

JOHN A. GALE

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News Release

Aug. 8, 2008

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Wayne teacher wins civics recognition award

LINCOLN – Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale has honored Wayne teacher Josh Johnson for his exemplary efforts to enhance civics education.

Johnson is the first recipient of the Nebraska Secretary of State's Civics Recognition Award, which seeks to honor public service in the areas of civics education, the election process or citizenship.

Johnson teaches government and business classes at Wayne High School. He will begin his eighth year there.

"Josh Johnson has a passion for civics education," Gale said. "He not only stresses civics education in school but encourages his students to practice it outside the classroom."

Johnson regularly brings eligible students to the courthouse so they can register to vote. This year, he went one step further.

For the May primary election, he arranged for a group of senior students to complete early-voting applications. Then 66 students went to the courthouse en masse and cast early-voting ballots.

"Our country faces a daunting long-term task – engaging the public in our democratic process," Gale said. "I'm pleased that individuals like Josh Johnson are taking such great leadership in this area."

Johnson was nominated for the award by Wayne County Clerk Deb Finn.

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