

WAVE High School Voter Registration Program

Making Waves for Democracy Meeting

April 19,2026

Amy Capelle

Amy Capelle presented on youth voter registration initiative with Groundswell.

- **Details**

- Described partnership with Groundswell (formerly Human Relations Commission) which has Human Relations Ambassador Program in Orange County high schools
- Explained WAVE will train high school ambassadors (sophomores and juniors) who will conduct voter registration drives in their schools
- Noted students can pre-register at age 16 if citizens and not incarcerated; automatically registered when they turn 18
- Stated post-COVID access to high schools has been difficult; Groundswell partnership provides entry point
- Described past success registering hundreds of students in single day with 30-40 volunteers during lunch or back-to-school registration
- Explained volunteers help students fill out forms, answer questions, and emphasize importance of voting
- Confirmed registration forms collected same day and submitted to registrar within 3 business days
- Participants asked about training and sign-up process. Amy stated dates being finalized with Groundswell for upcoming drives

- **Conclusion**

- Volunteer opportunities will be available once dates confirmed
- Training will be provided to volunteers
- Program aims to engage young voters early and create peer-to-peer recruitment

