“*The most valuable piece of knowledge I gained is more knowledge on an attorney's life! Since that is something I want to pursue in the future I found it really helpful to get to hear from attorneys, law clerks, and other law related fields on their line of work.*” -Elizabeth A.

Two student-noted highlights of the program were court proceedings that took place in front of federal judges. During orientation, students participated in an evidence based activity and presented their arguments and findings to Chief District Judge Stephen R. Clark. Later in the program, they participated in the moot court proceeding during which the students served as justices and attorneys for the petitioner and respondent. Court of Appeals Judge Raymond Gruender served as Chief Justice. In both instances, the judges were generous with their time and provided the students with helpful feedback and advice.

“*Participating in the mock Supreme Court Oral Arguments was the best part of the program! Preparing and asking questions was fun, but meeting and talking with Judge Gruender was the highlight. It was such a cool opportunity that I otherwise would have never been able to experience!*” -Cooper L.

Students also got to meet with and interview case plaintiffs Cathy Kuhlmeier, Leslie Smart, and Leanne Tippett-Mosby as well as Hazelwood East principal Gene Reynolds and others involved in the case. As their capstone project, students used the interviews to create an oral history installation. These recordings have been added to the original student-created *Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier* exhibit on display in the Judicial Learning Center at the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse.

“*I enjoyed the interviews with participants/ people involved with the Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier because it was fascinating to hear everyone’s first-hand account of the case.*” -Elise H.

The *Hometowns* program was planned and coordinated by Nicole Maffei, the Society’s Director of Civics Education and Rachel Marshall, Director of Civics Education, and Theresa Lueke, Education Program Manager, for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.