



Countdown to Election 2011

October 2011

Kids Voting Buncombe County is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to securing the future of democracy by educating and involving youth in the election process today. Our goal is to educate students in Grades K-12 on the rights and responsibilities of voting to stimulate the critical thinking skills necessary for making informed decisions as voters.



Dear Kids Voting Supporter,

Election 2011 is off to a great start. The **Kids Voting Civics Alive! Curriculum** is in use in many classrooms across Buncombe County. New this year, our curriculum is in use in After-School Programs as well. Please contact us if you'd like to add the Kids Voting civics curriculum to your classroom or program.

Election Day 2011 is two weeks away so there's still time to provide a **meaningful election experience** for you and the students in your lives. [Countdown to Kids Voting Day](#) will get you started.

Kids Voting BC recently sponsored our annual **High School Forum** hosted by the Buncombe County Board of Elections. Students discussed the nuts and bolts of the election process with Election Services personnel, learned about the referendum process, and heard opposing viewpoints on the County Sales and Use Tax Referendum. [The full report is below.](#)

We're already looking to the **2012 Presidential Election** - the challenges and opportunities for the Kids Voting programming. Please read [Vote for Kids Voting BC](#) to see what role you can play in preparing students for a lifetime of civic engagement.

Lastly, please help us "spread the word" about **Kids Voting Day** on November 5th by forwarding this e-news to everyone you think might be interested.

And remember . . . **Take your Student and Vote Together!**

Trena Parker, Chair and The KVBC Board of Directors

P.S. We appreciate the continued support of our volunteers and donors. If you would like to help or have questions please contact us at 828-775-5673 or info@kidsvotingbc.org or visit kidsvotingbc.org.

Countdown to Kids Voting Day, November 5

Easy steps for providing a meaningful election experience for you and the students in your lives.

1. Research a 2011 municipal race or the County Sales & Use Tax Referendum with the children in your lives. *Begin with the sample Kids Voting ballot on our website: kidsvotingbc.org. Follow-up with on-line research for pertinent candidate/issue information.*

2. Encourage discussions about the upcoming election and the students' research results during meals, outings, classes. *During discussions encourage the use of individual critical thinking and decision making skills. Promote polite discourse for opposing views.*

3. Vote Together on KIDS VOTING DAY - Saturday, November 5, 2011 *Kids Voting volunteers, adults and area high school students, will provide a "real life" voting experience in all [Early Voting locations](#) from 8:00 AM - 1 PM. A sample ballot for use as a learning tool is available for download from the KVBC website.*

4. Alternatively, all Early Voting locations have self-serve Kids Voting booths leading up to Kids Voting Day or your students can cast an **on-line Kids Voting ballot** through 7:30 PM on November 8, 2011. [Kids Voting On-Line Ballot](#)

5. Lastly, be sure to congratulate your children and yourself for ensuring the future of our democracy through the education of tomorrow's informed voters.

** Kids Voting is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization. We encourage everyone - students and adults - to be educated voters. We NEVER suggest for whom or how they should vote.*

KVBC High School Forum produces Informed Citizens

*Some of Buncombe County's most election - informed citizens are ineligible to vote.
They're not old enough yet.*



On Thursday September 29, area students, teachers and administrators attended the Kids Voting 2011 High School Forum hosted by the Buncombe County Board of Elections. Both Buncombe County public school systems were well represented.

Groups from area high schools participated in interactive discussions with Board of Elections' personnel on the nuts and bolts of the election process from the perspective of candidate, voter and election official. Attendees learned how students can participate even if they are under voting age.

Participants were trained to conduct New Voter Registration drives at their schools and learned about the opportunity to become paid poll workers for the 2012 Presidential Election.

Students were told of volunteer opportunities with Kids Voting Buncombe County for the upcoming Municipal Election and on Kids Voting Day.

Participants also learned about the referendum process and heard guest speakers Dr. Dennis King from Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College and Robert Malt from S.T.O.P. (Sales Tax Opposition Partnership) discuss the pros and cons of the upcoming 2011 ballot's County Sales and Use Tax Referendum. The debate about the proposed referendum was lively and provided the attendees with a good example of polite discourse. Students followed up with many thoughtful questions.

This was a great opportunity for students to network with other area students as well as gain valuable volunteer experience and community service credit.

2011 Buncombe County Early Voting Locations

Buncombe County Board of Elections (35 Woodfin Street 28801)

Kenilworth Presbyterian Church (139 Kenilworth Rd. 28803)

North Asheville Branch Library (1030 Merrimon Ave. 28804)

South Buncombe Branch Library (260 Overlook Rd. 28803)

West Asheville Branch Library (942 Haywood Rd. 28806)

Early Voting locations will be self-serve until Kids Voting Day, Saturday November 5, when Kids Voting volunteers, many of whom are high school students, will assist our young voters from 8 AM to 1 PM as they practice exercising their rights and responsibilities as informed American citizens.

Early Voting Location Hours:

Saturday, Oct. 29 - Friday, Nov. 4: 10 AM- 6 PM

Saturday Nov. 5, KIDS VOTING DAY: 8 AM - 1 PM

Vote for Kids Voting BC! - Looking to 2012

Our work for the 2012 Presidential Election begins immediately after Election 2011. Kids Voting BC anticipates providing our "real life" voting experience on Election Day, November 6, 2012, in all Buncombe County precincts.

Our volunteer recruitment efforts will be substantial and we will need the Buncombe County community's help. Please contact us if you or a group you represent would like to help provide this educational opportunity for our students.

Kids Voting BC will also be renewing our community appeal for financial support to sustain our mission. We believe that the future of our country depends upon students becoming informed, active citizens. All of our programming supports this goal.

We ask that you cast your on-line ballot, in deed and dollars, for Kids Voting Buncombe County.

Vote for Kids Voting BC here:

[To Volunteer](#)
[To Donate](#)

Thank you for your Vote!



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Building Better Voters And Active Citizens, One Student At A Time ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Kids Voting Buncombe County relies on the dedicated support and invaluable efforts of our many supporters:

School Officials and Liaisons, Precinct Captains, Poll Workers, High School Forum members, election officials and board members.

On behalf of the students we serve

THANK YOU!



If you would like to help or have questions please contact us at 828-775-5673 or info@kidsvotingbc.org or visit kidsvotingbc.org.



Try it FREE today.

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