



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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WILL THE CHILDREN OF NEW HAMPSHIRE LEAD THE NATION?

In the mock primary held on the eve of the official January 8 New Hampshire Primary, 10,791 students in 85 New Hampshire schools chose Barack Obama and Mitt Romney as their Presidential Candidates. Two in three (64%) voted the Democratic Party ballot and 34% the Republican Party ballot.

- For the Democratic nomination, Barack Obama led with 57% of the votes; Hillary Clinton had 26% and John Edwards 10%.
- For the Republican nomination, Mitt Romney led with 35% of the votes followed by John McCain, 20%; Rudy Giuliani, 15%; Ron Paul, 13%; Mike Huckabee, 11%.

Prior to voting, students had time to study curriculum materials that reviewed the qualifications not only of all current candidates but also of all our past presidents.

Asked on the mock election ballot "If miracles could happen, which of the following past presidents would you want to lead the country?" students put Abraham Lincoln in first place with 28% of the vote followed by George Washington, 18%; Bill Clinton, 12%; John Kennedy, 14%; and Ronald Reagan, 6%.

Past presidents named on the mock ballot were those that had polled at least 2% spontaneous mention in the Leo J. Shapiro & Associates Inc, telephone survey of 1,340 adults sampled nationally and interviewed in the nine months ending November 2007. The Shapiro survey was conducted for the National Student/Parent Mock Election as part of their effort to provide teaching materials for use in the conduct of mock elections in all 50 states and American schools overseas.

Peter Frid, New Hampshire's Public TV CEO and General Manager, describes his organizations involvement in the New Hampshire mock election as part of "an intense effort to provide civic education and activities to school age children and youth to help move the United States toward developing a nation of voters."

The New Hampshire Student/Parent Mock Election is supported by the New Hampshire Department of Education, the New Hampshire Council for Social Studies, New Hampshire Public Television, the League of Women Voters of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Political Library, the University of New Hampshire Education Department and the New Hampshire Institute of Politics at St. Anseim College.

The National Student/Parent Mock Election congratulates Susan Adams and Laura Kessler, NH Mock Election Coordinators, for the success of the January mock primary. It also congratulates Peter Frid and his staff for being selected by the Library of Congress for inclusion of NHPTV's mock election website in its historic collection of Internet materials relating to Election 2008.

For information about the National Student Parent Mock Election, the oldest and largest not-for-profit organization dedicated to the conduct of mock elections, or if you want to be kept abreast of mock election activities, go to nationalmockelection.org.

While New Hampshire students' choice of current candidates for president is roughly in line with national survey findings, their choice of the past president to lead the country is widely different from the choice made by adults nationally.

The Shapiro survey found Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton tied for first place with each having 14% of the vote, followed closely by John Kennedy (12%), then Abraham Lincoln (9%), Franklin D. Roosevelt (6%), George Washington (4%), Harry Truman (3%), Theodore Roosevelt (2%), Thomas Jefferson (2%), and Dwight Eisenhower (2%).

To enroll in the National Student/Parent Mock Election takes only a click, a phone call, a fax or a stamp. That is your only cost.

See our Web site at: www.nationalmockelection.org or phone (520) 877- VOTE (8683) or, for press, public officials and contributors, call (520) 742- 9943 (please do not publish this number), or e-mail: nspme@aol.com or fax (520) 742-3553, or mail to P.O. Box 36653, Tucson, AZ 85740.

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