



Center for Civic Education

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**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS**

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CENTER FOR CIVIC EDUCATION AND AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS OFFER FREE CONSTITUTION DAY LESSONS ONLINE

The Center for Civic Education and the American Association of School Administrators are offering free classroom materials to commemorate Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. In 2004, Congress passed legislation that requires schools receiving federal funds to present educational programming on the U.S. Constitution on September 17, the anniversary of the signing of the Constitution in 1787.

The Constitution Day and Citizenship Day materials were created for grades K–12 and adapted from the Center’s *We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution* and *Foundations of Democracy* curricular materials. Two new lesson plans about the executive branch and Abraham Lincoln’s constitutional legacy are being added to the Web site: constitutionday.civiced.org.

“The Center’s lesson plans provide school administrators and teachers grade-appropriate activities to celebrate Constitution Day and Citizenship Day,” said Daniel A. Domenech, AASA executive director. “Last year, more than 80,000 educators downloaded materials to teach their students about the U.S. Constitution, its fundamental principles, and history.”

Lesson plan topics include authority, limited government, the federal system of government, and the framework of the government. Lessons also examine principles and ideas that have shaped the country’s constitutional heritage. Audio recordings of selected Constitution Day and Citizenship Day lessons are also available.

“In commemoration of the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln’s birth, a high school lesson plan has been added to examine the constitutional issues and crises of his day,” said Charles N. Quigley, Center for Civic Education executive director. “Students will be challenged to critically examine decisions made by the executive branch during a unique period of our country’s history.”

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About the American Association of School Administrators (www.aasa.org)

The American Association of School Administrators, founded in 1865, is the professional organization for more than 13,000 educational leaders in the United States and throughout the world. AASA's mission is to support and develop effective school system leaders dedicated to the highest quality public education for all children.

About the Center for Civic Education (www.civiced.org)

The Center for Civic Education is a nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization dedicated to fostering the development of informed, responsible participation in civic life by citizens committed to values and principles fundamental to American constitutional democracy. The Center offers a wide range of curricular materials, teacher trainings, community-based programs, and other free resources including the *National Standards for Civics and Government*. The Center recently launched the Web-based 60-Second Civics, a daily podcast and quiz that explores the nation's government, Constitution, and history.