

VOTER REGISTRATION POLICY

1.0 Purpose:

All eligible students in Wirt County Schools shall be provided an opportunity to vote. In an election year, students shall be provided an opportunity to register to vote at least thirty days prior to the primary election.

2.0 Definition(s):

Eligible Student - a student who has reached his/her eighteenth birthday, or in an election year, who shall attain that age on or before the date of the election

College and Career Readiness Standards – Multi-state standards and objectives currently implemented by West Virginia Department of Education to establish curriculum for grades K-12.

3.0 Procedures:

The Wirt County Board of Education has established the following for the procedures relating to student voter registration:

- A. Wirt County High School in compliance with West Virginia Schools College and Career Readiness Standards requests that Civics Teachers teach a lesson and unit relating to Voter Registration and the importance of Voter Registration in the election process. This is part of the standard curriculum for Civics Teachers at Wirt County High School.
- B. Prior to the Voter Registration Deadline, the Civics Teachers at Wirt County High School will provide the local courthouse with a list of students. A local courthouse employee will check to confirm which students are currently registered to vote.
- C. After receiving the confirmation voter registration list for the students, the Civics Teacher(s) will accompany any students of the appropriate age who have not registered to vote and are interested in registering to the courthouse. The students are afforded the opportunity to register to vote before returning to the school as a group. During a primary election year this opportunity will be provided, at minimum, thirty days prior to a primary election.

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4.0 Responsibilities:

West Virginia Code §18-2-9 provides that...“every high school student eligible by age for voter registration shall be afforded the opportunity to register to vote pursuant to §3-2-8 of state code.” This policy requires the county board of education to establish policies that will afford students, who are eligible by age to vote, the opportunity to register to vote in the public schools.

The Wirt County Board of Education recognizes that a primary goal of public education is to prepare students to actively participate in a democratic society. The Board further recognizes that participation in a democratic society involves functioning within the democratic process.

Therefore, the Wirt County Board of Education shall prepare students to competently function within the democratic process by providing educational opportunities which prepare students for voter registration and by providing students, who are of the appropriate age, the opportunity to register to vote while enrolled in Wirt County Schools.

5.0 Severability:

If any provisions of this policy or application thereof to any persons or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this policy. Any changes or modifications due to legislative or state policy change may cause a modification to this policy by the superintendent.

Review Schedule:

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the policy review schedule published by the superintendent.

Authorization: WV Code §18-2-9; WV Code §3-2-8

Replaces: JG, November 8, 1999