Michigan Center for Civic Education Joint Social Studies Conference Civics, Government and Law Workshops

Bringing Together the Community and the Common Core: Mock Court Programs in the Elementary Classroom

Mock court sessions for elementary students are an interactive and fun way to satisfy key components of the Common Core at all elementary grade levels. This program will address how to integrate a mock court program in to your classroom, including a potential opportunity for attorneys to visit your classroom and have your students visit a local courthouse.

Daniel Quick, Dickinson Wright PLLC, Board Member, Oakland County Bar Association Stacie Woodward, Oakland Schools Lisa Stadig Elliot, Executive Director, Oakland County Bar Association

Civics: A Closer Look at Teaching the First and Fourth Amendments

This session will take a closer look at the lessons presented in an introductory session on Teaching the Judicial Branch. It will focus specifically on teaching the First and Fourth Amendments in a Civics classroom, particularly as related to federalism. Lesson plans and activities will be shared during the presentation

Angela LoPiccolo, Teacher, Dakota High School, Chippewa Valley Schools Dirk Zuschlag, Teacher, Kettering High School, Waterford School District

Mock Trials for the Classroom and Competition

Mock Trials are a high-interest, active strategy for teaching about the American system of justice, teaching content using historical cases or contemporary issues, and for developing public speaking skills. This session will provide participants with sources for free mock trial materials as well as information and advice about competing in the Michigan High School Mock Trial Tournament.

Jeff May, Director, Michigan High School Mock Trial Tournament, Michigan Center for Civic Education

Moot Court in the Classroom

"Oyez, oyez! The court is now in session." By holding classroom moot courts – simulations of arguments before a Supreme Court – students focus on the underlying principles of justice involved in real court cases. Moot courts can be used to examine historical or current cases. Resource materials will be provided.

Rachel Drenovsky, Coordinator, Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center

Representative Democracy: FREE Resources for Secondary Teachers

A partnership between the Center for Civic Education, the Center on Congress, and the National Conference of State Legislators has produced high quality FREE materials and lesson plans to improve public understanding of representative democracy and encourage Americans to be engaged in their government. Session participants will receive FREE high school materials.

David Hales, Social Studies Consultant, Wayne RESA

Take It to Court: Sample Michigan Supreme Court Cases for Elementary

What makes a case important enough to be heard by the Michigan Supreme Court? Investigate student-friendly example cases that illustrate what it means to interpret the law and how courts resolve disputes. Roundtable discussion will include the opportunity to explore classroom applications.

Rachel Drenovsky, Coordinator, Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center

Teaching the Judicial Branch

This session showcases new materials for teaching the judicial branch to high school students. Aligned to the Common Core Literacy standards and HSCEs, teachers explore the unit plan and lesson flow as the (former MC3) writing team shares insights designed to make teaching the judicial branch manageable in a semester course.

Amy Bloom, History/Social Studies Consultant, Oakland Schools Alycia Chase, teacher, West Bloomfield High School Dirk Zuschlag, teacher, Waterford Public Schools Angela LoPiccolo, teacher, Chippewa Valley Public Schools Jennifer Simone, teacher, Berkley High School

Teaching the Rights of the Accused with MC3

Learn to use the online Michigan Citizenship Collaborative Curriculum (MC3) to effectively teach about the rights of the accused. Explore lessons on the 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th Amendments that use a variety of methods. Join us to interact with the materials, ask questions and leave with ready to use materials.

Alycia W. Chase, J.D., Social Studies Teacher. West Bloomfield High Jennifer Simone, Social Studies Teacher, Berkley High School, Berkley School District

Teaching Supreme Court decisions using resources from Street Law

Do you teach about the US Supreme Court? We will introduce you to Street Law's easy-to-use lesson plans covering precedents, arguments, and decisions, focusing specifically on the recent decision in Arizona v United States. Also, we will share an exciting professional development opportunity offered by Street Law, Inc. in Washington DC.

Deeann Skov, Teacher, Fruitport High School Jennifer Simone, Teacher, Berkley High School