Did you know...

- Declining participation has put the health of American democracy at risk. This trend can be reversed by using proven civic learning methods to educate young people about representative democracy.
- Studies prove that a legislator classroom visit is an effective way to promote civic education and engagement.
- Civic learning is about knowledge and experience, content and competency, knowing and doing – it starts with classroom instruction and extends to actual engagement and experience in the community.
- Young people who understand America’s core democratic values are more likely to contribute to their communities and participate in government.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about Nevada's Legislators Back to School Program, contact the State Program Coordinator in the Constituent Services Unit of the Legislative Counsel Bureau Research Division at: csu@lcb.state.nv.us 775-684-6740 (Carson City) 702-486-2800 (Las Vegas)

A Year-Round Civic Education Program for Students

Sponsored by the National Conference of State Legislatures
Nevada’s Legislators Back to School Program

What?
Nevada’s Legislators Back to School Program is a nonpartisan civic education initiative that encourages Nevada State legislators to visit classrooms to hear and discuss the ideas and concerns of Nevada’s youth.

Why?
A classroom visit by a legislator is an effective way to promote civic education and participation.

Who?
Nevada’s Legislators Back to School Program is designed for K-12 classrooms.

When?
Nevada’s Legislators Back to School Program is a year-round program. Program materials can be integrated into class curriculum at anytime during the school year.

Where?
Legislators, teachers and students can contact the State Program Coordinator for assistance with arranging classroom visits.

Tips for a Successful Classroom Visit

1. Contact the State Program Coordinator
   It is a good idea to contact the State Program Coordinator before a classroom visit to discuss what you wish to accomplish and what activities you have planned.

2. Utilize the Program Resources
   Print and video resources for several age groups are available to supplement a legislator classroom visit. Contact the State Program Coordinator for more information.

3. Make it Personal
   Young people are often disengaged from the political process because they think that politics don’t affect them. Talk to students about issues that impact them such as school violence, the driving age, standardized testing, or curfews. Need suggestions? The State Program Coordinator is happy to provide assistance.

4. Let Students Walk in the Shoes of a Legislator
   In order to understand the legislative process, it is paramount that students understand the compromise, negotiation, and debate that are necessary to solve public problems. Ask students to debate a topic of interest to them. At the conclusion of the debate, talk to them about how the exercise relates to being a legislator.

5. Smile and Have Fun!
   Talk to students in an informal, personal manner. Tell them that legislators rely heavily on feedback from constituents. Let them know that their voices count and are important.

Available Program Materials

- Your Ideas Count!
  Adults & High School
- Your Ideas Count!
  Representative Democracy and You
  Adults & High School
- You Rule!
  Middle & High School
- Your Ideas Count!
  Grades 4-6
- Your Ideas Count!
  Grades 2-3
- You Rule!
  18 Minutes DVD
  Middle & High School
- The Citizen
  13 Minutes DVD
  Grades 4-6