



## **STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST**

**Alexis Swire  
Fifth Grade  
Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary School  
Caesar Rodney School District**

### **IMPORTANCE OF VOTER EDUCATION**

The elections are coming up and I feel it is important to talk about Voter Education. I am concerned about potential voters being knowledgeable about their candidates. Most people vote without knowing anything about the process.

Voter Education helps the voters with learning about their candidates, how to use voting machines, how to register to vote, what a ballot will look like, and where a polling place is located. There are many types of Voter Education programs across the country. Some of the issues today at hand consist of Economy, Employment, Environment, Gun Control, Taxes, and Health Care.

A lot of information about the election and about candidates running for office can be found on the internet. States are trying to educate the voters of today and tomorrow. In 1999 a program was created in Pennsylvania called vote with a vet program. Over 10,000 students from 107 schools participated in the program.

Voter Education helps voters make informed choices and carry out those choices accurately and effectively when placing their votes.



## STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST

**Muhammad Abdur Raheem Khan**  
**Eighth Grade**  
**Newark Charter School**

### **VOTER EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO A STRONG DEMOCRACY**

A democracy is only as strong as its educated voters. If citizens are ignorant of pressing issues and the politics of the candidates then they may fail to make an ideal choice.

Today, the media, such as TV and the Internet, have caused information overkill. This bombardment of information can be confusing and can also be misused by clever candidates. Just announce a dramatic lie to the public and two things could happen. Informed voters will see through it, but the uninformed voter will be duped.

The key issues of the 2012 elections are national debt, unemployment, energy, tax cuts, immigration, and health care. Many Americans remain oblivious of these issues. They need to have at least a rudimentary knowledge of national challenges before they can make their choice.

Additionally, citizens must know how and when to register to vote and how and where to cast their ballot. Those who are busy and overseas on Election Day need to know that they have a mail-in option as well.

It is every American's civic duty to educate themselves. If Americans can remain educated about the electoral process and issues, we can have more thoughtful voters, and a more competent President.



## **STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST**

**Jack Sypher  
Eleventh Grade  
Concord High School  
Brandywine School District**

### **Mock Election Essay**

What is politics? Politics is such a vague word, and to learn it takes lifetimes. As a nation we are drawn towards the clamor of conflict. Political conflict can be drawn from two major points: the issues and the candidates. Voters focus on the issues and candidates more so because of the fact that these things make the most noise. Upon further inspection one realizes; issues and candidates are only two facets of the sharp gem that is politics. These two facets are the most eye drawing; however the largest and most important facets of the gem are the platforms and the politics themselves. The more a voter becomes educated on any and all of these topics, the better off the country as a whole will be. The people, whose will ultimately determines the future of the country, need to be vigilant, and sharp minded. A voter, unlike a jeweler, only wants to see the gem from the prettiest angle, however, the voters must act like jewelers; thrust their gem into the light, view it from new angles, different angles, for that is how one truly learns about politics.