

We Be People

Constitutional Convention Project

Teacher's Guide

Dear Fellow Teachers:

I designed this project to be a group culminating activity for a unit on the Constitutional Convention for a 9th grade Honors American History class. I gave them a week to complete this project, in stages, but you could always give more time as needed for a non-Honors class. Students should already be familiar with the amendment process as well as with the Bill of Rights.

This project gives students an opportunity to understand how the amendment process might work, as well as offering them a chance to explore a topic that is meaningful to them. The first two parts of the project are graded; the ballot at the end is only for extra credit.

I have to say, that was one of my 9th graders' favorite assignments! They had such a blast coming up with their own crazy, wacky amendments, and boy did they work hard to persuade their classmates to vote for them! I hope you and your students enjoy!

Pat Gannon