Government

Mrs. Stafstrom

**Government by the People Presentations**

We are the government. This simple statement summarizes a key theme of American democracy: That there is no true democracy unless the people participate in their government. The 2016 Presidential Election provides a unique opportunity to witness how the people express their views. Your presentations should be looking at your topics through the context of the election.

Form seven groups of four or five students and then prepare and present a presentation on your assigned topic.

Here are the seven topics with the corresponding textbook section

1. Democratic Party **Chapter 5, Sec 1 and 2**
2. Republican Party **Chapter 5, Sec 1 and 2**
3. Voters and Voting Behavior (the electorate) **Chapter 6**
4. Public Opinion. What are the issues? **Chapter 8, Sec 1 and Sec 2**
5. Mass Media. What is it and what is their influence? **Chapter 8**, **Sec 3**
6. Interest groups. What are they and how do they influence the elections **Chapter 9**
7. Social Media What is it and how is it affecting the election?

**Media Center days:** Th 2/18, F 2/19, and T, 2/23

**Presentations:** Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 2/24, 2/25 and 2/26

**Requirements:**

Select at least two co-leaders for the group. The leaders give the group direction and makes sure that all group participants have tasks. The leaders also communicate with me and are responsible for turning in the group’s written work. Exchange information to how to reach each other and establish a shared google doc.

**Begin by researching your general topic**. As a group, identify what you believe are the 4 – 5 main points addressed by your assigned topic (hint: use the guiding questions at the start of each section in the textbook). After your research, prepare a not less than 13 minute presentation on your topic. Your presentations must include:

* **focus questions** tailored to the topic (what are we doing? What’s the big issue?)
* **visuals.** Consider using **google slides**
* **handout for students.** I’ll combine all the group handouts into a single class set.
* **Relate** to the ongoing presidential campaign
* **4 – 5 main points**, well illustrated and explained
* **engagement** with the audience!!!
* **Dress up**

**Leaders Note:**

By the end of class Th, 2/18, share a google doc with me that identifies your group, and describes how responsibilities have been assigned to each member. Let me know if you have any questions or issues.

At the end of the last media center work day, Tuesday, 2/23, the leader must give me a HARD COPY of: an outline of the presentation (who is doing what), including works cited (MLA format) AND the student handout.

**Grading – total 65 points into the project category (15% semester grade)**

For entire group: 50 points with 10 extra credit points to the top two presentations (as voted by secret ballot).

Individual: 15 points based on my observations and peer evaluations

I will discuss the rubric with you on Monday, 2/22

Expect a writing assignment based on the presentations.