



THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Carmen Fariña, Deputy Chancellor for Teaching and Learning

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

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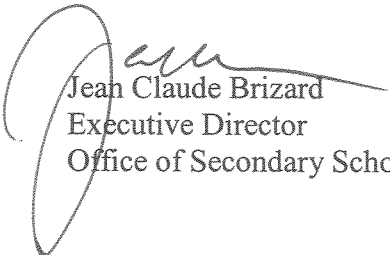
June 16, 2006

Dear Fellow Educators:

The New York City Department of Education is very pleased to have worked with Walt Townes and Vote 18 in connection with our voter education and registration program. The highest compliment I can pay the program is that students who went through the Vote 18 experience came out valuing their vote! Through the creative use of interactive teaching techniques Vote 18 quickly captured the students' attention as they became active participants in history and the political process. The lesson plan is effective because instead of telling the students to vote the simulation enables students to show each other WHY they should vote.

We are very proud of the work NYCDOE administrators and teachers have contributed to helping develop this exciting lesson plan and are pleased to be the first school district in the country to make this lesson available to our high school students on a citywide basis. We had specific objectives we wanted to achieve for our voter registration initiative and Mr. Townes did a good job of working with our Social Studies High School Instructional Specialist to tailor his lesson to meet our specific needs. The NYCDOE is dedicated to empowering our students through the voting process. Vote 18 showed itself to be an effective tool to promote civic participation and increase the number of students registering to vote. We look forward to working with Mr. Townes and Vote 18 in the future.

All the Best,


Jean Claude Brizard
Executive Director
Office of Secondary Schools