

# Kids Voting Election 2012

North Carolina Primary

Grades 6-12

**KIDS VOTING**  
**CHARLOTTE AREA**  
a program of  Generation Nation

# Election vocabulary



## ❖ Primary election

- A vote to decide which political party candidates will run for specific offices

## ❖ Vote

- Make a decision

## ❖ Candidate

- A person running for office

## ❖ Office

- An elected role in government

## ❖ Ballot

- Where candidates are listed and votes are made

- ❖ **Groups of people who have similar ideas**
- ❖ **Major US political parties**
  - Democrats [www.democrats.org](http://www.democrats.org)
  - Republicans [www.gop.com](http://www.gop.com)
  - Libertarians [www.lp.org](http://www.lp.org)
- ❖ **Some local government offices are nonpartisan**
  - The individual candidates can have political ideas but don't officially run as members of a political party

# Primary election

- ❖ You will **select one ballot** for the primary
  - Democratic Party
  - Republican Party
- ❖ In the **primary**, voters select candidates within **one political party**
- ❖ In the **November election**, voters may select candidates within any party on the ballot

# On the ballot



## ❖ Grades K-12

- President

## ❖ Grades 3-12

- Governor

## ❖ Grades 6-12

- U.S. House of Representatives

## ❖ Grades 9-12

- Amendment One

## ❖ President

- 4-year term

## ❖ Role

- Makes decisions
- Works with Congress
- Works with other countries
- Follows and enforces U.S. laws
- Leads the military
- Represents the United States

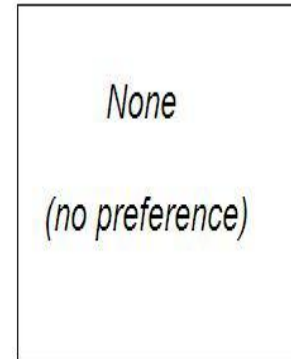
# Candidates

## President - Democratic

### Vote for one (1) candidate



Barack Obama (D)



None (D)

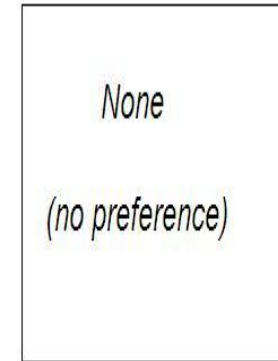
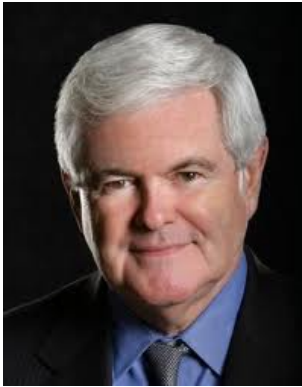


# Candidates

## President - Republican



### Vote for one (1) candidate



Newt  
Gingrich

Ron  
Paul

Mitt  
Romney

Rick  
Santorum

None

*Note: A candidate may be listed on the ballot even if he drops out of the race.*

## ❖ Governor

- 4-year terms

## ❖ Role

- Reports to the General Assembly on the business of North Carolina
- Recommends a budget to the General Assembly and administers a balanced budget
- Leads the state's military forces (except when forces are called into action by the US)
- Names state officers, such as judges
- Signs North Carolina laws

# Candidates

## Governor - Democratic



### ❖ **Vote for one (1) candidate**

- Bruce Blackmon
- Walter Dalton
- Gary Dunn
- Bob Etheridge
- Ollie William Faison
- Gardenia Henley

# Candidates

## Governor - Republican



### ❖ **Vote for one (1) candidate**

- James Harney
- Scott Jones
- James Mahan
- Pat McCrory
- Charles Kenneth Moss
- Paul Wright

## ❖ Representative

- 2-year terms

## ❖ Role includes:

- Represents North Carolina residents in Congress
- Makes decisions
- Works with the Senate to create and approve legislation
- Initiates revenue bills, including taxes
- Can impeach officials
- Elects the President in the event of an electoral deadlock

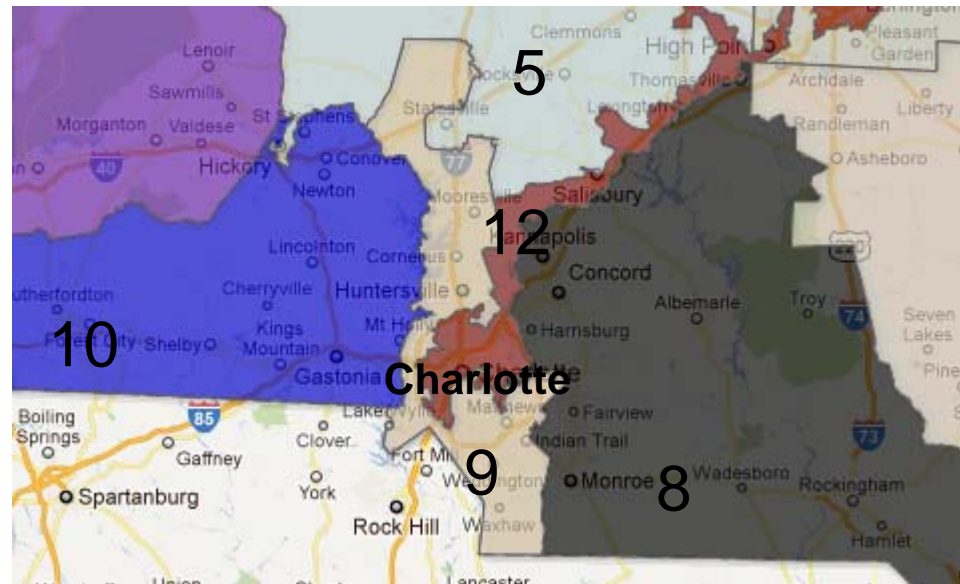
# Congressional Districts

## ❖ Mecklenburg

- Mostly 9 & 12
- Small part of 8

## ❖ Region (approx. locations)

- 5 – North of Charlotte
- 8 – East of Charlotte
- 9 – Parts of Mecklenburg, Union, and Iredell
- 10 – West of Charlotte
- 12 – Along I-85



Look up your district

<http://www.app.sboe.state.nc.us/webapps/redistrict/NCRedistrictMapSingle.html?2468608,,Congressional,2011>

# Candidates

## District 5



- ❖ If you live in **District 5**, vote for one (1) candidate in your party
  
- ❖ **Democratic Party Candidates**
  - Elisabeth Motsinger
  - Bruce Peller
  
- ❖ **Republican Party Candidates**
  - Virginia Foxx (unopposed – no primary election)

# Candidates

## District 8



❖ If you live in **District 8**, vote for one (1) candidate in your party

### ❖ **Democratic Party Candidates**

- Larry Kissell
- Marcus Williams

### ❖ **Republican Party Candidates**

- Richard Hudson
- Scott Keadle
- Vernon Robinson
- Fred Steen
- John Whitley



# Candidates

## District 9



❖ If you live in **District 9**, vote for one (1) candidate in your party

### ❖ **Democratic Party Candidates**

- Jennifer Roberts (unopposed – no primary)

### ❖ **Republican Party Candidates**

- Dan Barry
- Andy Dulin
- Jon Gauthier
- Ric Killian
- Kenneth Leonczyk
- Richard Lynch
- Edwin Peacock
- Jim Pendergraph
- Robert Pittenger
- Michael Schaeffer
- Mike Steinberg

# Candidates

## District 10



❖ If you live in **District 10**, vote for one (1) candidate in your party

### ❖ **Democratic Party Candidates**

- Patsy Keever
- Timothy Murphy
- Terry Michelle Bellamy

### ❖ **Republican Party Candidates**

- Ken Fortenberry
- Patrick McHenry
- Donald Peterson

# Candidates

## District 12



❖ If you live in **District 12**, vote for one (1) candidate in your party

### ❖ **Democratic Party Candidates**

- Matthew Newton
- Mel Watt

### ❖ **Republican Party Candidates**

- Jack Brosch (no primary)

# Constitutional Amendment



- ❖ **Amendment One** is a proposed amendment to the North Carolina Constitution.
- ❖ **Ballot text:**
  - Constitutional amendment to provide that marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this State.
- ❖ **Vote**
  - **FOR** or **AGAINST** the amendment

# Read, think, decide



1. **Learn** about the candidates
2. **Think** about the information
3. **Choose** candidates you like best
4. **Vote**
5. After the election, **keep track** of the candidates & their promises and actions

## ❖ Start with an issue YOU care about

- Education, environment, safety, transportation, economy/jobs, children, neighborhoods, teachers

## ❖ Find information about the candidates

- GenerationNation [www.generationnation.org/k12in2012](http://www.generationnation.org/k12in2012)
- Charlotte Observer [www.charlotteobserver.com](http://www.charlotteobserver.com)
- NC Voter Guide [www.ncvoter.guide.org](http://www.ncvoter.guide.org)
- Candidate websites
- Video interviews and debates
- Other sources?

- ❖ Does this **information help me?**
- ❖ Is it from a **good, truthful source?**
- ❖ Does it **fit with other facts** I know?
- ❖ How does it **make me feel?**
- ❖ Do I **know enough to make a decision?**
  - If not, learn and read more
  - Tip: Focus on the individual candidates, their ideas and solutions instead of political parties

# Choose a candidate

## ❖ Review

- What did each candidate say? Did they...
  - Have ideas or solutions...
  - ...or complain a lot?
  - Ask questions?

## ❖ Decide

- Which one do you agree with the most?
- Based on the information you know, do you think the candidate will do a good job?



## ❖ Who do YOU think should win in the North Carolina primary?

- K-12 students vote online April 26-May 8
  - [www.generationnation.org/k12in2012](http://www.generationnation.org/k12in2012)
  - Results announced May 9
- Ballot is designed for easy use at school, after school, at home – everywhere
  - When students finish voting, the ballot automatically returns to page one for the next voter

# After the election

## ❖ Look for official election results

### – Adult vote

- Board of Elections [www.meckboe.org](http://www.meckboe.org) and [www.ncsbe.gov](http://www.ncsbe.gov)
- Media [www.charlotteobserver.com](http://www.charlotteobserver.com)

### – Student vote

- [www.generationnation.org/k12in2012](http://www.generationnation.org/k12in2012) and [www.facebook.com/GenerationNation](http://www.facebook.com/GenerationNation)
- Did students elect different candidates?

## ❖ Keep track of the winning candidates

- Do they keep their campaign promises?
- Do they make good decisions?

## ❖ Stay involved

- Watch or attend government meetings, write letters or email officials