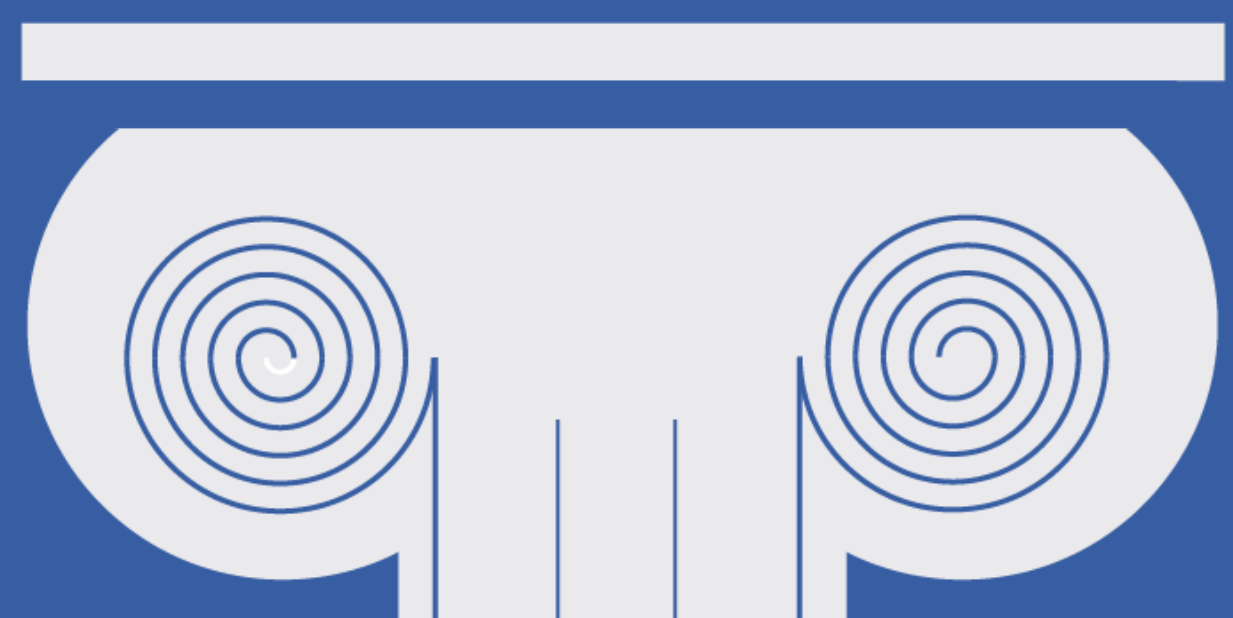
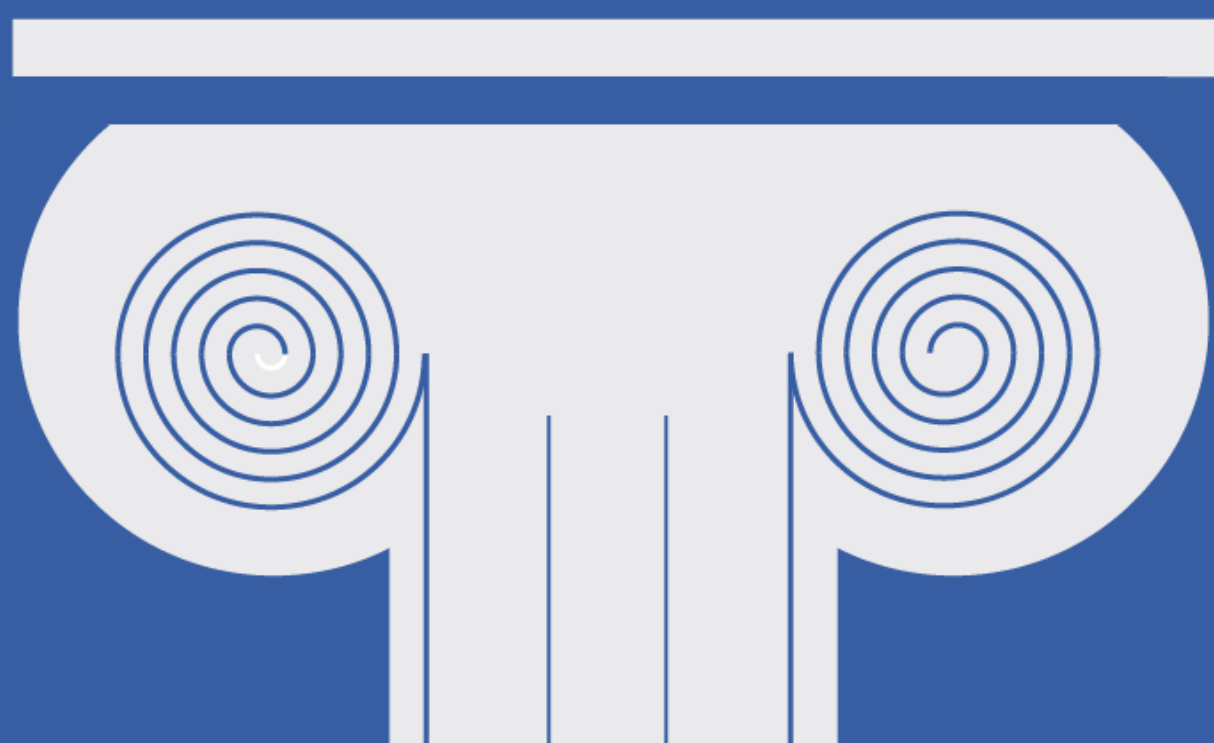


Discussing Politics with Others: Interactive Activity

Mock Lunchroom Discussion: Resolution 8:

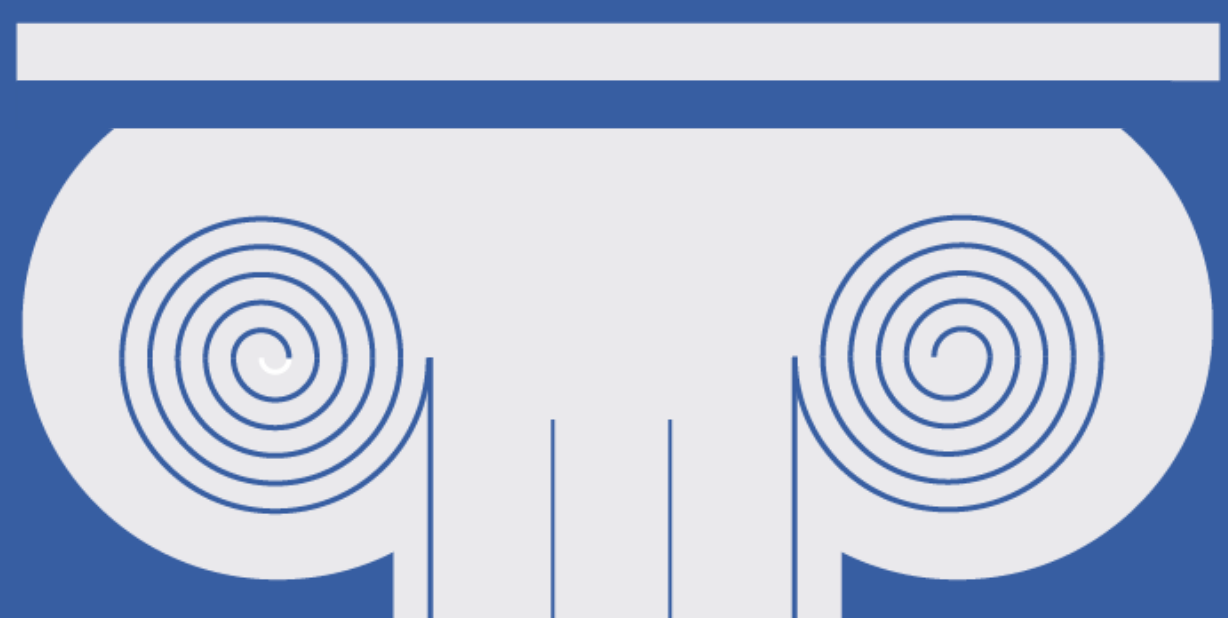
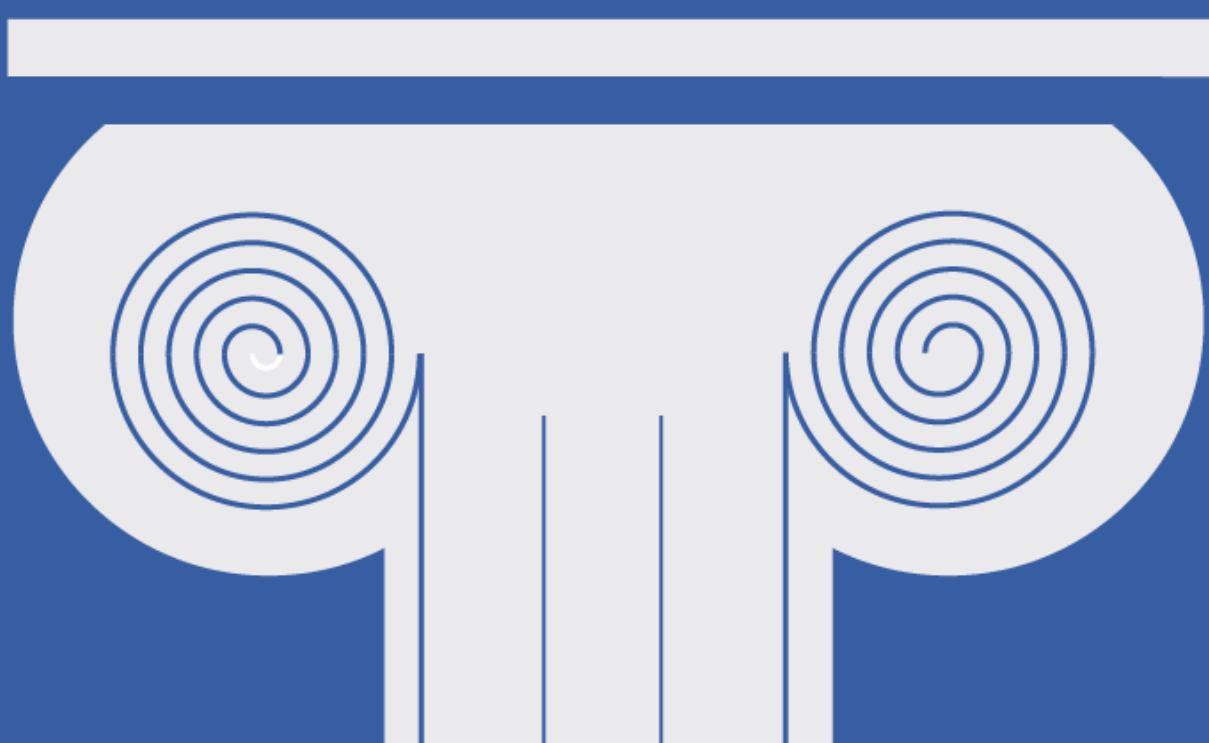
- **Objective:** The purpose of this conversation will be to show students the importance of talking about issues and current events. Students will take away valuable communication and listening skills from this mock lunchroom discussion that will help them as they discuss politics in their own lives.
- **Description of Activity:** Students will be acting out an improv scene in which they are having a discussion about politics, specifically about whether Resolution 8 should be passed or not. Students will be assigned characters with different viewpoints and backgrounds in order to understand the issue and concerns from all sides.



Discussing Politics with Others: Interactive Activity

Step by Step:

- 1) Students will share their experiences about political discussions they've had and how they get their news.
- 2) They will then be randomly assigned characters. The characters they're assigned are solely for the purpose of this mock discussion and may not reflect their actual views on the issue. We will then have a brief discussion about each character and their background.
- 3) Students will brainstorm what the scene will look like and what their characters will say. They will keep in mind what their individual motives/opinions are, possible conflicts that will arise, and how they will resolve them.
- 4) After coming up with a general outline for the scene, students will begin writing the dialogue for the script.
- 5) The students will present the skit, showcasing a political discussion among high school students at their lunch table.



Discussing Politics with Others: Interactive Activity

What's the issue?

- The Board of Education** is proposing Resolution 8, a policy that would limit the number of recycling containers by 70 percent in all school facilities (i.e. classrooms, lunchrooms, gyms). This Resolution comes after there were large-scale cuts to the school budget, resulting in a new limit of the number of recycling pickups the school district could afford to cover each week.

What is Recycling?

- Recycling is the act of treating used and wasted products so they are able to be re-used in a new way. Started as an opportunity to make the most out of products, recycling eventually became a main component of modern environmental efforts to curb climate change and address massive waste created by industrialization.

**Disclaimer: This piece of legislation is a work of fiction. The problems addressed in the RU Ready Civics Fair do not represent the thoughts and opinions of the Eagleton Institute of Politics and its affiliates

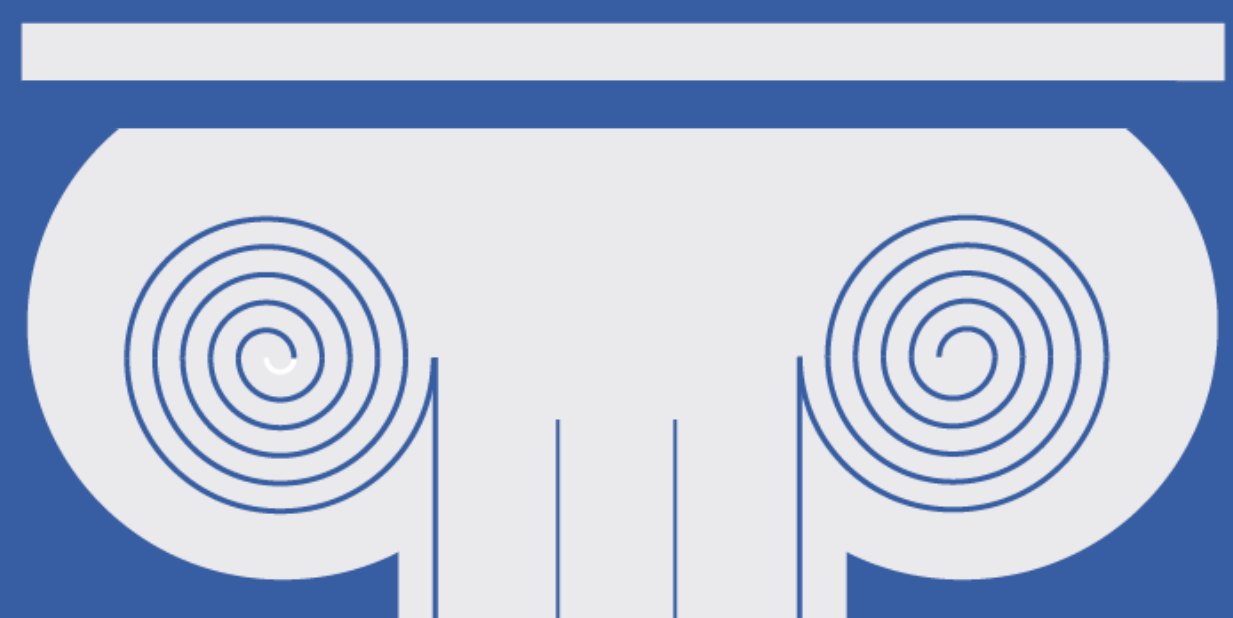
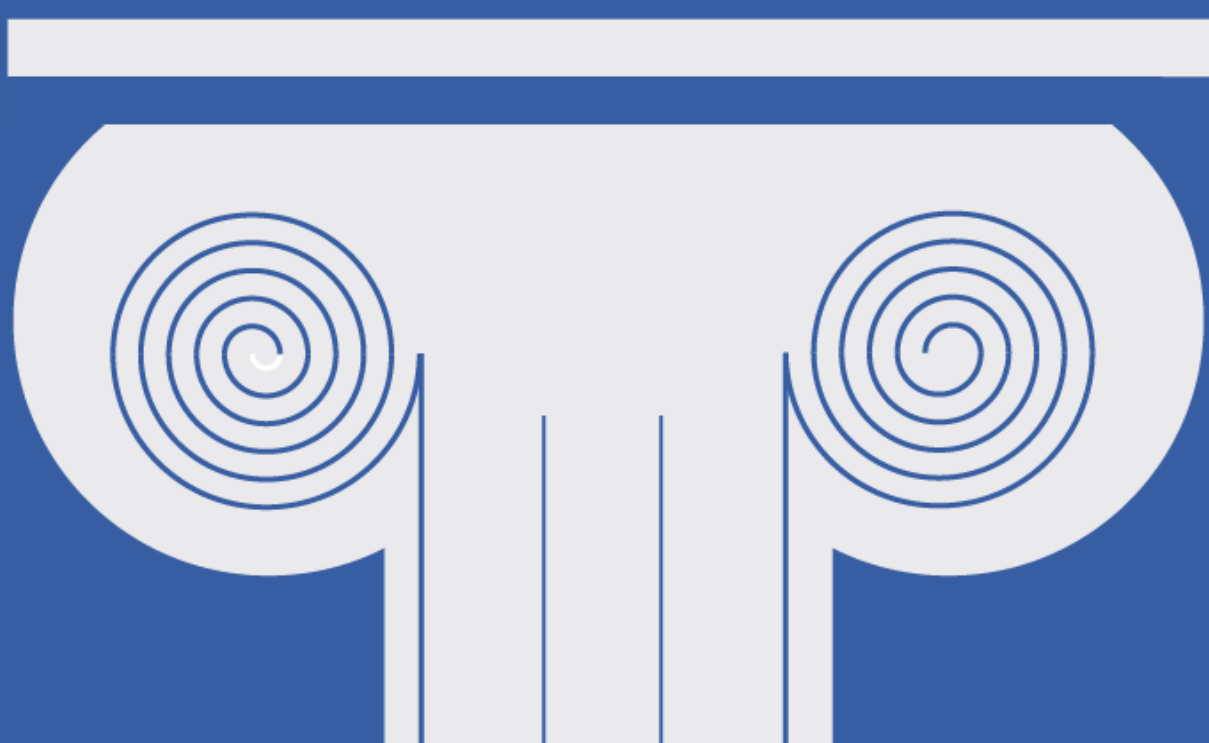
Discussing Politics with Others: Interactive Activity

Arguments in favor of recycling:

- It helps re-use products instead of creating a need to purchase new ones
- It promotes long-term practices of recycling at home and school
- It reduces the amount of waste in landfills and conserves natural resources

Arguments against recycling:

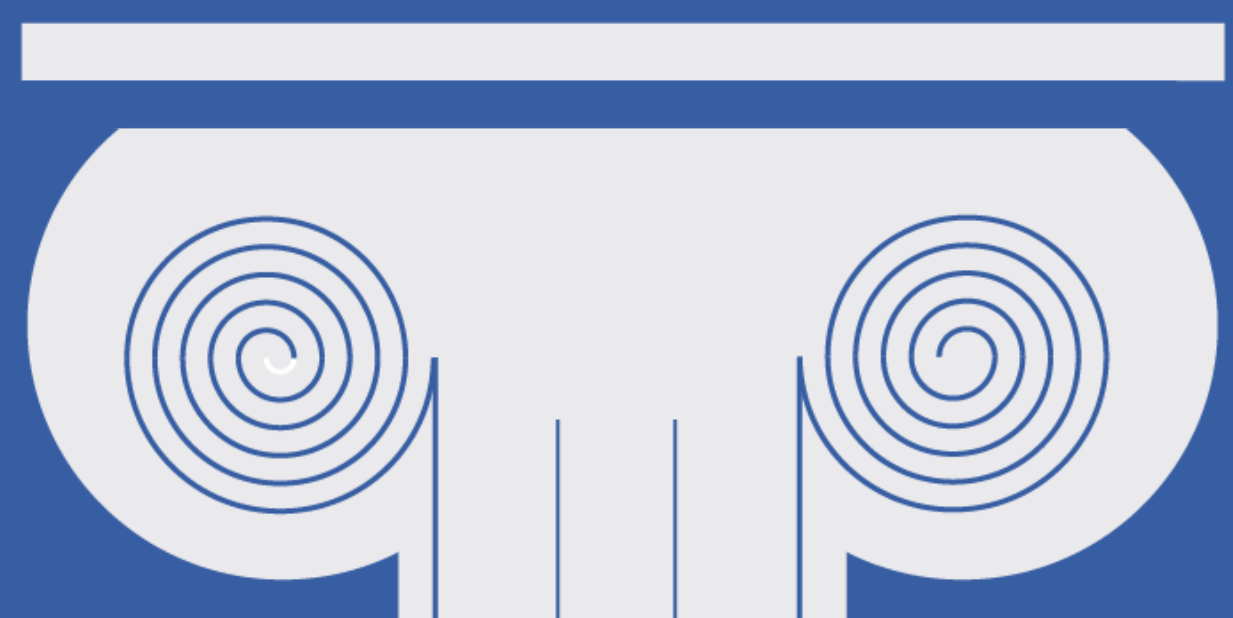
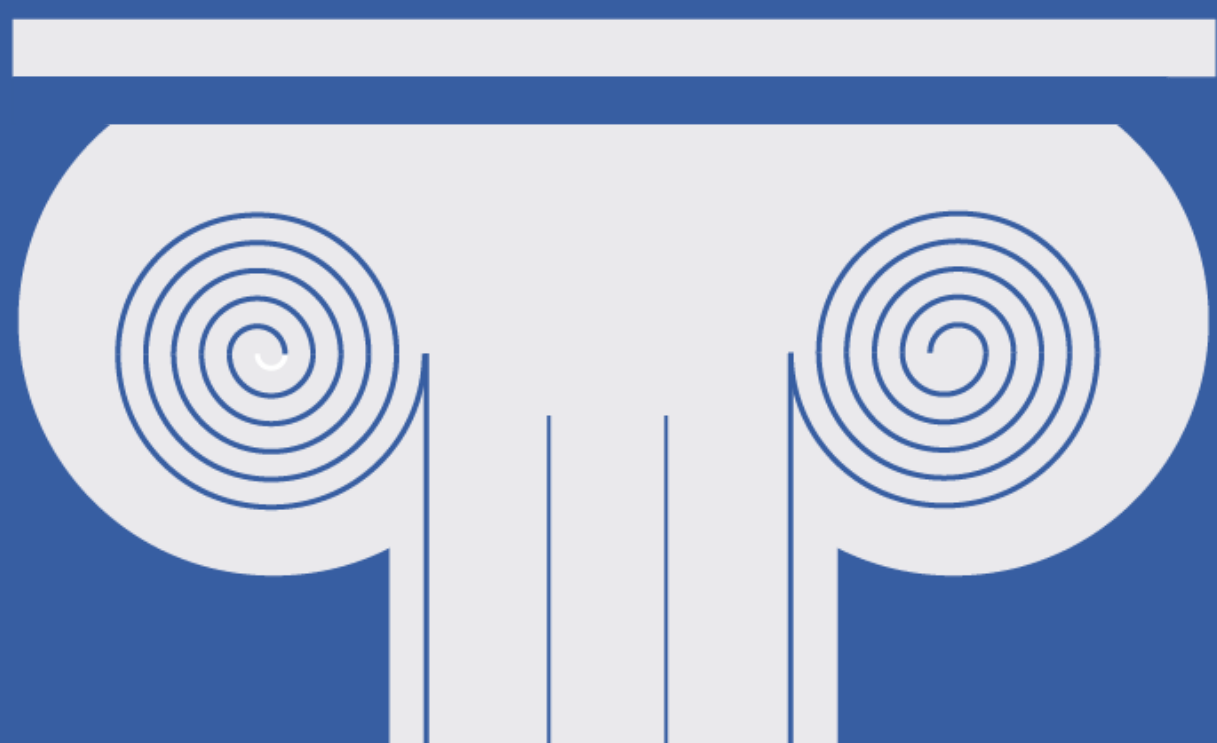
- It is expensive to maintain and invest in as a district
- It is not the only way a district can promote environmental causes
- Requires additional education to staff and students on what can be recycled and how materials need to be processed



Discussing Politics with Others: Interactive Activity

Characters

1. **Josie/Jona**- Mother is an environmental scientist, wants to follow in her footsteps, and cares deeply about our planet
2. **Megan/Martin**- Does not care about politics and thinks everyone should stop arguing about things that don't matter
3. **Tess/Jessie**- A student-athlete, thinks the school needs to stop worrying about recycling and put more money into the athletics department to get better uniforms for the football team.
4. **Taylor/Tyler**- Is the President of Key Club, thinks the school should make it their mission to recycle, and believes Resolution 8 will harm the overall community



Discussing Politics with Others: Interactive Activity

Characters

5. Yasmine/Yanni- A senior, strongly supports Resolution 8 because they believe the school should make their own decisions and not let the students challenge theirs

6. Steve/Stacey- Cares about politics, school, and the community and can see both sides of the argument. Not sure who to agree with but wants to hear more.

7. Sky/Roni- A member of the school's student government who has organized many fundraisers throughout the school year. Thinks the school should actually incorporate more recycling. And is willing to come up with fundraising ideas to get the school more money.

8. Lucy/Louis- Freshman, very unfamiliar with Resolution 8 but is leaning in favor of it passing because they like their administration and trust their decisions.

