Big Idea: Civic and Political Participation	**Standard:** SS.3.C.2, SS.4.C.2, SS.5.C.2

Who is Running for Public Office?

Objectives:

1. The student will identify individuals who are running for public office.

Materials and Resources needed:

1. Pencil
2. "Who is Running for Public Office?" worksheet

Suggested Teaching Time: (30 minutes)

1. (5 Minutes) Remind students that informed voters know who is running for public office.

2. (5 Minutes) Pass out "Who is Running for Public Office?" worksheet.

3. (10 minutes) Log on to www.leonvotes.org and/or http://election.dos.state.fl.us/candidate/candidate-index.shtml to show the students who is running for which public offices.

4. (10 minutes) Student activity.

Next Generation Benchmarks

1. SS.3.C.2.1 – Identify group and individual actions of citizens that demonstrate civility, cooperation, volunteerism, and other civic virtues.
2. SS.4.C.2.1 –Discuss public issues in Florida that impact the daily lives of its citizens.
3. SS.4.C.2.2 –Identify ways citizens work together to influence government and help solve community and state problems.
4. SS.4.C.2.3 –Explain the importance of public service, voting, and volunteerism.
5. SS.5.C.2.4 –Evaluate the importance of civic responsibilities in American democracy.
6. SS.5.C.2.5 –Identify ways good citizens go beyond basic civic and political responsibilities to improve government and society.

Optional Lesson Enhancement Resources:

Websites	Web Address	Description
1. Leon County Supervisor of Elections	www.leonvotes.org	Information on Leon County Elections
2. Florida Division of Elections	http://election.dos.state.fl.us/voting/voting-info.shtml or http://election.dos.state.fl.us/candidate/candidate-index.shtml	Information on Florida Elections

The Florida Joint Center for Citizenship
A Partnership for Florida's Civic Health

LEON COUNTY SCHOOLS

KIDS Voting LEON COUNTY

Activity

1. Ask the students if they know who will be elected this year.
   a. Follow up with "Why not?" or "How do you know?"
   b. Considering prompting the students with questions about the names and public offices they may have seen on campaign signs.

2. Explain to the students that elections are held every even numbered year and that not all public offices are up for election at the same time.

3. Discuss with the students that an informed voter knows which public offices are up for election, who is running for those public offices (the candidates) and the platform (beliefs, opinions, and position on the issues) of each of the candidates.
   a. Guide the discussion so that the students understand that candidates are people who are running for public office and they are asking people to vote for them in the election.
   b. A brief discussion about platforms may also be helpful.

4. Pass out the "Who is Running for Public Office?" worksheet. *It is important to be aware that there are many different offices in the federal/state/ and local elections. The worksheet that is provided includes only the most commonly discussed offices.*

5. Log on to the websites, www.leonvotes.org and/or http://election.dos.state.fl.us/candidate/candidate-index.shtml, so that the students are able to see who is running for public office. These sites also provide the years the election will be held for the various public offices.

6. As a class, complete the worksheet by checking off the public offices that will or will not be voted on during this election.

7. For the public office positions that are up for election this cycle, list the candidates' names in the spaces provided.

Name _____   DATE_____

<u>Who is Running for Public Office?</u>

<u>FEDERAL</u>

YES	NO	PUBLIC OFFICE	CANDIDATES
		President	
		U.S. Senate	
		U.S. Representative	

<u>STATE</u>

YES	NO	PUBLIC OFFICE	CANDIDATES
		Governor	
		State Representative	
		State Senate	
		State Supreme Court	

<u>LOCAL</u>

YES	NO	PUBLIC OFFICE	CANDIDATES
		County Commissioner	
		Superintendent	
		School Board	
		Mayor	
		City Commissioner	