

C. Mayor & Town Council
KIDS VOTING Broward
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KIDS VOTING BROWARD, INC.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BROWARD ELECTIONS

April 18, 2000

Council Member Geri Clark
Town of Davie
6591 Orange Drive
Davie, FL 33314

Dear Council Member Clark:

You can help inaugurate a precedent by assisting local students begin a life-long habit of voting. Election Day, Tuesday, November 7, Broward's 245,000 students will cast their ballots for President of United States with Kids Voting Broward.

Over 80,000 local students voted in the 1996 Kids Voting Presidential Election. In a recent survey, 97% of Broward's teachers said they plan to participate in the Kids Voting program this fall. More than 100,000 children are expected to vote at 300 regular voting precincts in November.

Kids Voting Broward is a nonprofit, nonpartisan voter education organization that prepares and motivates future voters with nationally acclaimed electoral process curriculum in kindergarten through high school and by providing hands-on voting experience on Election Day.

Kids Voting curriculum not only teaches the mechanics and importance of voting, but develops critical thinking skills:

- decision making and self-discipline
- responsibility and cooperation
- patience and persistence

These lessons are crucial in helping youths learn to make appropriate decisions, enabling them to mature into responsible adults. By educating and preparing future voters, democracy grows and rights are preserved.

By supporting Kids Voting Broward, you foster our goals:

- starting a lifelong habit of voting among tomorrow's voters
- improving citizen involvement
- preparing current and future generations to participate in government
- increasing adult voter turnout

Awarded 1999 JCPenney Golden Rule Award for Education

March 14, 2000, over 51,000 Broward students participated in the Kids Voting Presidential Primary. Ninety-two percent of Broward's teachers said the election was helpful in reinforcing lessons in democracy. In a national survey, over 70% of parents said their children began discussions at home about elections and they became better-educated voters due to their children's involvement. More than 80% of teachers saw an increase in parental involvement in school. In areas of the country with Kids Voting programs, adult voter turnout increased by an average of 5%.

A recent survey of 40,000 Broward students found:

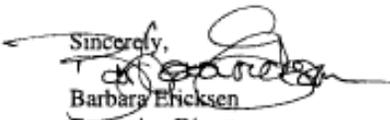
- Four out of five children stated that learning about voting was an important part of their education.
- 93% of elementary school students felt participating in mock elections increased their desire to vote as adults.
- A three-to-two majority of middle school students indicated participating in the Kids Voting Broward election helped them to better understand democracy.
- By a three-to-one margin, the county's high school students said voting in a mock election with Kids Voting helped motivate them to register to vote when they turn 18.

Kids Voting Broward is seeking a donation of \$2,500 to help defray the cost of printing student ballots. Davie will have 15 Kids Voting precincts that will serve every school age child living in the city, approximately 11,000 students.

In appreciation for your support, you will continue to be listed as an annual sponsor on all newsletters, brochures and other publications. You also will be thanked in our appreciation ads in *The Herald* and *Sun-Sentinel* after the election. Finally, you will be listed on our website.

Your support is crucial to education, the growth of democracy and the success of the Kids Voting program. If you have any questions or need more information, please call me at 954-767-8573. In advance, thank you for your continued commitment to youth, education and support of democracy. I anticipate your reply.

Sincerely,



Barbara Ericksen
Executive Director