

# Electing the National Doughnut

We are going to learn about other ways of voting to make choices. We're going to do it by choosing the kind of doughnut that we'll bring in for everyone in our building. Because we are going to try a lot of different methods, we may end up with a lot of different winners. Then we would have to decide how to decide!



## **Methods:**

### ▶ **Approval Voting**

*Each student will vote for as many doughnut types as s/he likes. The doughnut getting the most votes is the winner.*

### ▶ **Cumulative Voting**

*Each student will get as many votes as there are doughnut types. Those votes can be distributed however the student wishes – all for one type, one for each type, or anything in between. The doughnut with the most votes wins again.*

### ▶ **Borda Count**

*Each student will rank the doughnuts in order of preference. If there are 6 choices, the first choice will get 5 points, the second choice four points, and so on down to zero points for the last choice. The doughnut that gets the greatest total of points is the winner.*

### ▶ **Single Transferable Vote**

*Each student will rank the doughnuts in order of preference, from #1 (first choice) to the end of the list. If any doughnut wins a majority of the first place votes, the choice is made. But if no doughnut gets a majority, the votes cast for the LAST-place doughnut will get moved to those voters' second choice. If that doesn't give a majority to one type, the votes cast for the next-to-last-place doughnut will be given to those voters' second choice, and so on until one doughnut gets more than half of the votes.*

### ▶ **Condorcet Method**

*This is sometimes called "paired" voting. Voters rank the doughnuts in order of preference. Then one doughnut is compared to just one other doughnut. The one that got more votes eliminates the other and moves on to be compared again to a new doughnut, until all pairs have been matched. The last doughnut standing is the winner.*

### ▶ **Simple one-choice vote**

*We'll just vote for our first choice, count 'em up, and the winner will be the one that gets the most votes. Simple, isn't it?*

**Challenge questions:** What do the ballot papers need to look like for each type? What instructions should be on each one? How should the vote-counters figure out who won their type of vote?