

Date Printed: 06/16/2009

---

JTS Box Number: IFES\_77  
Tab Number: 30  
Document Title: Students Learn About Voting Through  
Election Rally  
Document Date: 1990  
Document Country: United States --  
District of Columbia  
Document Language: English  
IFES ID: CE02611



\* B 6 3 B 8 D 0 B - 0 4 A 0 - 4 2 7 1 - 8 3 8 8 - D 1 E 3 0 B C A 0 1 D E \*

**NEWS RELEASE**

*From the D.C. Board of Elections  
April 20, 1990*

*Contact: Leona Agouridis, 727-2525*

**STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT VOTING THROUGH ELECTION RALLY**

On Tuesday, April 24th, more than 900 students, representing 164 D.C. public schools, will gather in the Fletcher Johnson Educational Center for a major election rally to elect the Student Member of the D.C. Board of Education as well as the Citywide Student Council. The event will have all the fanfare of a major election rally--complete with balloons, posters, buttons, and campaign speeches by budding young politicians.

The students, who are in grades three through twelve, will vote using official District of Columbia election ballots and voting booths. Results will be counted immediately using the Board of Elections' portable ballot tabulation system, and winners will be announced on the spot.

The citywide student leaders election is cornerstone of the "Voters of Tomorrow Election Series" (VOTES Program)--a joint program of the D.C. Board of Elections and a D.C. Board of Education. The purpose of the VOTES program is to expose students to the excitement of elections and to teach them the importance of

participating in the electoral process. The Board of Elections conducts similar VOTES Program elections at local schools throughout the school year. In so far in school year 1989-90, more than 16,000 students in D.C. public schools cast ballots using the Board's voting machines.

The goal of the program is to increase the participation of young people in D.C. elections through exposure to voting in school. According to Board of Elections statistics, the rate of voter registration among young people in the District is the lowest of all age groups, with fewer than 44 percent of young people in the District, ages 18 to 24 registered to vote. As part of the VOTES Program, the Board this week will be mailing voter registration forms to each of the 4,000 D.C. public school students who will turn 18 on or before November 6th, the day of the general election.

Election activities at Fletcher Johnson will begin at 9:00 a.m. For more information on covering the event, call Leona Agouridis, Manager of Information and Voter Services, at 727-2525.

NR 90-4/500