



Current Event Assignment Political Parties and Elections

Your first current event is due on _____

Your second current event is due on _____

For the next six weeks we will be studying political parties and elections. We will be following the state elections for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general and delegates to the General Assembly.

Who is running?

Governor: Creigh Deeds (D)
Bob McDonnell (R)

Lt. Governor: Judy Wagner (D)
Bill Boling (R) running for re-election

Attorney General: Steve Shannon (D)
Ken Cuccinelli (R)

Delegate to Virginia General Assembly (Legislative branch of Virginia state government)

7th District: Dave Nutter (R) running for re-election Peggy Frank (D)

12th District James Shuler (D) running for re-elections Paul Comett (Independent)

For this current event sequence, you will turn in one summary/analysis for two weeks for a total of two. You have three options to use in order to fulfill this assignment

- Option One:
Use a newspaper article that covers an event that focuses on a candidate. If you choose this option for both weeks, you can either cover the same candidate or different candidates. **DO NOT CUT AND PASTE YOUR ARTICLE. WE NEED THE ORIGINAL ARTICLE PRINTED OR CUT OUT.**
- Option Two
You may watch a debate between the two gubernatorial candidates and summarize the issues that were debated. You may be able to access past debates on the internet. Be sure you remember to include an impact analysis paragraph if choosing this option.
Governor's Debate: October 12, 2009 broadcast by PBS and CBS
- Option Three
Go to a candidate's website and summarize his/her position on a particular issue. Be sure you remember to include an impact analysis paragraph if choosing this option. Print out material that you used for this assignment.
- When reading your article, you are to either highlight or underline information that answers the following questions:
 1. *Who* is involved in the current event?
 2. What happened?
 3. Where did the event take place?
 4. When did the event occur?
 5. Why did this event occur?

- Your analysis will focus upon the impact that the event will either have on our country in general or on the election specifically.
- Current events are due each Monday during your class period. I do not accept late work. Arrive to class each Monday prepared to discuss current events.

You will turn in the following each Monday (or first day back if we don't have class on Monday) during your civics period:

- The original article with the important facts either highlighted or underlined. (Important facts answer the above questions).
Make sure that you read an article rather than an opinion piece or a letter to the editor.
Opinions, letters and articles that do not meet requirements of this assignment will be worth a "0."
2 points
- An original title for your summary
1 point
- Under your title, identify the candidate and the political party that your article covers.
2 points
- Your summary that answers the above questions in your own words.
Your summary is to be well written either by hand or typed with close attention paid to grammar, spelling and content. DO NOT copy passages from the original article unless you use quotation marks. Most of your summary should be written in your own words. Copied material will not be graded.
15 points
- An analysis of the event.
What impact will this event have on our society? This is not your opinion!
20 points
- Turn in your grading rubric.

The point total for each current event is 40.