

You can find such report cards at League of Women Voters, www.lwv.org. Focus on educating yourself and others on what the incumbents say and how they actually vote. For more information on the use of report cards as part of a non-partisan educational campaign, write us at info@yourvoteyourchoice.org or call 1-800-767-1956.

5. Give 'Em a Post-It Note.

Everyone needs a reminder sometimes! Visual reminders are key to getting people out to vote. So flyer/sticker/postcard/table your campus with reminders to vote. *Your Vote, Your Choice* posters, stickers, postcards, and flyers will help you accomplish this goal. You can also produce your own flyers with details about the location of polling places, locations and times for car-pool pick-ups, etc., as Election Day nears.

6. Talk to Each Other

Hold a forum about voting. Include members of the campus community, professors, local community leaders, etc. Be creative! Write us at info@yourvoteyourchoice.org or call 1-800-767-1956 if you want to bounce ideas off of someone.

7. Ask the Tough Questions.

Spend time with your coalition developing questions for candidates. For example, send questionnaires to candidates, asking for a brief statement of each candidate's position on a wide range of issues that are important and of interest to young voters. Then make all responses available to the public. Don't limit the questions to a particular issue, and avoid showing any bias or preference for or against

the views of any candidate. Send the questionnaire on your organization's stationery.

8. Hear the Candidates Speak

Invite candidates to debate on your campus. Work with your local service or community organizations, the local League of Women Voters, and/or the media to co-sponsor the debate. Watch out for the pitfalls that could turn a non-partisan educational event into a political campaign event. Be sure to invite all qualified major candidates, use questions prepared by an independent panel, and cover a broad range of issues (not just those issues of particular importance to your organization). Give each candidate an equal opportunity to present his or her views, and avoid appearing to favor a particular candidate. Use a neutral moderator. Include a "Student Question and Answer" segment to help ensure that issues students care about are addressed.

It gets trickier if you invite only one candidate or let a candidate use campus facilities. Avoid even the appearance of bias or intervention in a political campaign. Make sure you clearly state that the organization inviting the candidate is not supporting or opposing the candidate. Do not allow political fundraising. Give other candidates an equal opportunity to participate either at the event or a comparable one.

Candidates can use campus facilities for their own activities, but they must pay what others would pay for the space. They can get a price break when they meet with students, faculty, or the public on campus, for example, when the appearances are not campaign events and the university does not advocate the election or defeat of a candidate and does not favor one candidate over another in allowing such appearances.

