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Media Alert

SEBASTIAN MIDDLE VOTES IN MOCK ELECTION

Indian River County, FL - What better way to teach students about the elections process than to let them host their own mock election? On September 30th Sebastian River Middle School in coordination with the Indian River County Supervisor of Elections Office held a school-wide mock gubernatorial election, alongside their Student Council election. Nearly 900 students experienced the voting process from registering to actually voting on machines programmed by the Elections Office.

Elements of the voting process, including campaigning, sample ballots, primary elections, voter registration, absentee ballot voting and candidate eligibility were taught by all Social Studies teachers prior to the elections.

Students voted during their assigned Social Studies classes in the school's multi-purpose room. Several students acted as poll workers by checking student voter cards and operating the voting machines. After the election results were announced, students participated in follow-up discussions and reflected on the overall process.

This is the second time that the Supervisor of Elections Office and Social Studies teachers Jack Hodge and Jaime Sturgeon have collaborated to bring this project to life for students at Sebastian River Middle School. "We have a great thing going here. Students are taking an interest in the democratic process and we are thrilled to be involved," said Supervisor of Elections Leslie Swan.

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