



Yorktown Government students talk with alums who are currently involved in politics.

APS Opportunities

Tuesday 12/8/15 #APSCHATS.

Leading Professional Learning: Tools To Connect & Empower Teachers With Corwin Connected Educators Tom Murray & Jeff Zoul

Tuesday 1/26/15 #APSCHATS.

Taking Back Your PD With PLAYDATE Co-Founder Jennie Magiere

Resources

Resources for Current Issues & Policy Debate – Close Up Foundation

[Close Up in Class: Current Issues](#) is a library of interactive resources and classroom units for exploring national and international policy debates. Their nonpartisan resources examine critical public policy questions on a variety of levels:

- **Foundational Units** review the U.S. Federal government, [U.S. Foreign Policy](#), and several longstanding tensions within American Democracy.
- **Current Issues Units** (on topics like [Education](#), [Immigration](#), and the Arab-Israeli Conflict) give students an introduction to the complexities of each topic, and outline arguments on current related controversies (such as School Choice and Negotiations with Iran). Please [click here](#) for a list of topics.
- **Monthly Discussions** examine current bills in Congress, Supreme Court cases, and relevant [controversial issues](#) in the news.
- **Teacher Resources** include a variety of [lesson plans](#), out-of-class assignments, project outlines, and community engagement activities that challenge students to develop a point of view and practice active citizenship.

Document Bank of Virginia – Library of Congress

[Document Bank of Virginia \(DBVa\)](#) is the Library of Virginia's initiative to get documents into classrooms. Using primary sources, teachers can make history relevant to students while helping them learn and understand state standards. DBVa will teach students to be critical thinkers as they analyze the original documents and draw their own conclusions about Virginia's past.

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

The [Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation](#) through its museum, programs, and resources promotes an awareness and understanding of the early history, settlement, and development of the United States through the convergence of American Indian, European, and African cultures and the enduring legacies bequeathed to the nation. [Jamestown Essays, Timelines & Images](#)- Choose essays, timelines & images from our large selection of Jamestown-related topics.

Stock Market Game – Virginia Council on Economic Education

Learn to use the Stock Market Game™ as a valuable educational tool for both teachers and students. Students manage a virtual investment portfolio and compete with teams across the state. Students learn saving and investing, sharpen math and research skills, and experience market forces at work. After participating in the SMG, independent studies show an increase in math scores for elementary and middle school students. It is also a proven way to learn many of the SOL in the high school economics and personal finance course. No prior knowledge of the stock market is necessary. [High School](#) and [Middle School](#) teacher workshops are available.

Hamilton Musical

Hip hop and Hamilton? Don't laugh, this Broadway musical is about the life and times of Alexander Hamilton and his contemporaries. They are played by a young, multiracial cast; dancing, singing and rapping to hip hop and popular music. The musical [Hamilton](#) and it is being hailed as a theatrical "game-changer."

Student Opportunities

American Girl Doll Lending Program – Arlington Public Library

The ever popular American Girl Dolls are here! Learn about the Arlington Library's American Girl Doll lending program: <http://library.arlingtonva.us/american-girl/> Each doll comes with a card depicting Arlington history in that era. Arlington history cards were developed by the Library's Center for Local History, PDFs of all of the cards available online here: <http://library.arlingtonva.us/american-girl-history-cards/>

The World of 7 Billion student video contest – Population Education

Population Education is currently accepting video entries from middle and high school students for the [World of 7 Billion student video contest](#). The deadline for submissions is **February 25, 2016**. This year's challenge: Create a short video (up to 60 seconds) about human population growth that highlights one of the following global challenges: Deforestation, Public Health OR Water Scarcity. All videos must include a) how population growth impacts the issue, and b) at least one idea for a [sustainable solution](#). Participating teachers are eligible to receive complimentary classroom resources when 10 or more students participate. 18 student winners will receive up to \$1,000 in cash prizes.

Save the Date for Regional History Day Contest!

History Day is for students grades 6 through 12. Students complete an individual or group project that relates to the year's theme in one of five categories: Historical Paper, Website, Documentary, Exhibit, or Performance. The regional competition will be March 5, 2016, hosted by Mount Vernon High School.

Online registration is opens **Jan. 10 and closes Feb. 22, 2016**. For more information about how to get started and rules, visit <http://www.nhd.org/contest.htm> NHD has posted videos about every entry type. Visit <http://www.nhd.org/classroom-connection/google-hangouts-and-webinars/> for more information—it's a great place to start if you have questions about a category after reading the rule book.

Teacher Opportunities

Nominations for the 2016 SOL Item and Test Review Committees

The VDEO Office of Assessment Development is seeking nominations for the 2016 Standards of Learning (SOL) Item and Test Review Committees. The committee meetings will be held in Richmond according to the schedule provided in [Superintendent's Memo 279-15](#). All individuals who wish to serve on the 2016 committees, including those who have previously served, must submit an [online application](#) through the Assessment Committee Application Processing System (ACAPS) by **February 12**.

Proposed Revised 2015 History and Social Science SOL Curriculum Framework

On November 19, 2015, the Virginia Board of Education accepted for first review the proposed revised 2015 *History and Social Science SOL Curriculum Framework*. The Virginia Board of Education is seeking public comment on them. See [Superintendent's Memo 280-15](#) for more information.

National History Teacher of the Year Award-Due February 15

This award recognizes outstanding K-12 American history teachers across the country. Visit the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History to nominate a middle or high school teacher who teaches American history. All nominations must be submitted on the Gilder Lehrman Web site at <https://www.gilderlehrman.org/programs-exhibitions/national-history-teacher-year-nomination-form>. Nominations **due February 15th**.

Weekend with Washington Program – George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate

Open to Virginia teachers, grades 3-12, this three-day residential program at George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate runs **January 15-17, 2015**. Teachers will have the chance to engage in active discussions of 18th-century history with top historians, explore Mount Vernon through interactive workshops and tours, and more. This program is fully funded and accepted teachers will reside on the grounds at Mt. Vernon.

Application deadline is **December 14, 2015**. Visit www.mountvernon.org/vaweekend for more information.

Conferences

National Council for the Social Studies

NCSS 96th Annual Conference will be in **Washington, DC, Dec. 2-4, 2016**. This national conference with more than 4,000 attendees comes to DC every four years. Attend the conference to gain new ideas, resources, and skills in social studies education. [Registration](#) opens in June and call for proposals begins in **January**. More info will be shared later.

Summer Opportunities

NEH Summer Programs in the Humanities for School and College Educators

Each year, NEH offers tuition-free opportunities for school, college, and university educators to study a variety of humanities topics. Stipends of \$1,200-\$3,900 help cover expenses for these one- to five-week programs. For more information and application instructions, please visit the [websites](#) for individual programs.

Summer Study Tour to Germany – Goethe Institute

Experience is what the Transatlantic Outreach Program (TOP) is all about. The study tour’s emphasis is on contemporary German issues relating especially to the political system, economy, culture, education, and environmental sustainability. Additional themes of note include the legacy of the Holocaust, German unification, and European integration. These study tours are designed to provide a comprehensive perspective of modern Germany.

Knowledge of the German language is **not** a requirement. Answers to other FAQs can be found on the [TOP website](#). Application including all attachments, postmarked on or before **January 25, 2016**.

Social Studies Snapshots is intended for elementary and secondary Social Studies Staff to communicate items of importance and interest in a timely matter. If you have an item you would like to include in *Social Studies Snapshot*, please forward it to Diana Jordan (diana.jordan@apsva.us). *Social Studies Snapshots* is distributed the second and fourth Friday of the month. The content of this publication comes from a variety of sources. APS is not responsible for any inaccuracies in resources provided outside the district.