**The Electoral College Map Challenge**

**No Calculators**



* A presidential candidate must win More than 50% of the votes in a state to win all the points in the state
* A presidential candidate needs 270 points to win the Presidential Election

Your Challenge – Get elected by visiting the least amount of states

* **Turn in both parts for a grade before the end of class**

**No Calculators**

**Part 1**

* You can start in any state
* Every state you visit = you win all the points of that state
* Imagine “visiting” as making moves on a game board
* When you move to another state, you can only move to a connected state. For example, if you are in Virginia, the next move can only be a connected state (North Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia, Kentucky, or Maryland)
* Reach 270 points in the least amount of moves possible
1. On a piece of you own paper – write down the states (with points) you visit in correct order
2. Add it up to make sure you get over 270
3. Person with the least amount of moves wins a prize

**Part 2**

* Imagine you are running for president and you need to earn 270 electoral votes. However, your time is limited. You can only campaign in 1/3rd of the states (17 states).
1. In which 17 states would a smart candidate spend their campaign time? (write on piece of paper)
2. In which 17 states would a stupid candidate spend their campaign time? (write on piece of paper)

**Part 3**

* **Simplifying Ratios.** Each State is worth a certain amount of points. If you were to compare the two, you would have a ratio. For example, California has 55 pts. & Arizona has 11 pts. That’s a ration of 55:11. If I wanted to simplify this ratio, I would find the Greatest Common Divisor (the biggest positive number that divides both without a remainder). In this case it is 11. 55/11= 5 & 11/11 = 1. The ratio is 5:1 (California has 5 times the population of Arizona)
1. Simplify the following state electoral vote ratios: **a.** Ohio & Vermont **b.** Idaho & Illinois **c.** California & North Carolina

**d.** Louisiana & Texas **e.** New York & Florida **f.** Washington & Pennsylvania

**No Calculators**