

Austin Bolton

3/21/2017

Electoral College Lesson Plan

Grade level: Highschool

Subject area: Social Studies

Materials: Netbooks, Color Papers(3 separate), Writing utensils

Standards:8.4.4 Explain the political party process at the local, state, and national level (e.g., the structure and functions of political parties, electoral college, how campaigns are run and who participates in them, the role of the media in the election process, various kinds of elections)

Objective:

- Students will navigate 270 to win website to further understanding of how the electoral college works

Learning Activities:

Students will enter the classroom I will hand them one of three colored piece of paper.

Instruct students to write down the answer to "How is the President elected?" After I will address and ask the class what they think.

Transition the students into groups around the classroom based on the colors of their paper. Students will then be tasked with choosing a representative for their group to answer 1. "Which is the best president? George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy" 2. "Which is the Best College? NDSU, UND, U of Mary." The elected student may not participate in the group discussion of Question posed but is required to answer for the group. The students should vote based on their group however I will instruct one of the elected people to vote opposite of vote based on their group. Explain to class that this is more or less how the electoral college works. (talk about election of 2000 AL Gore Vs George Bush.....540,000 more in the popular vote)

Explain to students that America does not elect its president through "direct democracy." Define direct democracy as a form of democracy in which the people as a whole make direct decisions, rather than have those decisions made for them by elected representatives.

Transition to short lecture on electoral college - Students will return to their seats

Transition to Students grouping and writing down Advantages and disadvantages 1. Congress Electing President, 2. Popular vote(people vote) Electing President

Transition to Netbooks and 270 to win website(Talk about it and explain how the website works, also explain the assignment that will be used with 4 questions) 1. What is the minimum number of states needed to win the 2016 presidential election? 2. If you were running for the position of President of the

United States, which 5 states would you be campaigning in? 3. Why is the number 270 important in a presidential election? 4. How are Nebraska and Maine different than the other states?

Assessment- Colored piece of paper with how President is elected

Paper with Advantages and Disadvantages

270 to win questions