Celebrating Democracy Week, 15 – 21 August 2007

Every Voice Counts! Student Forum 2007

Years 10 and 11 students from across Australia are invited to apply for the Every Voice Counts! Student Forum which has been arranged as a special Celebrating Democracy Week 2007 opportunity for students. Thirty-two students, four from each State and Territory will be chosen to participate. Students will take part in a forum ‘Being a responsible citizen in Australia’s democracy’.

The goals of this Forum are to provide students with a behind-the-scenes tour of democracy in action in the national parliament and with the opportunity to represent their peers in a discussion with the Australian Government Minister for Education, Science and Training (or her representative) about civics and citizenship education issues.

Students will learn about some of the ways that citizens have a say, express ideas, opinions, attitudes and preferences to government in our democracy. Students will have the opportunity to meet and talk to politicians, members of lobby groups, the print media and radio. They will gain a unique behind-the-scenes view of Federal Parliament and many of the processes in the Australian political system.

The forum will represent all States and Territories and school sectors. Forum participants will have all airfares, accommodation and meals paid for. The forum will take place in Canberra from Wednesday 15 to Friday 17 August 2007 as a key event in Celebrating Democracy Week 2007.

How to enter
Students are asked to complete this application form, obtain the necessary approval signatures from principals and parents or guardians and return it by Friday, 27 July 2007 to Every Voice Counts! Student Forum, c/- Kurt Ambrose, Curriculum Corporation, PO Box 177, Carlton South, Victoria, 3053 or fax 1300 780 545. Electronic copies of the form are available at: http://www.civicsandcitizenship.edu.au. Further enquiries: Kurt Ambrose, telephone: (03) 9207 9600, email: kurt.ambrose@curriculum.edu.au

Applications will be judged according to the need to provide a range of opinions from the range of school settings in Australia and on the qualities of points of view expressed in applications.
Every Voice Counts! Student Forum 2007 – Student Application Form

Student's name: ...................................................... Year level............................. DOB...........

School: ........................................................................................................................................

School address: ..........................................................................................................................

................................................................................. Postcode/ State: ..............................

Telephone:........................................................................ Fax:....................................................

Principal's name / signature: ........................................................................................................

Home address: ................................................................................................................................

................................................................................. Postcode/ State: ..............................

Telephone contact: ........................................................................................................................

Parent/guardian consent
On my/our own behalf, I/we understand and agree that should the above named ________ be
successful as a winner of this national competition, he/she will travel to Canberra for a behind-the-
scenes look at how our democracy operates from Wednesday 15 to Friday 17 August 2007. I/we
understand that once I/we have agreed to accept a position for my/our child, I/we will not withdraw
him/her unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Name/ signature of parent/guardian: ............................................ Date: 2007

Application Form: Every Voice Counts! Student Forum 2007
In 150 – 200 words respond to the following: ‘Being a responsible citizen – what it means to me’

Student Response:
Teacher/Principal reference
Please comment on the suitability of the student to participate in this kind of activity. Give reasons why this student is being supported to represent your school.

Name: ................................................................. Position: ..................................................

Signature: ......................................................... Date: 2007