AP Government/ECE American Politics
Mr. Waller

Welcome to AP Government! Before we begin, you have one assignment to complete over the summer. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at mwaller@masterschool.org.

Due Date: September 4, 2019 (first day of school)

2020 Election Profile

Background: The race for the White House begins this summer! The Democrat Party is trying to take back the White House and they have over 2020 candidates vying for the position of nominee to take on Donald Trump in the fall of 2020. This summer there will be debates, forums, polling and candidates dropping out (all before the first caucus in Iowa and primary in New Hampshire set to take place in January of 2020. States like Iowa will have a straw poll, and the major networks will begin broadcasting political party debates. While Congress is on break for most of the summer that does not mean that current events do not happen. Your task is to follow the "racehorse" (vocab word for presidential election politics) and create a weekly portfolio showcasing what is changing/staying the same for the Democrat party and the 2020 presidential election based on data (polling, news stories, etc). To make this happen, you will have to monitor a variety of media (tv, internet, newspaper, magazine, talk radio, and social media)! Your portfolio can be an e-portfolio (using google docs, Prezi, PowerPoint, something else), it can be a hard copy (binder with clippings, etc.) or it can be something really cool like a weekly podcast series (in teams) where you discuss what is going on and who you think is winning. We will present our findings the first day of school!

Purpose:
More than anything, I want you talking to people regarding the news. Informed students are active students. Paying attention and following the 2020 election from the beginning (summer 2019) will not only make the exam in May easier but you will be more engaged citizens. That first week of school, I want to have

an informed discussion on the 2020 election and upcoming primary races based on the data you spent the summer following.

Process:
1. Determine your criteria for winning a presidential nomination: views on issues, popularity, etc.
2. Each week determine a winner based on your criteria.
3. Find clippings, videos, etc. to place in your portfolio which highlight who you think is winning and supported by your findings!

Number of Entries: (10 Total)

1. Week of June 23-29
2. Week of July 1-6
3. Week of July 8-13
4. Week of July 15-20
5. Week of July 22-27
6. Week of July 29- August 3
7. Week of August 5-10
8. Week of August 12-17
9. Week of August 19-24
10. Week of August 26-31

Extra credit:
- Each candidate will visit New Hampshire at least once this summer. If you go to New Hampshire to see the candidate and take a picture you will receive extra credit. You will receive more extra credit if you get a selfie with the candidate and even more extra credit if there is video of you asking them a question. Yes, you will receive extra credit for each candidate you see. This is not just limited to New Hampshire, you can see them in Iowa, South Carolina, Nevada or someplace else. A good place to see where they will be attending is to go to their website and look at their schedule. They are trying to earn your vote, you will be surprised as to how accessible they are.