



## Implementation: Elections

- First round elections start on Day 1
- Following first round, Citizens re-file for open offices
- Following elections, any Citizens without positions can be appointed by Mayor or Parish President
- Press has a separate application process



## Implementation: Academic Sessions

- At least one session each day
  - Except on Party Day (Day 4) due to state conventions
- Incorporation of guest speakers into academic sessions
  - Less emphasis on mass presentations
  - Panel discussion followed by breakout sessions



## Implementation: Academic Sessions

- Project versus Session-based academics
  - Projects: presented with scenarios to develop solutions
  - Sessions: presented with guidelines to act through government procedures
- Louisiana's academic breakdown
  - Project-based: City government, Parish government
  - Session-based: Legislature, Courts, Press
  - Hybrid: School Board (transitioning to session-based)



## Implementation: The Hurricane

- Developed out of the constant evaluation process
- Designed to bring academics together and cause more on-the-spot critical thinking



## Implementation: Big Questions

- Key reflective moments of the program
  - Designed to force Citizens to grapple with issues of government and leadership
- Discussion theme: "How will you govern?"
  - Delegate versus Trustee
  - Servant of the people versus servant for the people
- Discussion theme: "You are the government."
  - Idea of a corrupt system versus positive civic involvement within the system.
  - Concept of consent of the governed and the importance of a vote



## Considerations

- Constant re-evaluation – no two years' printed materials are the same
- Higher expectations/requirements for counselors
  - Counselors at all levels help facilitate academics
  - Placed in each area based on prior experience, interests, and aptitude
- Time commitments to academic sessions reduces – but does not eliminate – time for other activities (e.g. band, sports, etc.)



## Tying it All Together

- Citizen and parent feedback to this learning model is consistently positive
  - Impacts Citizens in a way they never expected
  - Experience leadership firsthand
  - Affects the way they go back to schools and communities to lead



## Questions and more information

- Email: [laboysstate@gmail.com](mailto:laboysstate@gmail.com)
- Presentation and materials online: [laboysstate.com/stateexchange](http://laboysstate.com/stateexchange)
- See it in person – visit Louisiana Boys State as part of a staff exchange program

