



PARENT-GUARDIAN PERMISSION PACKET

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Oregon Secretary of State's Office is excited to announce the second year of Oregon's Kid Governor®, an award-winning statewide civics program created by the Connecticut Democracy Center. The program is designed to teach 5th graders about civics and civic engagement – and your child's class will be participating! Through this program, your child's class will join 5th grade classrooms across the state in learning about state government, how it works and the importance of civic engagement through the election of a 5th grade governor.

In the weeks leading up to Election Day 2018, your child's class will participate in lessons about Oregon's three branches of state government, elections, and campaign platforms. Students will then discuss community issues important to them and choose one to research. They may choose topics such as recycling, animal rights, pollution, bullying, etc. Once they have researched an issue, they will work to craft campaign platforms and speeches. Students that choose to run for Oregon's Kid Governor will deliver their speeches as part of the election process. The process will include class-wide and/or school-wide primaries. As in real life, the student with the most votes will be the school's nominee for the Statewide Election.

The school's nominee will then create a campaign video with the help of classmates. The video will outline: why they want to be Oregon's Kid Governor; what leadership qualities they have; a community issue that they want to address and why it's important; and a three-point plan that will help 5th graders across Oregon make a difference on that issue. Teachers will submit their student nominee's video to the Oregon Secretary of State's Office. An Advisory Committee of civics and education professionals will select the top seven (7) candidate videos statewide and those videos will be posted online at OR.KidGovernor.org. During the Statewide Election, November 1-7, 2018, 5th graders throughout Oregon will view these videos, cast their votes and elect the 2019 Oregon's Kid Governor.

In the coming weeks, your child will learn how to vote and how to run for office. He or she may want to run as a candidate for Oregon's Kid Governor at the school level. If your child wins the school primary, he or she will be a potential statewide candidate in the race for Oregon's Kid Governor. Real candidates get approval from their families before they run for office and your child should, too. **We want to make you aware of this program in advance so you can determine how you would like your child to participate.** If your child has your approval to run for office, please review the following information, complete the form, and return to your child's teacher by his/her deadline.



The student who wins the 2018 Statewide Election will serve as the 2019 Oregon’s Kid Governor, from January-December 2019. The winning Kid Governor will serve in an active leadership role, advocating for change around their platform and community issue during their one-year term. If your student wins the school primary and Statewide Election, they can expect an exciting term as Oregon’s Kid Governor®, with opportunities that include:

- Inauguration ceremony at the Oregon State Capitol. (tent. January 2019)
- Creating resources to share with students about his/her community issue.
- Maintaining a blog about his/her community issue and action being taken by students statewide to make a difference.
- Meeting and speaking with students and adults across the state.
- Participating in programs and events with the Oregon Secretary of State’s Office.
- Having a special Oregon’s Kid Governor Office at the State Capitol.

For more information about the expectations of the successful candidate, please visit OR.KidGovernor.org. We ask that you review the website and resources to better understand what may be expected of your child should they win the statewide race. You can also read about 2018 Kid Governor Dom Peters, his platforms and his terms in office.

Once you’ve read the documents, please check the appropriate box below and return this form to your child’s teacher by: _____.

Please remember that the spirit of Oregon’s Kid Governor is not based upon winning and losing, but about students learning about civics and that they can have a positive impact on their communities! We hope that students who create platforms for school primaries or as their school’s candidate will work on implementing their platform throughout the school year and tell us about the difference they are making locally.

- I give permission for my child to participate in the Oregon’s Kid Governor® program and enter the race for the candidate from our school.
- I give permission for my child to participate in the Oregon’s Kid Governor® program but not to enter the race for the candidate from our school.

Student name (please print)

Date

Parent/Guardian name (please print)

Parent/Guardian signature

***Note to teachers: this permission slip is for school-use only. When submitting your candidate’s video, please complete and attach the entry forms and releases in the Rules and Regulations packet (available for download at OR.KidGovernor.org).*