



HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Margaret Wilson
October 31, 1945 - January 9, 2008

... and the best is History.

Issue VI

February 2008

This Month In History

- Mary Queen of Scots was executed (1587)
The first public school opened in North America (1635)
The USS Main exploded and sank off of Havana, Cuba (1898)
Malcolm X was assassinated (1965)
Nelson Mandela was freed after 27 years in prison (1990)
The Space Shuttle Columbia broke apart (2003)

News from Schools



A group of students, led by Mr. Nelson Cortes, proudly represented Roosevelt Middle School at the annual Constitution Debate held at San Diego State University on January 11.

Chhuy, Lauren Nelson, and Page Uriarte. Congratulations to all of those who participated.

On January 24 Ms. Roxanne Pompilio of SCPA accompanied a group of student delegates and student news reporters to the 11th Annual World Link Youth Town Meeting held at the Joan Kroc Institute at the University of San Diego.

If your students have participated in a history/social studies related activity, we would like to hear about it. Submit a brief paragraph describing the event to mhayes@sandi.net

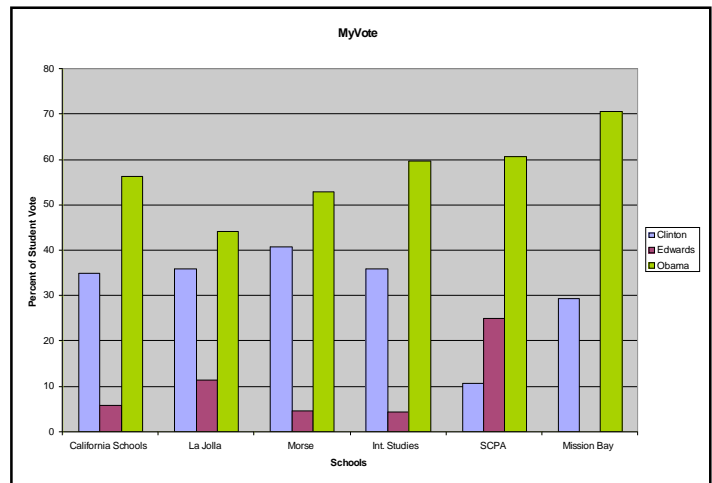
Location Change for the 5th Grade Teacher Event on Tuesday, 4 March: Ye Olde Williamsburg Sampler to be held at Kearny High School

Due to overwhelming interest from 5th grade teachers, the first annual Ye Olde Colonial Williamsburg Sampler on Tuesday, 4 March 2008, has been moved from the Mission Bay PD Center to the cafeteria at Kearny High School.

Fifth grade teachers interested in participating in the 2008 Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute must submit an application by 4 April 2008. Those who wish to receive feedback/suggestions on their applications prior to submitting them to the SDCOE will receive support from the History/Social Studies Department. Contact: lladaute@sandi.net for applications and details.

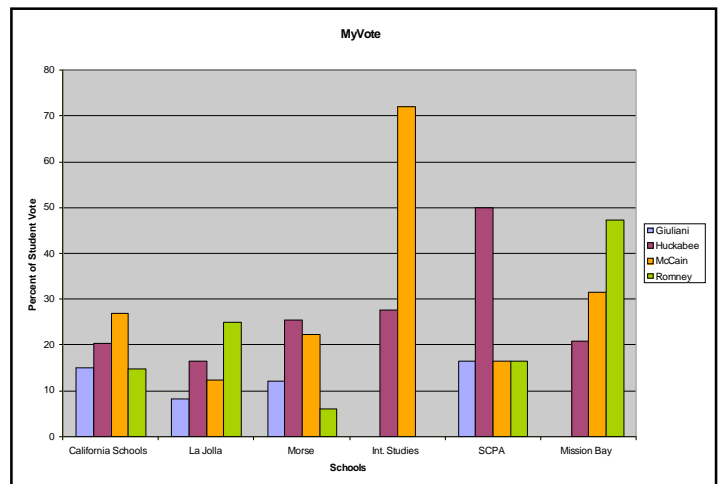
SDUSD Students Participate in MyVote Mock Election

Over 2000 San Diego Unified School District high school students were among the 200,000 students statewide that participated in the 2008 MyVote Mock Election.



and to vote on three hypothetical ballot initiatives. Participating classes and schools held their elections on January 28 and 29, then reported their results to the Secretary of State. Barack Obama was the overwhelming favorite among Democratic candidates in California, winning 56.25% of the student vote to

(Continued on Page 2)



Mission Statement

To provide the curriculum, tools, resources, and professional development for history-social science teachers and students to succeed in the classroom.

Becoming America's Best

MyVote (Continued from Page 1)

Hillary Clinton's 35.09. On the Republican side, John McCain had the most support from high school students across the state. He received 27.04% of the vote, while Mike Huckabee came in second with 20.55%. In San Diego, results in the Republican camp were mixed, but Obama appears to be the clear favorite for Democrats.

The California Secretary of State intends to conduct a similar mock election for the general election in November. This MyVote event will likely be open to both middle and high school students. The History/Social Studies Department will send out more information as it becomes available.

Back-to-Back PD Success Stories Held at the End of January

Over thirty middle and high school history teachers gathered at Marston Middle School on 29 January for a book signing reception and lecture with Stanford University professor Sam Wineburg. Matt Hayes introduced Wineburg, who discussed the origins of his acclaimed book, *Historical Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts*. Wineburg also used a lesson on Lexington and Concord as an example of powerful ways to use primary sources in history classrooms. The presentation concluded with remarks about history as an evidentiary discipline, where sourcing, contextualization, and corroboration are essential elements of good instruction.



The next afternoon, forty-five 5th grade teachers spent 2 ½ hours together in a classroom at the Old Town Program, interacting with five guest speakers who shared ideas and strategies for teaching U.S. History in grade 5 classrooms. Lucy Laudate organized the event, and shared a thick handout of materials she has utilized to teach colonial American history. Other presenters included: district librarian Barbara Baron, who gave a presentation on databases to support the 5th grade curriculum; Dingman teacher Rochelle Schwartz, who showed up in costume and presented Colonial Day ideas for teachers to consider; Tricia Smith, who informed teachers about the overnight field trips for students at Hawthorne Elementary; and, Vista Grande teacher Micheline Wagner, who presented ideas and examples pertaining to the annual History Day.

Inaugural USS Midway Field Study Event on 21 February

Almost 150 students from Carson Elementary School will kick-off the new SDUSD Patriot Program when they visit the San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum, USS Midway, on 21 February. Students and their teachers will pilot new standards-based history lessons as part of their Field Study experience. Contact: llaudate@sandi.net

Annual Jewish Film Festival to Be Held on 13 February—Sold Out!



The annual Jewish Film Festival, sponsored by the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center will be held at the AMC Theater in La Jolla on Wednesday, 13 February 2008. The event includes 430 San Diego Unified School District students from Bell Middle School, Farb Middle School, La Jolla High School, Madison High School, The San Diego MET, and Patrick Henry High School. Teachers attended a special Saturday workshop to discuss Holocaust related curriculum in order to help them preview the film festival with their classes. The students will attend a special lecture, discussion, and screening of the award-winning documentary film, "One Survivor Remembers" on February 13. This event is proving to be successful as all spots were filled quickly. For more information on this event, contact: mhayes@sandi.net

Up Coming Events

- **High School History Meeting:** A special meeting to discuss history curriculum issues relative to the 2008-09 school year will be held from 3:30-5:00 pm, Wednesday, 20 February 2008, at Bully's East Restaurant. Topics include "Course of Study" curriculum and/or assessment issues concerning the following courses: Political Science, AP Government, American Government and World Affairs, Economics, AP European, and AP World History. For information or to RSVP, contact mhayes@sandi.net
- **The 5th grade Social Studies Workshop:** Wednesday, Feb. 27 from 4:15-6:15 still has a few openings. The workshop is being held at the Old Town Program. Teachers will be paid 2 hours at the workshop rate. Ideas on Colonial America, History Day, databases and more will be presented. For a reservation e-mail Lucy Laudate at llaudate@sandi.net
- **Colonial Williamsburg Sampler:** Tuesday, March 4, for 5th grade teachers. Kearny High School's cafeteria, 4:00-7:00. Teachers will be paid 3 hours staff development stipend.
- **History Day:** The annual San Diego County History Day will be held on Saturday, 5 April 2008. Registration forms are due no later than 10 March 2008. Contact: kankeney@sandi.net
- **Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute Applications Due on 4 April 2008:** Fifth grade teachers interested in participating in the 2008 Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute must submit an application by 4 April 2008. Those who wish to receive feedback/suggestions on their applications prior to submitting them to the SDCOE will receive support from the History/Social Studies Department. Contact: llaudate@sandi.net for applications and details.

Mission Statement

To provide the curriculum, tools, resources, and professional development for history-social science teachers and students to succeed in the classroom.