

“Living in a
democracy
is important
to me
because...”

"I know that I will be able to help make decisions in the future. No one can strip power from us without our consent. I also know that I have rights; for example, I'm allowed to say what I think without trouble. No one can force me to have a different opinion. I also love the way democracy needs multiple ideas to work, because if people don't have different beliefs, democracy doesn't mean anything. Democracy gives power to the people"

- Elijah L., Grade 6

"Living in a Democracy is important to me because there is over a 300 million people in the United States and most people get to vote on who does the deciding. I am happy because one person can't decide everything and I get to decide some things – not just whoever's president."

- Jaden S., Grade 6

"A democracy is important because we can't keep arguing our whole lives about things. We have to compromise and think of each other and the wants and needs of everyone."

- Leeya P., Grade 6

“Democracy is important for me because I think that it is important to have a say in what happens where you live and it's important to be involved with the laws that are made in your country. Living in a democracy is also important to me because when I am older I will be able to vote and personally be a part of electing our president.”

- Odelia A., Grade 6

“Democracy is important to me because I think that everybody should be treated and thought of fairly. Our democracy is not the best these days because it is pretty bad at handling things like global warming. Yet, XXX.”

- Shirley H.I., Grade 6

“Next quote...

“I think a
President
should
be...”

“The president of a country is the most important job someone can have. The primary traits you should have is experience in politics, concern for all the people, some experience in law, and knowledge about the best response to a problem.”

- Alon B.M., Grade 7

“A president should be smart. They should have a good education. A president should be patient and thoughtful. They should make good decisions and not rush anything, but at the same time get things done quickly and efficiently. A good president cares about the people. Everything they do is to help the people. A good president has strong beliefs, but is willing to change their beliefs to help the country. A good president does nothing for personal gain. A president should have a good background. This is what makes a good president.”

- Caleb F., Grade 7

“A president should be a visionary with ideas that will benefit the country's citizens, not just small ideas, but big ideas with long-term thinking. They should be a leader who can give hope to the people, even in difficult times.”

- Nir H., Grade 7

“I think that a president should be a certain age (about 47 or older) because if you are young you might not have as much experience in how to deal with the problems that a president has to deal with. I also think that a president should think of the country before himself because it is the president’s job to protect and help his country not himself. In addition to this, I feel like we have had many years of white, male presidents, so it would be nice to either have a female or someone of another race as president.”

- Kenzie K., Grade 7

“A president should be a few things and shouldn’t be others. I don’t think the president’s race, ethnicity, or religion, should affect whether they are elected or not. Regarding age, I think there should be a limit, but it should be lowered. I think it should be 22 and up. My reasoning is that the average person will have just finished college at this age, and I feel that people starting in college could reasonably be the most qualified and best candidate for president. I also think the money needed to campaign is a serious issue, but something I would have to put more thought into.”

- Jared L., Grade 7

“I think that a president should be kind and thoughtful, they should be modest and honest too. The president should also think of his country before themselves. He or she should have a good education and should be aware of what's going on around the world, as well as at home.”

- Maya P., Grade 7

“A president should be someone that you can trust and someone that actually cares about the country and not someone that likes or abuses power. A president should also not judge a group of people by their religion, skin color, gender, or beliefs. A president should be someone kids can look up to. I also think it's time to have a woman president.”

- Valentina S.P., Grade 7

“A president should be someone who can solve problems. If our president can't resolve a conflict, then it could cause something like a war very easily. A president should also be accepting of all people, no matter their race or religion, etc. The United States is a free and accepting country and a president shouldn't make it any less so. A president should be a good and honest person.”

- PJ S., Grade 7

“A president should be powerful and wield their power with a strong hand but not abuse it. A president should be determined in all things. A president should be accessible to the people. A president should be courageous and not be afraid to take risks. A president should be of either gender, man or woman.”

- Zoe T., Grade 7

“I think a president should be someone who has a calm and dependable personality. When it comes to a woman or man, I think that having an African American woman in office is a good idea. There's too much of the same thing, and white old men don't know what it's like to sit in the back of the bus. I think it's not that big of a deal what religion you are as president. If I could choose I would select a Jew for president. This would help America because, as I am a Jew, I know that Jews get along with other religions fairly well. I hope to someday see a president similar to this description.”

- Sammy V., Grade 7

