

# from the desk of...



*Craig Latimer*  
Supervisor of Elections



[VoteHillsborough.org](http://VoteHillsborough.org)

October 2019

## VOTE HILLSBOROUGH VOTER REGISTRATION CONTEST



**T**wice every year, we visit the public schools throughout Hillsborough County and conduct voter registration drives to encourage young people to get involved in our elections. Last month, I celebrated **National Voter Registration Day** (which just happened to be on my birthday!) at Steinbrenner High School. I loved seeing the students encouraging their peers to register to vote. It really was the best gift I could have received.

During these visits to the schools, we give a brief presentation and then show students how to register to vote. Students 16 years old or older are eligible to pre-register to vote in Florida and the day they turn 18, they automatically are eligible to vote. (Did you know that if your 18th birthday is on Election Day, you can still vote early or by mail? That's because votes aren't tabulated until Election Day.)

Every election cycle, we recognize the three public schools with the most successful voter registration drives. In February, the winning schools will receive plaques in front of the school board, as well as serious bragging rights!

Out of the 31 public schools in Hillsborough County, all but eight are already scheduled for voter registration drives – and we are only in October! With the 2020 elections just around the corner, **I ask you, Hillsborough County high school students, #AreYouReadyToVote?**



### #WishYouWereHere

My alma mater, **Tampa Catholic**, held an online voter registration drive in Miss Merritt's AP Government classes, and I loved the shout out on Twitter.

### So now I'm wondering, who is going to be next?

Encourage your classmates or friends to register to vote online, and tag **#VoteHillsborough**, so we can share your success. And if you'd rather have us visit in person, contact Digna Alvarez ([dalvarez@hcsoe.org](mailto:dalvarez@hcsoe.org)) and she'll bring a voter registration drive to you.

the flip side



VoteHillsborough.org

# VOTE HILLSBOROUGH

## ART CONTEST



Calling all student artists in  
**Hillsborough County!**

Now is your time to shine with the **VoteHillsborough Art Contest**. I am challenging high school students to create a piece of art encouraging people to vote. Winning art will be made into posters for public libraries and schools throughout the county and be printed on THOUSANDS of bag stuffers for distribution at Caspers Company McDonald's® restaurants! In addition to sharing your art with the masses, the first place winner will win \$100. The winner's classroom will ALSO receive \$100 and a free McDonalds lunch delivered directly to them (all prizes compliments of Caspers Company).

***For your art to be eligible, they must meet a few guidelines:***

- All original artwork – no copyrighted material allowed
- 8" x 8" in size
- Two-dimensional (photography, drawings, paintings, digitally created art, etc.)
- Must be nonpartisan – no endorsement of political parties, candidates, or issues

There is no limit to the number of entries a student or school can submit, but each must be submitted separately with the **completed release form**. **The deadline for entries is no later than January 10th, 2020.** Further details about the contest and how to submit entries are available online in the **Art Contest Packet**.

What are you waiting for? We've seen some great work in past years, and I can't wait to see what our talented students come up with to encourage our community to vote.

the last word

Check out our new, easier-to-read, voter registration status information at [VoteHillsborough.org/AreYouReady](https://VoteHillsborough.org/AreYouReady)

