

GCBA Mock Trial meets Michigan Merit Curriculum

The Mock Trial is a simulation of a civil or criminal court case where high school students participate as attorneys, witness or jurors. The case is tried in a court room, before a Genesee County Circuit Court judge. This is an experience that cannot be replicated in a classroom and give students first hand exposure to the courts and legal system.

Students learn to:

- ◆ Act out of respect for the rule of law and hold others accountable to the same standard.
- ◆ Use close and critical reading strategies to read and analyze complex texts, make connections prior to knowledge, draw inferences and determine main idea and supporting details.
- ◆ Present a coherent thesis when making an argument, support with evidence, articulate and answer possible objections and present a concise, clear closing.
- ◆ Critically examine evidence, thoughtfully consider conflicting claims; and carefully weigh facts and hypothesis.
- ◆ Find and organize information, analyze, interpret support interpretations with evidence, critically evaluate, and present the information orally and in writing.
- ◆ Use deductive and inductive problem-solving skills as appropriate to the problem.
- ◆ Examine policy issues in group discussion and debates (clarify issues, consider opposing views, apply democratic values or constitutional principals, anticipate consequences) to make reasoned and informed decisions.
- ◆ Analyze events and circumstances from the vantage point of others.

“Our constitutional democracy requires active citizens. Responsible citizenship requires students to participate actively while learning in the classroom. Instruction should provide activities that engage students so that they simultaneously learn about civic participation while involved in the civic life of their communities, our state, and our nation. The social studies curriculum prepares students to participate in political activities, to serve their communities, and to regulate themselves responsibly.”

The Mock Trial experience can change your students’ lives.