Back-to-School Story Ideas

Emily Richmond, EWA Public Editor

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Don’t Know Much About History?
Questions for Civic Teachers:

- What’s changing this year because of election year rhetoric?
- How much do you plan to talk about the presidential race?
- Have you been given any instructions/orders from central office?
Sources to Consider

- Southern Poverty Law Center’s survey of teachers
- “The Political Classroom,” Diana Hess, Paula McAvoy
- Center for Information on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE): Extensive state-level data on voting trends and youth engagement
EWA Resources

- **Reporter Guides**: Campaign finance, education policy, using polling data
- **Topics Pages**: The 2016 Elections
- **The U.S. Elections and Education**: National Press Club, Aug. 30
Crossover Story: Follow the Remediation Numbers

- Nationally, remediation costs colleges and universities billions of dollars annually.
- Many states require higher education institutions to track remediation rates by high school.
- Which districts/campuses have the highest numbers?
- What placement tests are being used to sort students?
Some colleges allow students to use meal plan “swipes” to share with peers, according to The New York Times.

In the University of California system, 4 in 10 students lack a steady supply of nutritious food, reports the Los Angeles Times.

In a national survey of community college students, researchers at the University of Wisconsin found half of the respondents struggled to find adequate daily nutrition.
K-12 Teachers: Filling the Gaps

- As military downsizes, programs like Troops to Teachers are gaining ground.
- Are retired teachers/administrators being lured out of retirement?
- Be skeptical of nonspecific claims of “shortages”.
Thank you!

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