

# School Notebook



## EMS Students Vote in Mock Election

by Tom Nolan, Social Studies Teacher, EMS

On October 12<sup>th</sup>, the Middle School Social Studies Department of the **Ellenville Middle School** held a mock election for President of the United States. The school's students, ranging from Grade 5 through Grade 8 lined up at the voting booth in the Middle School Main Lobby during their social studies classes.

After delivering their name to junior and senior volunteers from Mr. Rick Spada's *Participation in Government* class, 403 Middle Schoolers closed the curtain and pulled the lever corresponding to the presidential candidate of their choice.

The polling booth, provided by the town of Wawarsing, and ably-manned by Bob Erhardt, listed George Bush, John Kerry, and Ralph Nader as candidates. Final results were 74 votes for Ralph Nader, 117 votes for George Bush, and 212 votes for John Kerry.

"One parent called me the day after the election and thanked us for holding the mock election. She said her child had explained why Kerry was the child's choice. The reasons the child listed were issue based; jobs, character, and Iraq were extremely important to this student. For a teacher, an activity that leaves a lasting impression on students means everything," remarked social studies teacher Bill O'Donnell.

High School students enrolled in Mr. Spada's *Participation in Government* class volunteered their time during study halls to man the polling place. These students: Eddie Jorge, Azure Reustle, Fallon Pestone, Jessica Fiscor, Erica Corkey, Michael Richardson, Laura Guerette, Chip Lovelace, David Lorenzo, Jennifer Frey, Nicole Vitulli, Samantha Kentop, Sara Irwin, Samantha Osterhoudt, and Heather Parra did a fantastic job.

## EMS to Perform "Bugsy Malone, Jr."

by William O'Donnell, Social Studies Teacher, EMS

The **Ellenville Middle School Drama Department** will present the musical "Bugsy Malone, Jr." from the MTI Broadway Junior Collection **Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>** and **Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 PM in the **Ellenville High School Auditorium**.

The play is an adaptation of the 1976 movie written by Alan Parker and scored by Oscar nominated composer Paul Williams.

"Bugsy Malone Jr." is a gangster musical written expressly for kids to perform. This musical-comedy is a story of two rival gangs attempting to gain control of New York and the efforts of Bugsy Malone to bring peace to the streets.

The play will star Matt Rogers as Bugsy and Erica Stoeckler as his girlfriend Blousey Brown. Steven Wendel as Fat Sam and Ben Altshuler as Dandy Dan portray the rival gang-leaders. Rebecca Avery as Tallulah, the gangster's moll/nightclub singer, Marissa Cohen as singer Lena Marrelli and Josh Pearson as Fizzy, an aspiring star, round out the lead roles.



Several other Middle School students appear in small comedic roles and perform as gang members, "Grand Slam Girls," gamblers and "Down and Outs" singing a wonderful score of 30s and 40s style music.

Please bring your family out to enjoy the music and comedy and to support the hard work of our students. The tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.



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