

Gilmer County Schools
Courses of Instruction – Voter Registration Policy

Reference: WV Code §18-2-9, WV State Board Policy 2324

1. Background

WV Code provides that ... “every high school student eligible by age for voter registration shall be afforded the opportunity to register to vote pursuant to Section Twenty-Two, Article Two, Chapter Three of WV Code.”

2. Philosophy

The Gilmer County Board of Education recognizes that a primary goal of public education is to prepare students to actively participate in a democratic society. The Board further recognizes that participation in a democratic society involves functioning within the democratic process. In order to prepare students to competently function within the democratic process, our students must be provided educational opportunities which prepare students for voter registration and by providing students, who are of the appropriate age, the opportunity to register to vote in our schools.

3. Definition

A student who is eligible by age is a student who has reached his/her eighteenth birthday or, in an election year who shall attain that age on or before the general election.

4. Procedures

- 4.1 The high school principal shall provide each year, an opportunity for all students eligible by age to register to vote during regular school hours at Gilmer County High School.
- 4.2 Make-up sessions or other arrangements shall be provided for all students not in attendance on the pre-announced date of registration so they may have an opportunity to register to vote.
- 4.3 The principal shall coordinate these registration sessions with the County Clerk of Gilmer County.
- 4.4 Staff development will be provided to appropriate school personnel, which will prepare them for teaching the process for voter registration and the importance of active participation in a democratic society.
- 4.5 During a primary election year, this opportunity to register to vote will be provided at least thirty days prior to a primary election

Placed on Review April 29, 2002

Approved by Board May 13, 2002