



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**NEARLY 1 MILLION STUDENTS VOTE IN KIDS VOTING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**  
**Kids share their choice for President of the United States**

[Phoenix, AZ] Students from across the country have been casting their vote in the Kids Voting Presidential Election, both on-line and at participating schools and libraries. Kids Voting aspires to engage all Arizona youth in voting at an early age, hoping that as adults they will be engaged citizens.

“Voting is a simple act that holds so much power,” said Kevin Ruegg, Executive Director for national Kids Voting USA. “We want to educate our kids on not only the importance of this act, but how to be prepared when they enter that booth.”

Kids Voting elections took place in 45 states plus our nation’s capital, with 29 states (including DC) now reporting the results are 982,197 votes cast. To look at the latest numbers across the nation: <http://kidsvotingusa.org/>

Kids Voting provides its hands-on curriculum free to all schools working with an affiliate. The curriculum, when coupled with family exercises and an opportunity to vote in a Kids Voting election, has been shown to increase adult turnout by as much as 5%.

**About Kids Voting USA**

Kids Voting USA is a nonpartisan, grassroots-driven voter education program committed to creating lifelong voting habits in children, increasing family communication about citizenship, and encouraging greater adult voter turnout. The Arizona Bar Foundation administers the program.

Kids Voting USA relies on its over twenty-five year history (since 1988), continual feedback from educators, and experience of their Affiliates when developing the model to implement programming.

The programming model operates with five key components:

1. Strong curricula for grade levels K-12, that offer easily implemented, interactive lessons at no cost to the schools.
2. Choice of mock election processes to meet the individualized needs of the schools: paper ballots, electronic voting software, and/or a combination of both.
3. Activities to involve families in teaching their children their own voting values.
4. Educator support through local Affiliates to provide assistance with ballot creation, volunteers for activities, and resources needed for teaching civic lessons and creating voting habits.
5. Continuing research on impact and effectiveness.

Kids Voting USA believes it is of primary importance to utilize local Affiliates for Educator support. The local Affiliates offer the schools the assistance needed so the already over-burdened Educator is not handed one more responsibility with no support offered.

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