

Title of Session: Social Studies Forum

Moderator: Michael Hutchison

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GayleT: This was such a great session last time-dealing with the "Beyond the Fire" website, that I am certain tonight's discussion will be equally informative.

MichaelH waves to everyone

MariaOC waves back

GayleT waves

MichaelH: how is everyone tonight?

MariaOC: fine, thank you.

MichaelH: great!

MichaelH: BJ, I'll go ahead and start the session... and we'll let everyone catch up who is more tardy than I am

GayleT: I'm very well, thank you.

MichaelH: Glad to hear that... we're going to discuss a very topical topic this evening

MichaelH: Let me go ahead and we'll start tonight's session, and we'll be out in time for

you Astros fans to watch the ballgame

MichaelH: or at least, most of it

MariaOC: yeah! we're number 1!

MichaelH: Well, let's just say ABC

GayleT: Finally

MichaelH: That's not the topic for tonight, just remember A...B...C....

MichaelH . o O (Anybody But Cardinals)

MariaOC: that's a good one!

MichaelH: so, do you have enough time to talk about the presidential election before you get all ready to watch the 'Stros'?

GayleT: Indeed

MariaOC: sure

MichaelH: I forgot... who's pitching tonight for you guys?

MariaOC: Brendan Backe.

MichaelH: oh, yeah...

MichaelH: Tell you what though... the Cardinals have been really tough the second half of the season

KarenEA joined the room.

MichaelH waves

MariaOC: yes, but I've heard that we've beat them more than any other team.

MichaelH would love to see the Cardinals have to give refunds on the World Series tickets they've already sold

GayleT: What's the topic tonight?

MichaelH: oh, I didn't hear that statistic... that's interesting

MariaOC smiles

MargaretMR joined the room.

KarenEA: hello...

BJ: welcome, Margaret

BJ: Hi, Karen

MichaelH: well, I have some election resources, but first, an oldie but a goodie

MichaelH waves to Karen and Margaret

MariaOC: are we going to focus on the presidential elections tonight then?

KarenEA: hey Michael

MichaelH: yep

MargaretMR: hi Michael

MichaelH: Hi, Margaret, glad you could join us!

MichaelH waves to Karen, too

KarenEA smiles

MargaretMR: Finally

MichaelH: before I start "election coverage", here's a site you might like because we've been talking baseball

MichaelH: <http://www.pbs.org/baseball>

MichaelH: I don't know if you saw any of Ken Burns's Baseball series, but it is wonderful...

MariaOC: interesting, thanks.

MichaelH: ok, let's talk a bit about the election

MichaelH: first of all...

MichaelH: let's start tonight's session with some introductions of who we are... what and where we teach

MichaelH is a technology curriculum facilitator in southwestern Indiana

BJ: hi, I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In.

MariaOC: My name is Maria, obviously, and I am a preservice teacher in Houston, Texas

KarenEA: Karen- teach 5th grade multiple subjects in Torrance, California

GayleT: I'm a middle schools social studies preservice teacher at the University of Houston, in my last semester before I student teach.

MargaretMR: I am a Speech-Language Pathologist working in a 7-12 Middle-Senior Hs

MichaelH: Bet you're getting excited to get into the classroom, Gayle

GayleT: Very much so!

MichaelH: Well, while we're focusing a lot on the election, I'm also going to show you all resources which are good all year long

MichaelH . o O (even if you aren't starting in the classroom until January)

MichaelH: I have a question to start tonight...

MichaelH: does everyone know how to detach the chat window so you can see better

KarenEA: yes, I can detach

GayleT: Yes.

MariaOC: yes, just did it.

MichaelH: ok... just makes things easier to see...

MichaelH: Margaret, can you detach the chat window ok?

MargaretMR: No and I must admit this is my first time on the forum and I'm a bit nervous that I'm doing everything correctly

MichaelH: You're fine, Margaret... don't worry... we'll get you through all this

MichaelH: do you see where it says "Actions..."

MargaretMR: OK

MargaretMR: YES

MichaelH: ok, click to show the menu, and then you'll see "Detach"

MichaelH: it makes this window larger, and a bit easier to follow the discussion

MichaelH: don't worry, we'll wait for you

MargaretMR: I just did it and it is much better

MichaelH applauds

MariaOC cheers

MargaretMR: You are all making me laugh

MariaOC says it's our job

MichaelH: here's the other question I was going to ask... go ahead and giggle, Margaret!

MichaelH: what does your state standards or state law say you have to do as far as teaching about the election and campaigning

KarenEA: good question Michael....

MichaelH: Indiana law requires us to teach about the election process

MariaOC: very good question...

MargaretMR: To be honest I don't know

GayleT: I am not aware of any state standards regarding the election. Are you, Maria?

MariaOC: I believe we have the option to at least discuss what an election is...

MariaOC: I say this because I have seen a few teachers talk about it to their students

MichaelH: Of course, if you're teaching social studies, it's almost impossible to NOT discuss something about the election

MichaelH: so, let's look at some resources you can use...

KarenEA: the election is something that I can actually have fun with while teaching.. and the students are very interested....

MariaOC: true

MichaelH: Karen, it seems like this became a very interesting campaign, didn't it?

GayleT: I have reviewed the TEKS and don't recall anything that specifically requires a lesson plan on the election. However, one could hardly complete a discussion in government without covering it.

MichaelH: We had C-SPAN with us last session, and at that time, I figured Bush had it all wrapped up... but now... I'm not sure

MargaretMR: I certainly agree that this is one interesting campaign

MichaelH: I sort of hate to tell the Astros fans one thing...

MariaOC: I hate to say that I haven't been able to watch much of the debates

MichaelH . o O (we have two here from the University of Houston)

MariaOC: what?

MichaelH: have you ever heard the folklore about the World Series and the presidential election?

MariaOC: no.

GayleT: I have watched all of them and they have certainly made some great comparisons for discussion.

MichaelH: here it is...

MichaelH: if the National League wins the World Series, then the Democratic candidate traditionally wins the election

MariaOC: really?

MichaelH: now, that's just coincidence, but you Texans out there have a real conflict of interest

GayleT: Is the National League something like the NFL? I am not a spectator sports fan, so am lacking in the nomenclature.

MichaelH: Gayle, I agree about the debates...

KarenEA: interesting?!

MariaOC: I have to say that I lean neither towards Bush or Kerry. sorry to say.

MichaelH: Gayle, the Astros are in the National League...

MariaOC: I have just had too much to do.

MichaelH: well, there are a LOT of undecided voters out there

GayleT: Ok- I am up to speed on that detail. Thank you.

MichaelH: I'm going to give you some good sites to look at and get some teaching ideas.

KarenEA: great..thanks

MariaOC: great.

MichaelH: C-SPAN in the Classroom was here a couple of weeks ago, and have a lot of great resources...

MichaelH: here's their web site

MichaelH: <http://www.c-span.org/classroom>

GayleT: They certainly do. I signed up for their newsletter and visited all of their sites

MichaelH: go ahead and check them out, but just take a minute]

MichaelH: Gayle, did you get the Electoral College Map?

GayleT: Well, I checked off that I wanted it, but as of yet, I have not received it.

MariaOC: checking...

MichaelH: I'm slow loading the site...

MichaelH: Gayle, let me give you an e-mail to contact to get it ASAP

MariaOC: wow. there is a lot of good stuff here.

GayleT: Thank you.

MichaelH: e-mail educate@c-span.org

GayleT: I'll send in another request.

MichaelH: and tell them that you were at my session (Michael Hutchison) tonight, and ask if they could get it to you as soon as possible...

GayleT: I will do that. Thank you, Michael.

JeffC joined the room.

MichaelH: is anyone having the same problem I am trying to get the C-SPAN site to load?

KarenEA: no, I am loaded and looking

GayleT: NO, it came right up for me.

MariaOC: I was able to get on with no problems.

MichaelH: it must be my good luck tonight...

MichaelH: it even took awhile to get TAPPED IN to load.

MichaelH: No problem, though, I've been on the site before.

MichaelH: BTW: They even have the debates available for download in Real Player format,... and have the transcripts that you can review and print out

MargaretMR: Are you loading this site in another window or is this a hyperlink?

MariaOC: amazing.

KarenEA: have to take off popup blocker if you have one...

JeffC: Could I have the url?

MichaelH: sure, Jeff... it's <http://www.c-span.org/classroom>

KarenEA: but you may leave TI by accident..

GayleT: Karen, you can just click on CTRL and then click on the site & it will open-even with the pop-up blocker.

MichaelH: No... it just loads in another window

KarenEA: oh really... I didn't know ctrl and click would open...

KarenEA: lemme try

MichaelH: so you may see several windows below, but you should be ok

KarenEA: neat...thanks Gayle

GayleT: You're welcome. One of the many tips I have learned here previously.

MichaelH: everyone ready to move on

MariaOC: yes

GayleT: Yes.

MichaelH: BTW: They also have a neat "Campaign Clip of the Day" lesson on the site

MichaelH: I just finished doing Clip of the Day lessons for last week

KarenEA: ready to move on

MichaelH: I'm flying by wire... can't get pages to load, so I can't see the pages I send you, but I can still show you some stuff

MichaelH: here's a good PBS site about the election

MichaelH: <http://www.pbs.org/elections>

MichaelH: BJ, I am running really slow here, can you give me a hand about what Leni's Learning Page Chat next week is about?

BJ: it's on elections

MariaOC: so am I...really slow

BJ: o O (just posted the weekly reminder)

MichaelH: sure is...

MichaelH: that's where I got the information

MichaelH: if you guys have a chance and want to see a really good session, come watch Leni next Thursday (a week from tomorrow)

MichaelH: 8 p.m eastern time

MariaOC: is he on PBS?

MariaOC: online?

KarenEA: Leni?

MichaelH: no, first... Leni isn't a he

MichaelH: she's director of the Learning Page with the Library of Congress

MariaOC: sorry.

MichaelH: and she has a bunch of lesson ideas and resources she'll share.

MichaelH: She always does a great session here

MichaelH: has anyone gotten to "By the People" on the PBS site yet?

GayleT: OK- but where on the PBS website do I find her link?

MargaretMR: The interactive electoral college map is so cool

KarenEA: I am on the by the people site

GayleT: Yes, I'm there, too.

MichaelH: whoa, Gayle... she's on the Library of Congress site :0

MariaOC: where is it at?

MichaelH: try lcweb2.loc.gov/learn

MichaelH: I don't know what all Leni will have next week.... but it will be a good session. You should all come

MichaelH: is there anything on the PBS site about last night's "Frontline"?

JeffC: Michael, that site redirects to: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/>

MariaOC: neat website.

GayleT: I taped it, but have not yet watched the program.

MichaelH: that's probably ok, Jeff... I just can't go anywhere... so I can't see what sites I am directing anyone too... I actually did that URL via Google

MichaelH will probably have to restart once we finish tonight's session... can't figure why I can't access anything

GayleT: I am on the Learning page site, but don't know where to find this Leni site you have mentioned. Can you help me?

MichaelH: Gayle, Leni is there a link for "chat"?

BJ: Gayle, be here next Thursday at 8pm EDT

KarenEA: what was last night's "frontline" about...?? Something specific on the election?

GayleT: Yes

MichaelH: Leni is the director of the Learning Page, which is part of the American Memory section of the LOC.

MichaelH: She doesn't have a page on the site, but she is the director of the site you're looking at.

MichaelH: click on the "chat" link to see about the session next week

GayleT: I can't BJ_ I have classes on Thursday until 8:00pm But I will go to the archives on Friday & pick up the discussion.

MichaelH waves to Linda

LindaZ: Hi everybody

MariaOC: hello.

KarenEA: hi Linda

MichaelH: BTW: look at some of the lessons on the PBS site... there's a lot of good of good ones for both secondary and primary grades

KarenEA: the glossary can be helpful!!

MichaelH: last night's Frontline was a comparison study of both Bush and Kerry

MichaelH: really well done

LindaZ: I'm sorry to come in this way

MichaelH: I wish I would have taped it

LindaZ: I have used pbs class plans and I find them very useful

GayleT: Last night's Frontline was not unbiased in its presentation, though.

MichaelH: Linda, any specific plans you have used you would like to mention

LindaZ: I have use a plan that compares six wars of the XX century

LindaZ: I am starting on Napoleon nest week

MariaOC: these are really nice lesson plans. I never knew this website existed (for teachers). amazing.

MichaelH: you'll also want to look at the PBS TeacherSource site...

MichaelH: it's at <http://www.pbs.org/teachersource>

LindaZ: I will do it

MichaelH: they have over 4000 lesson plans for about any subject area and any grade level

MariaOC: I appreciate the fact that the lessons contain everything we'll need for success.

MichaelH: I've written about 20 lesson plans for various PBS programming since 2000

GayleT: I'm impressed. I have used several of their plans for school projects, and each one is so creative.

LindaZ: I have seen some. My students did a UN meeting about terrorism

MariaOC: wow, that's great Michael.

KarenEA: Linda, what grade do you teach?

GayleT: Linda- talk about an authentic activity!

MichaelH: I think I can show you a listing of what I've done... try

<http://www.vcsc.k12.in.in.us/staff/mhutch/ice2000/curriculum.htm>

GayleT: I will. Thank you, Michael.

LindaZ: Thank you

MariaOC: me too. thanks.

GayleT: I clicked on that link and it goes to a "this page will not display."

MichaelH: I am just having a tremendously hard time trying to get anything to load

MichaelH: try <http://www.vcsc.k12.in.us/staff/mhutch/ice2000/default.htm>

MichaelH: then click on the curriculum link

GayleT: That's more like it. Thank you, Michael.

MichaelH: I just finished some lessons for PBS on "The Great War" (World War I) , but I don't know if they are up yet

GayleT: I cannot wait to see those, Michael.

GayleT: You don't have to tell us that The Great War is WWI- we're all college level students.

MichaelH: me neither... I did the lessons back in July, and they still aren't up

LindaZ: I'll be checking, I would like to see The Great War. I'll be teaching this next year.

MichaelH: the next set coming is for the upcoming Ken Burns film, "Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson"

BJ . o O (btw, learning page chat transcripts are also at

<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/community/chat/chattranscripts.html>)

GayleT: I'll add that one to my list. I have furl'd the Learning Page & the Library of Congress pages, but I need to add this one too.

MichaelH: Linda, the Great War (which everyone knows was WW I :)) is also a video series PBS released several years ago

MichaelH: you don't need the videos to do the lessons, though

KarenEA: what about Rev. War??? You create and lessons for this war?

LindaZ: Good, the school already has some videos I have to check

LindaZ: I just got Napoleon

MichaelH: I DO have Rev. War Lessons...

MichaelH: wanna see?

GayleT: Yes!!

KarenEA: sure!!!

MichaelH: this was from "Liberty: The American Revolution", which just re-aired on PBS last summer

MichaelH: <http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/teachers.html>

MichaelH: I also did some lessons for "The Civil War" a couple of years back, if anyone would like to see those

MariaOC: I would.

KarenEA: I used the PBS site for a rev war timeline before!

GayleT: I love the study of the Revolutionary War; I cannot wait to go through your lesson plans, Michael. They look very enticing.

MichaelH: here's the URL for Civil War lessons:

KarenEA: Debates, debates

MichaelH: <http://www.pbs.org/civilwar/classroom/activities.html>

MichaelH: I didn't write all of them, but it was definitely an honor to be involved in writing these at all. a real honor...

MariaOC: it looks like you've done a lot of work. that's neat.

KarenEA: I bet... that is something to be proud of!!

MariaOC: I'm sure.

MichaelH: Well, to be linked in anyway to something that's "Ken Burns" really was an honor

GayleT: I am so glad there are references to period music. It reflects the culture and society in ways that content cannot. I am glad you are including it.

MariaOC: so the links you gave me previously (chat transcripts & liberty) also have lessons that you've created?

MichaelH: Gayle, I did the same thing for both the Civil War lessons and the Revolutionary War lessons

GayleT: I noticed- that's why I mentioned it.

MichaelH: not the chat transcripts. That's Leni. The lessons for Liberty are

MariaOC: great job!

MichaelH: Gayle one of the "great war" lessons is one that looks at the poetry of the war years... people like Sassoon, Joyce, etc.

MargaretMR: Thanks all I'm off to watch the debate!

MariaOC: I believe it is truly important to incorporate music into a lesson whenever possible, especially when dealing with historical events.

MichaelH: hey guys, anyone have any closing comments before the first question or the first pitch?

GayleT: Oh boy- you have a resource and curriculum rich set of lesson plans. What great anticipatory sets those will make. Also will provide excellent tools for memorization activities.

MichaelH: me too, Maria... I hope people find those lessons useful

KarenEA: thanks for the resources

GayleT: You are right, Maria.

MariaOC: I'm sure they will. I will.

MichaelH: Time for me to spend some quality time with George, Bob, and John...

MariaOC: thanks Gayle.

KarenEA: yes, agree Michael

MariaOC: go astros!

KarenEA: Kerry began....

MichaelH: good luck, Stros...

BJ waves goodnight

MichaelH waves bye for now...

KarenEA: bye

MariaOC waves bye

GayleT: Thank you for a really great selection of sites, Michael.

MariaOC had fun