & contact information to their CLs.
- Disseminate WVH information to CLs.
- Schedule, organize, and implement training.
- Reply to inquiries from schools via email or phone, or in person.

Complex Liaisons (CL) for D.O.E. schools and Private & Charter School Coordinators

- Assist Principals in identifying School Level Ambassadors (SLA) as needed.
- Follow up on needed SLA information as requested.
- Assist with training if needed.
- Keep lines of communication open with SLAs via email or phone, or in person.
- Support WeVoteHawaii at schools.

School Level Ambassadors (SLA)—All schools

- Support and promote **WeVoteHawaii** and related activities at schools.
- Receive School Password along with Principal.
- Share information with teachers.
- Work with Principal to decide method for printing & distribution of Student Password Cards.
- Use the School Password to access the student password list for printing. Students may be grouped to facilitate printing and distribution and assigned to Authorized Teachers.
- Inform/Update faculty regarding website, WVH curriculum, WVH rallies, and other events.
- Work with teachers to encourage students to vote online.
- Inform teachers and staff about retrieving voting results and student participation data after the election.

Authorized Teachers (AT)—All schools

- Distribute Student Password cards via method determined by the school.
- Encourage student participation in WVH.

Proud Partners:



Hawai'i Alpha Delta Kappa



Office of Elections



Charter Schools Commission

