

An exciting time for the Elmhurst League of Women Voters – November Meetings

The Elmhurst League of Women Voters is participating in the 2011 Education Study. Our next meeting on November 10, 2011 will be held at Elmhurst College, and will address some of the study issues. Study materials are available on our website. Numerous Leagues across the area are also scheduling meetings on this topic in order to reach consensus on study questions. On November 17, 2011 our members meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss our findings and come to consensus. Please invite your friends, neighbors and interested parties to our November 10, 2011 meeting. A complete list of meetings and study links are listed below.

The Study:

The scope of the study, as adopted by the League of Women Voters US Board, states:

The Education Study scope is broad and includes the following areas under the role of the federal government in public education (preK through grade 12): the history, funding and equity issues which are addressed under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the common core standards/assessments which are required for many federal grant programs but are national, not federal. The culminating position will address only those issues delineated in the scope.

Although the study focuses on the federal government, the original intent of the study included the [Common Core Standards](#). These were written and funded by the National Governors' Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). Historically we have always had national standards written by the teaching organizations such as the National Council of Teachers of Math and the National Council of Teachers of English. However, the discussion here will focus upon how these new standards called *Common Core State Standards* will be used by the federal government.

Elmhurst LWV Meetings:

Please join us as we study The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education. The public is welcome to attend this meeting!

November 10, 2011 at Elmhurst College in the Frick Center, the Bryant Room at 7 pm.

Invited guest speakers are:

Dr. Charles Johns, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction &

Mr. Christopher Whelton, Assistant Superintendent for Finance

Dr. Johns will address:

- What *are* the Common Core Standards (CCS)?
- Where is Elmhurst in the process of adopting the CCS?
- Have these CCS been adopted by the School Board?
- How will the CCS affect our students?
- How will adoption of the CCS change the current curriculum?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of adopting the CCS?
- Will report cards be changed as a result of their adoption?
- What are current assessments and what are possible changes to them?

Mr. Whelton will discuss Equity and Funding.

- How are our public schools are funded?
- What portion of the public school funds are state, federal, local taxes and grants?
- If the Common Core Standards are not adopted, how will that change funding?

**The Role of the Federal Government in
Education Consensus Meeting will be:**

November 17, 2011

Elmhurst Public Library

7 – 9 PM

This will give LWV members an opportunity to discuss our findings and come to consensus.

Educational Study Meetings in Other Communities:

[Downers Grove/Woodridge/Lisle LWV](#), **Education Funding: Equity and Educational Opportunity (October 13, 2011, 7:30 PM).**

Speaker: **Ralph Martire**, Executive Director of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability
Downers Grove Fire Department Administration Building, Corner of Main and 55th Streets

[Homewood-Flossmoor Area LWV](#), [Orland/Palos LWV](#), [Park Forest LWV](#), **Education Study: Funding and Equity (October 22, 2011, 10 AM – noon).**

Speaker: **Ralph Martire**, Executive Director, Center for Tax and Budget Accountability.
Palos Heights Library, 12501 71st Ave., (near 125th and Harlem)

[Highland Park/Highwood LWV](#), [Deerfield LWV](#), [Lake Forest/Lake Bluff LWV](#), **Public Forum on the Role of the Federal Government in Public Education (November 2, 2011, 7 – 9 PM).**

Speakers: **Ralph Martire**, Executive Director, Center for Tax and Budget Accountability; **Dr. Sue Hebson**, Assistant Superintendent of HS Dist. 113; **Roycealee Wood**, Regional Superintendent of Schools; **Kathy Ryg**, President, Voices for Illinois Children. Highland Park Country Club, 1201 Park Ave. West, Highland Park Public is invited.

Resources for the Study:

Special Issues Briefing #1: The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education

Special Issues Briefing #2: Common Core Standards

Special Issues Briefing #3: Funding and Equity Issues

Slides from Ralph Martire's presentation to the North Shore Leagues on Monday, September 26, 2011 can be viewed [here](#).

The Education Study Background Papers LWVUS Education Study Committee members are researching and writing background papers to help Leagues educate members and communities about the Role of the federal government in public education issues.

[Common Core Standards and Assessments](#) by Janelle L. Rivers, PhD

[Early Childhood Education, Equity and Funding](#) by Pat Aaron

[Funding and Equity Issues](#) by Jean Pierce

[Legislation and Funding for the Education Of Children Who are Disadvantaged](#) by Patricia O'Brien Libutti, PhD

[Role Of Federal Government In Public Education: Historical Perspectives](#) by Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins and Margaret Hawkins Hill

[Public Education Study Consensus Question](#): Questions to facilitate consensus meetings can be found at: http://www.lwvil.org/PublicEd_ConsensusQuestions.pdf

For more information, go to: <http://www.lwvil.org/2011EducationStudy.asp>