



## Summary of GCEA Presentation at Kick-off on August 20, 2020

### The High School Voter Outreach Project

Over the past three years, the League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh has presented in-person classroom lessons to approximately 1000 students in underserved school districts. We have received approximately 800 voter registrations with the help of our dedicated presenters and committed volunteers.

When we reach out to high schools, we *always* promote the **Governor's Civic Engagement Award**. Not everyone advanced this worthy program like Linda Capozzoli, **Brentwood High School** Counselor. Two schools we visited this year won the GCE Award-- Brentwood High School (GOLD) and Elizabeth Forward High School (Silver). Beth Dolinar from Pittsburgh Public television station **WQED**, filmed our team at Brentwood High School in early March as part of their "Campaign U". See "The Youth Vote" here at <https://www.wqed.org/campaignu>.

Overwhelmingly positive feedback from students and teachers has inspired us to continue our outreach efforts, even in the midst of the pandemic. After the March 2020 shutdown, we suspended our in-person lessons and created new ways to reach eligible young voters.

Our inventive team reworked our copyrighted "**Voting Made Easier**" **digital lesson** to respond to these challenging times. This lesson provides one instructional hour of online learning, with links to the online and paper Voter Registration Applications, and more. We provide resources for teachers, including open-ended questions to extend student learning and list reliable websites.

During the summer, we not only created this digital lesson, but also many other resources for youth and all citizens. We published a **new Voter Resources website** [here](#). Resources like, imaginative infographics, PDFs with active links, student handouts, flyers, informational documents, videos, resource websites, and more, can be easily accessed by students, teachers and *all citizens*.

We are now scheduling **all virtual "Voting Made Easier" classroom lessons** with our goal not only of registering new young voters, but also of empowering youth with the information they need to be informed and engaged citizens. Our volunteer presenters work to help students appreciate what we know to be true—that **VOTING is essential in a democracy**. We truly appreciated the opportunity to be a part of the GCEA Kick-off webinar!

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