

Student Vote for the Ontario Election

Laurel Heights students put their Civics class learning into action this past week. Laurel Heights along with over 200 other Ontario Secondary Schools ran a “mock election” based on the Ontario Provincial Candidates running in each school riding.



The students at Laurel Heights cast ballots for the candidates in the Waterloo Riding. With 8 different parties to vote for, it was a great opportunity to learn about the less familiar parties as well. For many students, this was their first opportunity to see what it would be like to go to a real polling station. They got to experience firsthand their ability to exercise their “citizenship rights” and cast a ballot.



37 classes and over 525 students learned how to ensure the “privacy” of each individual vote and the importance of 1 ballot per voter and secure ballot boxes to prevent votes being altered.

The Civics classes this term learned that being an Election Worker is a very serious job. With many different roles to play, they learned that each worker can influence how a citizen can experience a “free and fair” election in Canada. Civics students learned that being welcoming and helpful, can make all the difference in the experience someone has with voting.



In the end students at Laurel Heights Secondary School would have elected Catherine Fife and the New Democratic Party to represent them at Queen’s Park. Thanks to all students and staff who participated in the first ever Student Vote at Laurel Heights. For any student who has turned 16, you are eligible to pre-register so that you can vote as soon as you turn 18. Students can register any time on the **Ontario Register for Future Voters** at eregistration.elections.on.ca.