



From the Office of Secretary of State

John A. Gale

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**Teachers are encouraged to take part in Nebraska Student Vote**

LINCOLN – Middle and high school teachers are being encouraged to take part in Nebraska Student Vote, sponsored by Secretary of State John Gale. The program encourages students to learn about the voting process, the candidates running for office and allows them to cast their own votes in a mock election.

“In 2012, 250 schools took part involving more than 50,000 students,” said Gale. “We hope that students, by the time they are ready to graduate from high school, have had the opportunity to practice voting at least three times through Nebraska Student Vote.”

Students will vote for governor, U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives in the mock election.

Enrollment in the program is done online through the Secretary of State’s website at [www.studentvote.ne.gov/](http://www.studentvote.ne.gov/). Teachers need only submit their classroom information. They have access to biographical information from each of the candidates and additional materials designed to help students prepare for the mock election which takes place October 27 – October 30.

“We asked the candidates to submit their answers to a series of questions including their positions on immigration, terrorism, the Affordable Care Act and dealing with nations like Syria and the Ukraine,” explained Gale. “These are all relevant issues that students are exposed to in schools. What better way to learn what the candidates think, than to hear their responses directly?”

When teachers enroll in Nebraska Student Vote, they will create a password that will give them access to those resources, as well as the ballots for each congressional district. Schools that take part in the mock election will receive a certificate from Secretary Gale.

“Ultimately, we want to encourage students to be lifelong voters and to take an interest in the election process. Those lessons start early in school. Nebraska Student Vote has reached tens of thousands of students over the years.”

For additional information about enrollment in Nebraska Student Vote, teachers can call 402-471-8408.

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