2018 Midterm Elections
Table of Contents

1. Introductions

2. The Federal Landscape – 2018 Midterm Elections
   • Voter Enthusiasm & Possible Turnout
   • Special Elections
   • Battleground states
   • Possible make up of Congress in 2019

3. State & Local Elections
   • Education roles of each section of government

4. NAfME Civic Action Field Guide *NEW*

5. Q&A
NAfME Public Policy Staff

Lynn Tuttle
Director of Public Policy, Research, & Professional Development

Ronny Lau
Assistant Director of Public Policy

Tooshar Swain
Public Policy Advisor

Rob Edwards
Policy & Content Coordinator
The Federal Landscape
2018 Midterm Elections
2018 Midterms

• The 2018 Midterms will take place on November 6, 2018.

• Most states have a process for early voting or by requesting an absentee ballot. 13 states do not have early voting and an excuse is required to request an absentee ballot. Check your state’s elections website.

• At the Federal level 435 U.S. House seats and 33 U.S. Senate seats will be on the ballot.

• Matters of interest include which party controls the two chambers of Congress. Federal midterm elections are often seen as a referendum on the president’s first two years in office.

• House seats are up every two years. But because senators serve six-year terms, which are staggered, 33 states have Senate races this fall.

• Outside of DC, 6,665 state positions, which includes 36 gubernatorial races, and thousands more local races. These will have implications on state budgets, education policy, and redistricting.
Voter Turnout Comparisons

During the last midterms in 2014...

- Just 36.4% of eligible voters turned out
- This was the lowest turn out percentage in 70 years (since WWII!)
- By comparison to 2010’s midterms, turnout was 41%

Gallup Poll on Voter Enthusiasm (Before Kavanaugh Confirmation)

- Voter enthusiasm is significantly higher than it was in the prior six midterm election years
  - 55% of U.S. adults were found to be “more enthusiastic” about voting than usual
- Enthusiasm is high for both party groups, as well:
  - 61% of Democrats and Democratic leaners were found to be “more enthusiastic”
  - 58% of Republicans and Republican leaners were found to be “more enthusiastic”
Special Elections

Can the most recent special elections play a part in predicting November’s Outcome?

Since 2017, we have held 11 special elections for Congressional seats:

• Of those races, only two seats flipped:
  1. Alabama’s Senate Seat: R -> D
  2. Pennsylvania’s 18th District: R -> D

Does this automatically mean the Democrats have a better shot in taking more seats?

Not necessarily, as the Democrats have also fallen short in several other special elections:

• Georgia’s 6th District
• Arizona’s 8th District
2018 Possible Make Up of Congress

Forecasting the race for the House

Updated Oct. 10, 2018, at 1:32 AM

7 in 9
Chance Democrats win control (77.8%)

2 in 9
Chance Republicans keep control (22.2%)

Source: FiveThirtyEight
Democrats need to pick up 24 seats to take control of the House. Hillary Clinton won 25 districts in areas now controlled by a Republican member. 12 additional districts held by Republicans see a fundraising edge by Democrats.

Today, Politico analysis revealed 68 Republican seats are considered toss-ups compared to only 6 Democratic seats.

Six seats likely to flip:
New Jersey’s 2nd District (LoBiondo not seeking re-election. Trump +4)
Florida’s 27th, District (Ros-Lehtinen not seeking re-election. Clinton +20)
Arizona’s 2nd District (McSally running for U.S. Senate. Clinton +5)
California’s 49th District (Issa not seeking re-election. Clinton +8)
New Jersey’s 11th District (Frelinghuysen not seeking re-election. Trump +1)
Virginia’s 10th District (Comstock vs. Wexton. Clinton +10)
2018 Possible Make Up of Congress

Forecasting the race for the Senate

1 in 5
Chance Democrats win control (19.7%)

4 in 5
Chance Republicans keep control (80.3%)

Source: FiveThirtyEight
# Battleground States (U.S. Senate)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leans Democrat</th>
<th>Toss Up</th>
<th>Leans Republican</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota (Smith v. Housley)</td>
<td>Arizona (Open Seat)</td>
<td>North Dakota: (Heitkamp v. Cramer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey (Menendez v. Hugin)</td>
<td>Florida (Nelson v. Scott)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin (Baldwin v. Vukmir)</td>
<td>Indiana (Donnelly v. Braun)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia (Manchin v. Morrisey)</td>
<td>Missouri (McCaskill v. Hawley)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Montana (Tester v. Rosendale)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nevada (Heller v. Rosen)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tennessee (Open Seat)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Texas (Cruz v. O’Rourke)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: RealClearPolitics (aggregate information based on major polls)*
2018 Possible Make Up of Congress

Reasons why these predictions may be correct...

• In the Senate, numbers and probability favor Rs. They have nearly twice as many seats NOT up for re-election than seats in play this November.

• Three of the major political analysis groups have 105 House seats in play-most of which are R seats.

• Historically, the party in presidential power does not perform well in their first mid-term elections.

Reasons why these predictions may be incorrect...

• Has polling and analysis accurately accounted for today’s campaigning?

• Waiting for polling on the effects of the Kavanaugh confirmation.

• Pennsylvania redistricting
Questions
State & Local Elections
State and Local Elections

A variety of states and localities will also host elections this midterm.

The majority of the decisions affecting policy and funding for public education are made at the state and local levels.

- Although the federal government provides several funding opportunities for public education, these funds are meant to supplement, not replace state and local funds,
- Federal education spending only account for 2% of all federal spending.

Together, state and local revenue provide up to 92% of the funding for K-12 education.
State and Local Elections

36 STATES PLUS D.C. will hold governors races in 2018.

Source: NGA & ECS
State and Local Elections

Many of these governors appoint state education leaders ...

12 STATES PLUS D.C. of those states are guaranteed to have a new governor.

7 STATES PLUS D.C. of those states are guaranteed to have a new governor.

25 STATES of those states are guaranteed to have a new governor.

Source: NASBE & ECS
State and Local Elections

Other states will hold ELECTIONS for state education leaders ...

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION: 8 STATES PLUS D.C.
- Alabama
- Colorado
- Kansas
- Michigan
- Nebraska
- Ohio
- Texas
- Utah
- D.C.

CHIEF STATE SCHOOL OFFICERS: 7 STATES
- Arizona
- California
- Georgia
- Idaho
- Oklahoma
- South Carolina
- Wyoming

87 out of 99 LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS will hold general elections in November 2018.

Source: NCSL & ECS
State and Local Elections

Please check out the Education Commission of the States Interactive Map of State Education Leadership at:


Source: NCSL & ECS
How is Public Education Governed?

The Governor
• Governors are the chief executives for their state governments.
  o This means they oversee administration for all state agencies, including the Department of Education (or equivalent).
• In most states, the governor usually appoints a top administrator—typically a director or commissioner—to lead this department.

The State Legislature
• State legislatures produce legislation that outlines the overall state budget and influences education policy.
• State legislatures also vote on bills that affect general education policy.
• State legislatures also oversee their state’s Department of Education.
How is Public Education Governed?

13 states directly elect their state superintendent. This November, seven states will vote to decide on their chief education officer. These states include Arizona, California, Georgia, Idaho, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Wyoming.

In South Carolina when voters go to the polls to vote on their new state chief, they'll also decide whether the general public—or the state's governor—is best fit to select who should be in charge of improving the state's schools.

The six other states that hold superintendent elections are Indiana, Minnesota, North Carolina, North Dakota, Washington, and Wisconsin.
How is Public Education Governed?

Local School Board
• In almost all states, local elections are used to determine the makeup of a local school board, although members are appointed in certain locales.
• The school board is often responsible for creating the district’s budget—and deciding where funding cuts or additions should be made.
• A school board determines curriculum goals and school improvement or reform for schools within the district.
• The board also appoints the district superintendent, who serves as the “chief executive” of a school district and wields substantial influence over hiring and budget allocations.

Mayor & City Councils
• Mayoral elections have become increasingly important because more and more localities have been given greater authority either in partnership with or over the local school system.

• Such authority includes appointing the superintendent, a portion of the board, or the entire board. Some localities even include decision-making powers by the mayor.
How is Public Education Governed?

State Board of Education
• Just as each school district has a Board of Education, each state has a State Board of Education.

• The state’s board sets education policy for the state, which the Department of Education (State Education Agency, or could be the Office of Public Instruction) then executes.

• Members may be elected to the state board or appointed by the state’s governor or legislature, depending on location.

• The Board of Education and its administrative extensions are considered the “experts” on schools in a state bureaucracy.

• Since education policy is primarily under the purview of state and local government, state and local boards hold significant influence over the quality of their schools
Questions
NAfME’s Civic Action Field Guide
Civic Action Field Guide

• The NAfME Civic Action Field Guide is a brand-new advocacy resource that seeks to empower music educators and advocates to engage with decision-makers in order to strengthen music programs.

• The contents of the field guide not only offers what is covered in this webinar, but even more detailed information in how to keep music education relevant in your state and local government during election season and beyond. We hope that this guide empowers you to join us as the national voice for music education!
With the Field Guide, you will be able to:

1. Understand how public education is governed and funded
2. Identify key elected officials in public education and their election cycles
3. Identify candidates and their stances on education issues
4. Register to vote
5. Understand the well-rounded education programs found in Title I, Title II, and Title IV, and learn how to advocate for the availability of these funding streams to your music program under ESSA (the Every Student Succeeds Act)
6. Contact your elected officials and advocate for music education
Civic Action Field Guide

Visit - Bit.ly/NAfMEgrassroots

Or...

Grassroots Advocacy Resources

- NAFME Civic Action Field Guide
  - Broader Minded™ Brochure
    - Hard copies sold on the NAFME Store
  - Find your state advocacy leadership
  - Organizing a State Advocacy Day
  - Parents – 5 Ways to Support Your Music Program
  - Connecting with Legislators
  - Key Federal Education Members
  - Public Relations 101
  - Quick review of How a Bill Becomes a Law
  - Concert Program Advocacy Inserts for Teachers:
    - Broader Minded™ color and black/white
    - Spanish Language inserts in color and black/white
    - NEW: Concert Program advocacy insert for parents, and option 2
Questions