

8-24-16- To consider a communication from a citizen relative to the feasibility of holding an event annually with a guest speaker to encourage eligible students to register to vote.

Each of the 7 high schools runs a voter registration for students every September. Some schools register students during lunch, some register students during history classes, some schools register family and community members afterschool. All 7 high schools indicated that they have speakers from School Committee, the Clerk of Courts Office or local elected officials address students in the fall and at other times of the year regarding the importance of civic discourse and engagement. All schools indicated that they continue to register students to vote as they become of legal voting age.

In addition to registering classmates to vote, 55 Worcester Public School juniors/seniors representing all 7 high schools, were trained by the staff from the office of the Clerk of Courts to work as Poll Workers in the most recent election.

All schools replied that they have had speakers who have encouraged the students to register to vote. Senator Chandler was one of the speakers. Other speakers included the Mayor, City Clerk, State Senators and Representatives, School Committee members, City Council members, the City Manager and others.