

U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #152, AUGUST 2016

This publication is intended for your information about issues important to education, women and children. How you choose to use the information included here is up to you.

This free newsletter is sponsored by the United States Forum of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an organization of leading women educators with over 80,000 members. Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this FREE newsletter should send a request to the editor Angela O. Bedenbaugh at Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com. We urge you to share this newsletter with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or members who do not subscribe to this publication.

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CHARTER SCHOOLS AND THE LAW

In Louisiana a lawsuit has been filed by the Louisiana Association of Educators over public funds being diverted to charter schools. In Washington state the state supreme court ruled that the state's charter schools were not entitled to state funds and the state's charter school law was unconstitutional as a result of a suit brought by the League of Women Voters. In Mississippi the Southern Poverty Law Center brought suit about the funding of charter schools which diverts tax dollars from public schools to charter schools. Current Mississippi law provides that local tax revenue can be diverted from funds designated for public schools to support local charter schools. In New York several lawsuits pertaining to charter schools are currently being litigated. These range from attempts to gain funding to a suit about denial of mandated services for special education students. In Texas charter schools are not governed by state law as to minimum salaries, class size, or enrollment but are still subject to state accountability requirements. In Texas the lawsuits seek to gain local funding for charter schools.

MAKE SURE YOU ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE

The upcoming election will greatly affect our nation. Many states have put in laws in the last few years which have changed what is required to vote. Some states and or areas have purged the voting roles or now require valid identification to cast a vote. If you are not sure about whether or not you are a registered voter, you should check with the local person in charge of registering voters.

THE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES

The first debate of three official debates is scheduled for Monday, September 26 at Hofstra University. The only candidates who will be allowed to participate are those

who poll 15% or more. For this first debate it is likely that only Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton will participate.

Another interaction between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton will be “The Commander-In-Chief Forum.” It will deal with national security, military affairs and veteran’s issues. It is sponsored by the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America with many questioners being military veterans and active members of the military in addition to network news correspondents. This forum will air in prime time September 5 on NBC and MSNBC. Check your local news outlet for the time.

FORUM FACEBOOK PAGE LINK

For those of you desiring discussion of legislative topics there is a U. S. Forum Facebook page online at <http://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>

FORUM WEB SITE: <http://www.usforumdkg.org/>

CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION can be obtained through Congressional Switchboard [1-866-327-8670](tel:1-866-327-8670) [this is a toll free number]. You can contact your Congressman and Senator through this number without paying long distance charges.

Email access and addresses

<http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House of

Representatives <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the U.S. Senate

White House [1-202-456-1111](tel:1-202-456-1111)

FIVE CONSTITUENT CONTACTS WILL CAUSE A LEGISLATOR TO PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO A GIVEN ISSUE.