

Title of Session: Street Law
Moderator: Matthew Kavanagh
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Room: ASO

MatthewK: Hi Dianne, thanks for coming along
DianneA: Hi Matthew are you leading the Street Law session
MatthewK: I am indeed...
DianneA: good, so one person is here in the right place
DianneA: are you here for the Street Law Session?
DianneA: introductions are on
SteveF: I am an art teacher who was selected to the TIPS Law program DianneA: thanks
Steve
NaomiJ: Naomi from Fishers, IN near Indianapolis. My husband teaches 8th grade
American History.
DianneA: thanks Naomi
NaomiJ: I'm not sure I can stay, but I'll try.
DianneA: Dianne from Australia, Helpdesk today
DanielK: Tell us about you, Dianne.
MatthewK: Steve, I'm sorry, but I don't know the TIPS program... could you elaborate?
DanielK: I teach health and phys. ed.
SteveF: Law related program out of Syracuse University
DianneA: I am a staff developer, and I am currently doing some tutoring for pre-service
elementary teachers
MatthewK: Hmm... sounds interesting, I'll have to look it up later. Thanks
DanielK: that's great!
DianneA: Matthew, we'll give folk about five minutes to arrive
DianneA: in case others are coming from the last session
DianneA: so introductions for filling in now
MatthewK: okey doke
JenniferP: 8th grade MS teacher for MPS in Milwaukee, WI
DianneA: then I'll introduce Matthew who is our leader for today's session
DianneA: and give him the floor
JohnLi: 3rd grade teacher/site technology mentor, San Jose, CA.
DianneA: Dianne from Australia, Helpdesk today
JohnLi: Also staff member for California YMCA Youth and Government
<http://www.calymca.org>, hence my interest in the law. :)
DianneA: I am a staff developer, and I am currently doing some tutoring for pre-service
elementary teachers
MatthewK: Interesting, John
JohnLi did not mean to bring discussion to such a halt. :)
DianneA: Welcome to today's Tapped In Festival presentation Street Law and today's
presenter Matthew Kavanagh, over to you Matthew
MatthewK: Thanks Diane

JenniferP: welcome Matthew

MatthewK: Okay, from your introductions it sounds like there's a lot of different interests here

MatthewK: what I'd like to do is take you through some of the resources we have available and then figure out what you're most interested in

MatthewK: sound good?

JenniferP sounds good to me.

JenniferP let's take a look

JohnLi: Great.

MatthewK: Okay: Street Law started in 1972 when law students from Georgetown law started trying to do "preventative law"

MatthewK: they got fed up with all of the problems their clients kept getting into because they didn't have the information that would have headed off the issue

MatthewK: so, they began teaching practical law classes in the DC public schools

MatthewK: since then we have become an international organization and a philosophy

JenniferP: sounds great

MatthewK: basically the idea is to teach practical information about law, democracy, and human rights through teaching strategies that are participatory and so teach skills that active citizens need

MatthewK: probably our best-known resource is the textbook we publish with McGraw Hill... now in it's sixth edition

KimFl joined the room.

DianneA waves to Kim

MatthewK: some more info is available at www.streetlaw.com (which is just for the textbook, not for our organization)

JohnLi: You're teaching children to think --- isn't that somewhat subversive, right in our nation's capital? hee, hee, just kidding. :)

DianneA: do you want us to look at that now Matthew?

DianneA: or just record if we want to look later?

MatthewK: yes, let's look at that site briefly...

JenniferP: ok I'm there

DianneA: all you need to do is click on the blue link

SusanR waves to all

MatthewK: if you take a look at the FAQ's it'll answer lots of questions up front

MatthewK: If you then click on "product info" you'll see the book and get more info

DianneA: and you can try and browse that and keep your eye on this space for ongoing discussion

DianneA: Can you let us know how you are going, as Jennifer did

JenniferP: This is an awesome resource for teaching government or having kids look at comparative files

MatthewK: The idea here is that it's a more traditional textbook to teach an entire course about law

MatthewK: it's used mostly in High Schools with folks that have an entire semester or year

MatthewK: you can get a free review copy if you contact glencoe

JenniferP: If you go to the link on the page, it lists different sites where street law can be found with assistance <http://www.streetlaw.org/>

MatthewK: okay, some other resources then we'll come back

MatthewK: Let's go to that page

MatthewK: www.streetlaw.org

MatthewK: this is our organizational page

MatthewK: on that site if you click "programs" you will see links to all of our programs

MatthewK: we have a wide variety of audiences we have created materials for...

JenniferP: I found this interesting for use in the classroom

<http://www.streetlaw.org/classrm.html>

MatthewK: everyone from classroom teachers (for whom we have LOTS) to police

officers in schools to juvenile justice settings to community-based programs

KimFl: I have shared this site with lots of AZ social studies teachers

MatthewK: Great! There are actually a lot of good resources in AZ that I'll get to shortly

JenniferP: would you recommend it for use in M.S. as well....

KimFl: cool!

JenniferP: sorry middle school

MatthewK: we have several interesting MS options... I would suggest checking out

<http://www.streetlaw.org/pubs.html>

MatthewK: if you click on that site and scroll down to "Law In Your Life" you'll see a text we created for use with lower-reading level and lower grade-level learners

MatthewK: Let me also tell you about a few other resources...

JenniferP: Thanks Matthew

MatthewK: The links above will take you to all of our printed materials, which I'm sure you all can read about quite well without me

MatthewK: We also offer several professional development opportunities...

MatthewK: who here teaches social studies, law, or government at the HS or MS level?

KimFl: high school

JenniferP: I teach SS at MS level

MarilynH: high school, business education

JenniferP: 8th grade to be exact

DianneA passes

MatthewK: great... some of you...

MatthewK: each year we partner with the Supreme Court Historical Society to put on something called the SUPREME COURT SUMMER INSTITUTE

MatthewK: It's two 5 day sessions of 30 teachers each...

JenniferP: Well we have something similar like that but work with courthouse and judges and the students to study the government and put on mock trials.....

MatthewK: lawyers who argue before the court, professors of law and education, and a variety of others all come to help the teachers in the institute learn more about the Court and how to teach about the Court's cases

JenniferP: which is pretty cool for the kids to see what goes on the other side

MatthewK: there's a competitive application process

JenniferP: That sounds like a great opportunity Matthew

JenniferP: but how do you apply

KimFl: wow! how much does this experience cost?

MatthewK: more info is available at <http://www.streetlaw.org/scipage.html>

MatthewK: there's a \$150 registration fee, plus a housing fee if you stay at the conference hotel... we underwrite it some, but it usually costs another \$275 or so.... we just finished this year's institute and are working on details for next year

KimFl: how early do you have to apply and how competitive is the application process?

MatthewK: teachers also get to be in the room when the court hands down some of the terms decisions and attend a reception with a justice

JenniferP: doesn't sound that bad... what type of law related education expertise do you need. I mean I teach SS, but do I need more prerequisites?

MatthewK: all the application info is online... we don't look at applications until after the closing date (the app for next year isn't yet up), so you don't have to apply early. There

are many more applicants each year than we have space for, so it is pretty competitive

MatthewK: you don't have to have too much LRE experience, per se, but the more you've done the better... usually we look for folks who don't just teach social studies, but go above and beyond in some way... leading after school groups, doing professional development, etc...

MatthewK: there's no perfect set of credentials, though, just demonstrated passion for the subject matter

MatthewK: any other questions about the Supreme Court Institute?

DianneA: doesn't look like it Matthew

MatthewK: okey doke, let's look at some other resources

DianneA: can others give us a sign to suggest we roll on?

KimFl: no other questions, thanks

DianneA: thank Kim

LynneW is ready for more.

MarilynH: Ready to move on

MatthewK: If you're teaching about supreme court cases there is a great site we've developed with free lesson plans and such

DianneA: Thanks Lynne and Marilyn

MatthewK: we put it together with a variety of the cases that are most often covered in state soc. st. standards

MatthewK: it's at www.landmarkcases.org

MatthewK: as you can see there are student materials at various reading levels, all of which have been reviewed by lawyers to make sure they're legally accurate

JenniferP: this is another great site

KimFl: there is so much here!

DianneA: there usually is Kim

DianneA: that's what Matthew is here for

JenniferP: especially if you wanted the students to take different roles in mock trials

MatthewK: yeah, I didn't have much to do with it so I can say that it's really one of the best tools out there

DianneA: to show us how to find these lovely resources

JenniferP: definitely...

JenniferP smiles

MatthewK: finally, back on the "dot com" site, there's a list of other really good sites to do primary and secondary source research on Court cases

MatthewK: www.streetlaw.com and click on "supersites"
MatthewK: Okey doke, you all still with me? Ready to move on?
BigTexGuest6: yes
KimFl: ready
JenniferP: ready Matthew
MatthewK: Okay, there are resources in every state related to law-related education
MatthewK: If you go back to the main webpage www.streetlaw.org
MatthewK: and then click on LRE state contact in the lower left
MatthewK: that will give you your state law-related education coordinator.
MatthewK: they can hook you up with resources in your state, help you find resource people who might be able to come into your classroom, and put you in touch with other teachers who are doing law-related education
DianneA: Matthew, I'm lost
DianneA: how about anyone else?
KimFl: I found AZ. wondering now how much outreach they do beyond the Phx area.
MatthewK: sorry... again, go to www.streetlaw.org and scroll down to where it says "LRE state contacts"
DianneA: aahh got the wrong web page!!
MatthewK: it will open up another window on the American Bar Association site with each state's coordinator
MatthewK: yeah, it's a bit confusing... there's "dot com" and "dot org"
JohnLi: Got it.
DianneA: Got it!!!
MatthewK: Kim... they do a lot of great work in AZ, throughout the state. If you get in touch with them they can plug you in... they work quite a bit with school resource officers
KimFl: they have a great URL for kids too - mostly related to AZ law
MatthewK: Okay, I could go on and on... we've got resources for just about anybody...
MatthewK: A few other quick suggestions then questions...
DianneA: and Kim and Jennifer have some great connections too!!
JenniferP: thanks
DianneA listens to Matthew's suggestions
JenniferP listening
MatthewK: Court TV & Street Law took 6 episodes of the show Homicide (NBC) and took out all the interoffice romance to turn them into teaching aids about legal topics...
MatthewK: we wrote lessons for each... more info at <http://www.streetlaw.org/homicide.html>
MatthewK: Okay, other questions... we've got something that just about anybody can get involved in...
JenniferP: I love watching programs like that...just to see all the work that goes into each case...
DebiGuest4: I am looking for projects to do with students in 9th and 10th grade
MatthewK: what kinds of projects?
DebiGuest4: I work in an alternative online education program and will be teaching History
DebiGuest4: World and US History

DebiGuest4: We are going to be doing work via projects
DianneA: Matthew's expertise is Street Law
MatthewK: Well, from our perspective, the best bet would be to teach what you're looking to teach via Supreme Court cases
DebiGuest4: is there a way to apply this to the alternative education format and history
DianneA: you might be also interested in a later session with Michael Hutchinson Debi
MatthewK: I would definitely use www.landmarkcases.org
MatthewK: it's got lots of history to it
DebiGuest4: thank you - I will check it out
MatthewK: as for alternative ed, what we tend to focus more on with those folks is more of the practical issues...
JenniferP: there seems to be some great cases in history to study and pick apart in landmark
MatthewK: you might be interested in our Community Works program
<http://www.streetlaw.org/cw.html>
DebiGuest4: What is that?
MatthewK: Jennifer: definitely... I know a teacher in MD who uses Court cases to teach all of US history...
DebiGuest4: that would be an awesome course to observe
MatthewK: Community Works is part of the Teens, Crime, and Community program that we started with the National Crime Prevention Council...
MatthewK: it focuses on teaching law to young people and then helping them to create "action projects"
MatthewK: these projects can help young people to make their communities safer...
MatthewK: they're not "online" though... more hands-on
JenniferP: cool
SteveF: Thank you Matthew for the valuable resources
MatthewK: we also have a great program called YouthAct! that teaches young people the skills they need to advocate for change in their communities...
LynneW: Yes, thank you Matthew.
MatthewK: www.youthact.org
MatthewK: you're very welcome!
JenniferP: thanks for the valuable info that I can take back to my classroom
MatthewK: enjoy!
JenniferP: thanks Diane
MatthewK: If you have further questions, feel free to contact me at mkavanagh@streetlaw.org
DianneA: I'd like to thank Matthew for all his hard work and great application!!!
DebiGuest4: thank you
JohnLi: thanks, Matthew.
MatthewK: good luck everyone... enjoy the rest of the festival
LynneW applauds Matthew with warm appreciation
KimFI: thank you :)
DianneA: any other questions ... we have a few minutes more here
MarilynH: Thanks for the great resources!
BretBi: thanks

MatthewK: any other questions before I take off?

BJ: thanks a million, Matt

MatthewK: seems like it was a success

DianneA: It was great Matthew

MatthewK: thanks for all your help

DianneA: you're welcome, and as I said thanks for all your preparation to contribute this bit to the Festival

MatthewK: be well!