

## **\*Running for President – The Politics of Elections Student Instructions**

### ***Where Do You Stand?***

Think about what issues are important to you. Write nine statements that you strongly agree with. On survey day your classmates will read your statements and indicate whether they agree with them or not.

### ***Registering To Vote***

What is it like to run for president? How does a campaign work? You'll find out as your class participates in "Running For President – The Politics of Elections."

Your teacher will pass out the Voter Registration forms used in your state. You must register as a Democrat, a Republican, or any other designation listed on the Voter Registration form. Once registered, you will be assigned to vote in a specified region of the country.

### ***So You've Decided to Run – Instructions for Presidential Candidates***

If you take the plunge into political waters, you'll need to hire a two-person staff to help you. Then you must pick six platform issues—two domestic, two foreign and two economic.

Think of six issues that are important to you, and how you feel about each of them. Frame your campaign around them. Your theme, poster, commercials, ads and speeches, etc., will be based upon these stances and issues.

Remember, until the primary you are only running against other members of your own party and not against the other party's candidates.

### **Campaign Task List for Candidates**

Here's what you need to do:

- Hire a two-person staff and your consultants.
- Manage and control campaign activity (making sure that each person is working and productive).
- Lead discussions. Work with your staff and consultants.
- Help analyze the polls.
- Be interviewed by the press.
- Speak at fundraisers and other events.
- Answer newspaper reporters' questions at the press conference; speak and answer questions at Candidates' Night/Audience Forum.
- Help draft fundraising letters.
- Work on the convention.
- Give acceptance speeches at the convention (president and vice president).
- Participate in the debate (president and vice president).

### **Staff Members and Consultants**

- Candidates hire people to do the follow types of campaign jobs: Finance Chair, Media Guru, Polltaker, Speechwriter, Fundraiser, Webmaster, etc.

*\* Excerpted and abbreviated*