March 1, 2012

Dear Globaloria Students in West Virginia:

In my lifetime I have been fortunate to have had many jobs that were interesting and important – working in government on the local, state, and national levels including serving as the first woman on the U.S. Supreme Court. One of the most important and most rewarding things I have done, however, is to help engage your generation in civic participation and leadership.

It is very important that you and your fellow classmates understand how our government works and how you can participate. Our future as a nation depends on it.

That is why I founded iCivics (www.iCivics.org), an education project that uses computer games to teach civics to you and your fellow students, and inspire you to be active participants in our democracy. I encourage you to visit iCivics to play the civics games on civics topics.

It is with great excitement that under my Chairmanship, iCivics has joined the Globaloria Program’s Third Annual Civics Games Competition in West Virginia. You and other students creating civics games have the opportunity to enter this competition, in which your games will be judged by a panel of distinguished civic leaders and game design experts. The game that receives the highest score will win the competition and be featured on the iCivics website and will receive a special grand prize.

I applaud you and your Globaloria classmates at Braxton County High School, Bridgemont Community & Technical College, Capital High School, Chapmanville Middle School, Chapmanville Regional High School, Doddridge County High School, Eastern Greenbrier Middle School, Elkins Middle School, George Washington High School, Greenbrier East High School, Hurricane High School, Lenore Middle School, Monroe County Technical Center, Oak Glen High School, Preston High School, Randolph Technical Center, Riverside High School, Sandy River Middle School, Spring Valley High School, Tygarts Valley High School, Tygarts Valley Middle School, University High School, Webster County High School, Weir High School, Wheeling Park High School and WVU Parkersburg for your willingness to become game-making pioneers and civic leaders for your generation.

Good luck; I look forward to playing your games!

Sandra Day O’Connor