

Fact Sheet National Student/Parent Mock Election

The National Student/Parent Mock Election is the nation's largest voter education project.

Since its inception, the National Student/Parent Mock Election has had over 40 million participants from all 50 states, Washington, DC, and 14 countries/territories around the world. (For example, 300,000 students and parents participated in the 2000 Puerto Rico Mock Election.)

The University of Colorado's evaluation of the National Student/Parent Mock Election found that participants:

- showed an INCREASE in
 - the belief that voting is important
 - political decision-making ability
 - informed involvement on current issues
 - the discussion of political and election topics with their parents
 - the belief that social studies classes are relevant
- showed a DECREASE in the sense of powerlessness.

The National Student/Parent Mock Election was the first to pilot Internet voting. In 2000 over one million Mock Election votes were cast on the Internet; the largest number of Internet votes in the nation's history.

CNN Studios in Atlanta has served as National Election Headquarters for the last two presidential elections. Millions of viewers watched the votes come in from State Election Headquarters all across the country and overseas.

National Student/Parent Mock Election participants vote on issues as well as candidates.

In 2000, a 7-hour CNN webcast (in addition to the broadcast) in which American students around the world shared opinions on national issues achieved double the number of hits of any previous CNN webcast.

The National Student/Parent Mock Election has put millions of dollars worth of free voter education materials into the schools through its past partnerships with McGraw-Hill, *The New York Times*, and TIME Magazine.

The National Student/Parent Mock Election is run by a national network of volunteer state and school district coordinators ranging from the League of Women Voters to educators, public officials, newspaper in education coordinators, etc., who have put hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours into the project.