

The 2020 Presidential Primary Vote at Scarsdale Middle School

**Tuesday, March 3
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

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Scarsdale Middle School Student and Participant in the Mock Election

On Super Tuesday, March 3rd from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., the League came to Scarsdale Middle School for the second time this school year to assist with the Social Studies Department's mock presidential primary election. The goal of this mock election was to create a culture of civic engagement by raising awareness about the election process as well as the importance of knowing the candidates and their positions on current issues. This mock election was especially interesting for students as they watched the large field of candidates narrow before and after election day.

Prior to the mock election, the League provided voter guides which listed the name, political party, and positions of each candidate. The students were able to discuss the candidates and learn about the presidential delegate process in their Social Studies classes.

On election day, students had the option of participating in the Democratic or Republican primary in order to vote for the candidate of their choosing. The middle school's Great Hall was designed to resemble an actual polling place. League members helped with the event by manning the polls. They checked in students by their house, assisted with any technological issues, and ensured that every voter walked away with an "I Voted Today" sticker and a mint.

The mock election was a great way to introduce the importance of primary voting to students. They will be able to consider how their votes impacted the candidates on the November 2020 presidential ballot--civic education in action!

The middle school election results did not exactly resemble the actual vote on Super Tuesday. Of the 1,122 students who voted, 79.6% voted as Democrat, 10.6% voted as independent, and 9.8% voted as Republican. The result of the Democratic primary was as follows: Michael Bloomberg 46.1%; Joe Biden 27%; Bernie Sanders 11.8%; Elizabeth Warren 10.3%; Tulsi Gabbard 4.5%; and Amy Klobuchar 0.4%. The result of the Republican primary was: Donald Trump 73.6% and Bill Weld 26.4%.