

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

59 Tindall Road
Middletown, NJ 07748
Phone (732) 671-3850
Fax: (732) 615-9351
www.middletownk12.org

Contact: Karen L. Bilbao, Superintendent
Phone: 732-671-3850; ext. 1002
bilbaok@middletownk2.org

Marianne Kligman
Media Relations, lklig30662@aol.com
732-758-9089; 732-586-1232 (cell)



Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 14, 2009

Photo-Op, Middletown High School North, Tindall Road

C-SPAN Civics Bus to Visit Middletown High School North

Middletown: The Middletown Township School District is proud to host the C-SPAN Civics Bus on Thursday, October 22, from 11 am to 2 pm. The C-SPAN Civics Bus has been touring the country visiting schools and communities for the past 16 years to bring the benefits of C-SPAN public affair programming to citizens around the nation. The 45-foot long mobile media production studio can produce live programs, such as C-SPAN's *Washington Journal*. Citizens and dignitaries alike have been interviewed on this bus. Schools are visited to introduce C-SPAN resources for Civic, Journalism and Television Production classes. The Civics Bus personnel also conduct workshops for social study teachers, offering them the use of CSPAN resources for their classroom at no charge. Over 25,000 teachers participate in this free resource. The C-SPAN Civics Bus also sponsors a special StudentCam documentary film competition for civic-minded student film makers.

Middletown High School North was chosen for this visit because of its participation in the *NJ Mock Elections* (www.njmockelection.org). Social Studies teacher George (Ed) Jones has encouraged his classes to conduct an on-line mock voting program for several years. *NJ Mock Elections* is part of the *National Student/Parent Mock Election* (<http://www.nationalmockelection.org/>) held every election season; over 15000 or 20% of the nation's schools participate. Mr. Jones has been busy preparing his students for this year's special gubernatorial mock vote by dividing his classes into different political parties (three this year) and having them research pertinent issues. They then develop a platform and conduct a campaign. The candidates debate and students cast their votes. The on-line system instantly tabulates the winners.

The press is invited to join us to meet the C-SPAN Civics Bus and to photograph our mock election. Please contact the media relations consultant to coordinate time and photo releases.

For more information on the C-SPAN Civics Bus, visit their website at <http://www.c-span.org/schoolbus/faq.asp>.

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The C-SPAN Civics Bus rolls into Middletown High School North's Parking lot at 11 am on Thursday, October 11 to join our students for their mock gubernatorial election.
Graphic courtesy of C-SPAN Civics Bus.