

QuizBowl:

1. Hand out white boards (or pads), markers, etc.
2. The table you are sitting at is your team. Figure out a team name and the best name starts out with five points (Best name judged by someone named in advance).
3. Go through the questions, ~20 sec to answer, each team holds up the board. Correct answers are worth 10 points (if no one is right whichever team is closest can get the points).
4. Team with most points at the end wins, Prize: TBD

COUNTY BUDGET GAME:

Background:

- Imagine you are the county executive (CE)
- One of the most important jobs a CE faces is determining a budget
- But this job isn't always simple because money is not unlimited
- How are you as a team going to determine an appropriate budget?

The Game:

FIRST ROUND:

- IT'S BUDGETING SEASON
- Your budgeting director, informs you that you have \$300,000 to divvy up to different budget items
- For simplicity, we will assume there are only six competing items
 - Transportation, Arts (dance, exhibits), Environment Conservation, Child Care, Parks/Recreation, Public Safety (police, firemen)
- Every department has certain needs for funding
 - Transportation-\$100,000
 - Arts- \$50,000
 - Environment- \$75,000
 - Child Care- \$100,000
 - Parks/Recreation- \$75,000
 - Public Safety- \$100,000
 - For a total of \$500,000
 - Attached is a table outlining what each department needs the money for
- It is now your job to figure out how to allocate this money among the five branches.
 - Keep in mind it will be impossible for you to meet the full demand of every department
- As you determine how much money to allocate to each department, place the money (each bill represents \$10,000) on the square representing the department which you wish to allocate the money.
- Questions that should guide you:
 - How do you determine who needs the money the most?

- What will happen if you disappoint one item over another?
- How did you come up with your answer?
- What factors influenced your priorities?

SECOND ROUND:

- After initial draft of the budget, your staff informs you of the following. There was/were:
 - 400 form letters received to support the arts
 - 700 calls received supporting child care
 - 250 people marched in a Mother's March for public safety
 - 50 of your major donors are environmentalists
 - 0 calls for parks or transportation
- Does this information impact your original draft? How?
- Questions that should guide you:
 - All the previous questions
 - How do you balance your opinion with those of the voters?
 - How much does public opinion matter to you?
 - Remember that it one of your goals is to be re-elected in the next voting period

POST-ALLOCATION:

- Every group will present their budgets, addressing the questions above.
- Following the presentation everybody will vote for which team they would like to be their county executive. (Cannot vote for your own group)
- Determine which group would be elected as county executive.

MAIN IDEA: There's no right answer. Someone is probably going to be unhappy. Especially for legislators, it is a game of balancing people's grievances and doing the best you can so that when elections come, you will be reelected. However, once elected, the legislator will mainly listen to who they believe will come out to vote. If people who care about parks do not vote, legislators will not fund the parks because there is no political gain. That is why it is so important for people to vote to get legislators to listen to their desires. Essentially, even if the candidate you voted for does not win the election, the candidate will try to cater to your desires while they are in office to try and secure your vote for the next election.

Public Safety	Parks/Recreation	Child Care	Environment	Arts	Transportation
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**BUDGET
ITEMS**

Add 10 routes to Major Cities
Maintain current exhibits
Bring environmental protection education to schools
Sponsor 100 scholarships for free child care for low-income families
Maintain current parks
Increase law enforcement presence in high-risk neighborhoods

QuizBowl Questions: - NPW – July 25, 2017

Q: Who is the County Executive?

A: Rob Astorino

Q: Who is the NY State Governor?

A: Andrew Cuomo

Q: Who is the District County Legislator for Scarsdale and White Plains?

A: Benjamin Boykin

Q: Which State Legislator represents White Plains?

A: Amy Paulin

Q: What Congressional District is White Plains in?

A: 16th, (17th)

Q: Who is the US Representative?

A: Eliot Engel, Nita Lowey

Q: US Senators?

A: Chuck Schumer. Kirsten Gillibrand

Q: What is the date of this year's general election?

A: Nov 7

Q: How much revenue does the Westchester nonprofit sector generate per year? (2011)

A: \$6.9 billion

Q: What percentage of the county's total workforce is employed by nonprofits? (2013)

A: 13.6% (53,987 people)

Q: What section of the Internal Revenue Code do nonprofits operate under?

A: 501c3

*****Notes *****

You can ask questions about operating budgets, grants you operate under, how many staff you have, etc.

It's all about getting your staff to think about the idea that what happens in government (at all levels), matters for nonprofits, whose operating budgets in many cases comes from government funding.