

MECHANICSVILLE, MD - This morning, Congressman Steny Hoyer spoke to more than 200 4th and 5th graders at Lettie Marshall Dent Elementary School in St. Mary's County. Rep. Hoyer was the keynote speaker at an assembly where the students learned about how laws are made and the legislative process. Congressman Hoyer visits the students at Lettie Marshall Dent on a yearly basis to teach our future leaders about the importance of the legislative process.

"I love talking to young people," said Congressman Hoyer. "And, I particularly enjoy coming to Lettie Marshall Dent every year to discuss with these bright students the importance of the legislative process and learning about Democracy."

Congressman Hoyer spoke to the students for nearly an hour about the legislative process, talking to them about how laws are made, why voting is so important and how a representative government works. He helped the students understand some of these complicated issues by asking the students to vote for their favorite ice cream flavor: chocolate or vanilla. Rep. Hoyer also allowed the students to ask him questions, and he fielded questions ranging from "is your job fun," to "do you support school vouchers."

Congressman Hoyer also expressed his gratitude to the 4th and 5th grade teachers who brought their students to the assembly. He reminded the students to thank their teachers who do such a tremendous job at raising standards and enhancing their educational experience. "If you do not learn, you cannot make yourself better," added Rep. Hoyer. And, he left them with the message that, "if we each do better individually, we can make our country better."

Lettie Marshall Dent has 25 classrooms ranging from Kindergarten to 5th grade and 8 4th and 5th grade classes, 200 students, participated in the assembly this morning.

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