



AAUW Eugene-Lane CHiPS Program 2120-21



CHiPS is...

Civics, History and Political Science advocacy and educational outreach program for public school students with a focus on girls' participation. The purpose of CHiPS is to promote knowledge of how U.S. and local forms of government work, the disposition and skills necessary to become effective, actively engaged citizens.

CHiPS...advocates and supports citizenship education. The program provides instructional resources, simulations and field trips that engage students in local government, parliamentary procedure, debate, and mock trials.

In 2016, the Eugene-Lane (OR) Branch of AAUW voted to support classroom instruction and students involvement in civics, history, and political science at Willamette High School. AAUW continues to fund their Mock Trial team, field trips, and materials to observe and participate in a court of law, our government, our community and political organizations. AAUW champions women's participation in public leadership and encourages girls to pursue careers in these fields.

In early 2021, Civics Trek, an offshoot of CHiPS launched a contest in conjunction with *Girls Voices Matter*. Judges include branch and community members. Cash prizes are awarded.

WHY CHiPS?...

1. Knowledge of government and politics nationwide has remained at the same low level for over 50 years. Studies show that the majority of Americans: cannot pass the basic U.S. Citizenship exam, and cannot name the three branches of our government
2. Students are under-performing in civics, history and political science curriculums.
3. There is a lack of civic engagement among young people.
4. Women are under-represented in civic and political careers.

BENEFITS OF CHiPS...

Students who receive effective citizenship education are, as adults, more likely to:

- Vote
- Discuss politics at home
- Speak publicly
- Run for office

And are four (4) times more likely to:

- Volunteer
- Engage in civic affairs
- Work in public agencies and nonprofits

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AAUW Eugene-Lane Branch