



Susan Bysiewicz
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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CONNECTICUT STATE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Dr. Miguel A. Cardona
Commissioner

September 21, 2020

Dear Superintendents:

The 2020 election stands to be the most hotly contested and consequential of our lifetime.

This moment in American history provides us with the potential to engage with young people and help facilitate their journey to becoming lifelong, civically-minded and engaged citizens.

Through a partnership with the Merriman River Group - a Connecticut-based election management firm - students in the 11th and 12th grade will have an opportunity to practice civic engagement through a mock election to be held October 19 through October 23.

This mock election will not only introduce youth to our election process in a tangible way, it will also serve as a launching point for youth to ask more questions about the voting process, engage in the process with their peers, and stir up excitement for exercising their right.

If your district is interested, please click [here](#) and complete the attached form.

Voting is a fundamental act of civic participation. When youth get involved in the democratic process, making their voices heard, they experience the powerful, direct connection between civic engagement and creating positive, substantive change.

For background information, contact: Samuel Carmody, Office of the Lt. Governor at Samuel.Carmody@ct.gov.

For questions on incorporating this into your curriculum, contact: Steve Armstrong, CT State Department of Education at Stephen.Armstrong@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Susan Bysiewicz
Lieutenant Governor

Dr. Miguel A. Cardona
Commissioner of Education