

Kids Voting Election 2012

North Carolina Primary

Grades K-5

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
 - Republicans www.gop.com
 - Libertarians 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

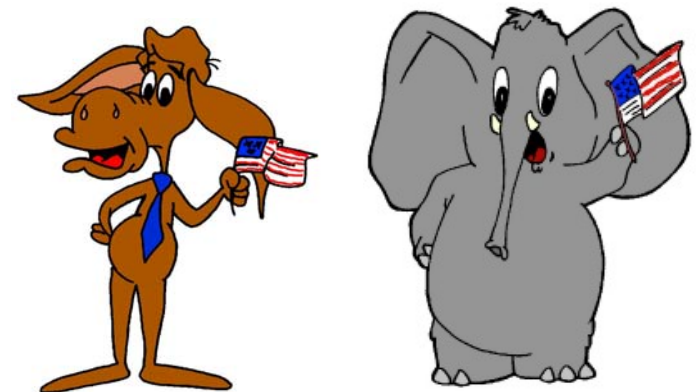
Primary election

❖ 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

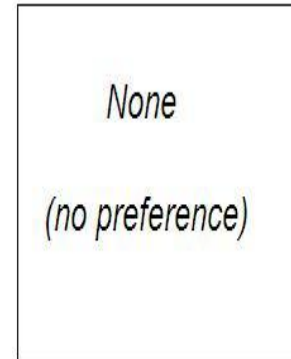
Candidates

President - Democratic

Vote for one (1) candidate



Barack Obama (D)



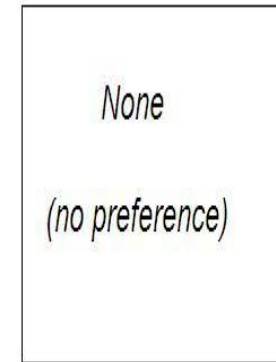
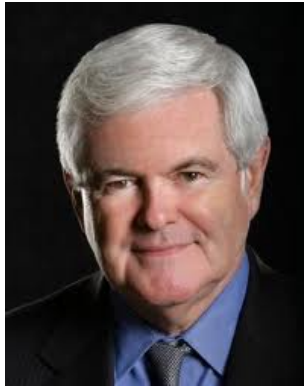
None (D)

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 term

❖ 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

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
- Charlotte Observer www.charlotteobserver.com
- NC Voter Guide 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
 - 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 and www.ncsbe.gov
- Media www.charlotteobserver.com

– Student vote

- www.generationnation.org/k12in2012 and 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