

MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

Brad Johnson



East Helena Public Schools
"Success For All"



Montana Student/Parent Mock Election Ballot

October 30, 2008

Fill in the oval before your choice like this: 

For Mock Election Use Only

President and Vice President

(Vote for no more than ONE)

- Ron Paul and Michael Peroutka (Constitution)
- Barack Obama and Joe Biden (Democrat)
- Ralph Nader and Matt Gonzalez (Independent)
- Bob Barr and Wayne Allen Root (Libertarian)
- John McCain and Sarah Palin (Republican)

United States Senator

(Vote for no more than ONE)

- Max Baucus (Democrat)
- Bob Kelleher (Republican)

United States Representative

(Vote for no more than ONE)

- John Driscoll (Democrat)
- Mike Fellows (Libertarian)
- Denny Rehberg (Republican)

Governor and Lt. Governor

(Vote for no more than ONE)

- Brian Schweitzer and John Bohlinger (Democrat)
- Stan Jones and Michael Baker (Libertarian)
- Roy Brown and Steve Daines (Republican)

Basic Level Questions

1. THE ECONOMY: What do you want the next President to do to improve the economy?

- a) Give more money to government agencies so they can develop programs to increase the supply and lower the cost of energy. Government agencies will hire and supervise companies to carry out these programs.
- b) Give money directly to private companies in the form of grants and/or loans or reduce taxes so that they can better increase the supply and lower the cost of energy.
- c) Click here if you really cannot make a choice.

2. ENERGY: What do you want the next President to do to increase the supply and lower the cost of all forms of energy? These include oil, nuclear power, wind power, solar power, and biofuels (fuels made from plants that can replace fuels made from oil.)

- a) Give more money to government agencies so they can develop programs to increase the supply and lower the cost of energy. Government agencies will hire and supervise companies to carry out these programs.
- b) Give money directly to private companies in the form of grants and/or loans or reduce taxes so that they can better increase the supply and lower the cost of energy.
- c) Click here if you really cannot make a choice.

3. HEALTH CARE: What do you want the next President to do to make affordable health care available to everyone?

- a) Cut taxes and give everyone money so they can buy health insurance from private insurance companies.
- b) Give more money to government agencies like Medicare and have them provide health insurance for everyone.
- c) Click here if you really cannot make a choice.

4. EDUCATION: What do you want the next President to do to improve the quality of elementary and high school education?

- a) Give more money to public school systems. Have them use it to improve public schools and to pay for improvements in religious and private or charter schools.
- b) Give every child a voucher to pay for tuition at any public, religious, or private school they choose. Government money then goes to the school when they cash in their vouchers.
- c) Click here if you really cannot make a choice.

5. Is it the President's job to insist that schools

| | Agree | Disagree | Don't Know |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Provide more effective teachers in every classroom | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Give students more time and support for learning | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Set standards for evaluating the quality of American education in every school | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

6. IRAQ WAR: What do you want the next President to do to end the war in Iraq?

- a) Keep American troops in Iraq for as long as it takes to win that war and achieve all our political goals.
- b) Set a time for bringing our American troops home in orderly fashion.
- c) Click here if you really cannot make a choice.

7. AFGHANISTAN WAR: What do you want the next President to do to end the war in Afghanistan?

- a) Keep American troops in Afghanistan for as long as it takes to win that war and achieve all our political goals.
- b) Set a time for bringing our American troops home in orderly fashion.
- c) Click here if you really cannot make a choice.

8. Now that you have thought about what you want the President to do about the major issues facing the nation, please select the one issue that you feel is the most important facing our country today.

- a) The Economy
- b) Energy Crisis
- c) Health Care
- d) Education
- e) Iraq War
- f) Afghanistan War

Advanced level questions

1. Of the issues listed below, check the box of the issue you feel is the **most important** one our country is facing today.
 - a. The economy
 - b. Energy crisis
 - c. Health-care quality and costs
 - d. Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan
 - e. Other issue, please name it: _____

2. Of the issues listed below, check the box of the issue you feel is the next most important one our country is facing today.
 - a. The economy
 - b. Energy crisis
 - c. Health care quality and costs
 - d. Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan
 - e. Other issue, please name it: _____

3. Which one of the following statements most closely reflects your beliefs about the economic policies the next president should use to improve Americans' standard of living?
 - a. International trade agreements like NAFTA have benefited our partner countries at the cost of American jobs and business and should be terminated or renegotiated to include better terms for U.S. workers, and stronger protection for consumer goods.
 - b. The president should take measures to significantly reduce the federal budget deficit, which is projected to be \$410 billion for 2008. Doing so would lower our trade imbalances, raise savings while lowering our need for foreign debt, and improve our long-term economic growth.
 - c. The president should make extensive improvements to our aging infrastructure. Replacing old bridges, investing in modern rail networks, and upgrading our outdated electricity grid would create jobs and promote greater efficiencies that would benefit our economy.
 - d. With oil prices high and job creation slow, taxes should be lowered to give households more income to meet their rising bills. This would put money back into the economy and create new jobs.
 - e. Uncertain, need to learn more about this issue.

4. Which one of the following statements most closely reflects your beliefs about the energy crisis, especially fuel costs and resource conservation?

- a. The government should heavily subsidize the research and development of alternative energy sources to reduce our demand for oil, as it is harmful for the environment and increasingly expensive.
- b. As oil companies collect record profits with the ever-increasing price of gasoline, the government should impose windfall profit taxes on the companies if they fail to increase their investment in greater oil production and/or new energy alternatives.
- c. With the price of gasoline stretching many American's pocketbooks to near the breaking point, the government should suspend the federal gas tax of 18.4 cents a gallon to lessen the burden on drivers at the pump.
- d. The rise in oil prices is mainly due to an increase in world demand, without a corresponding expansion of supply. To increase supply, the government should remove the ban on off-shore drilling so that oil companies can remove more oil from the ground.
- e. Uncertain, need to learn more about this issue.

5. Which one of the following statements most closely reflects your beliefs about American involvement in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan?

- a. The United States should stay in Iraq and Afghanistan until all our military and political goals are achieved, even if it takes decades. Our security and interests are paramount. As the only world superpower we can do things alone and without concern for world public opinion.
- b. The wars are still to be won and their goals achieved. When the military and political situations improve in Iraq and Afghanistan, there should be a slow and gradual withdrawal of American troops.
- c. The wars have not been successful in achieving its goal of making our nation safer. Our international reputation has been harmed. American casualties have been much greater than expected. All American combat troops should return home when the political status of Iraq and Afghanistan improves.
- d. The wars have severely damaged the reputation and power of the United States. It is in the best interest of our country that our armed forces immediately leave Iraq and Afghanistan in an orderly manner. Let the people of both countries resolve their own problems, and we will give economic help when needed.
- e. Uncertain, need to learn more about this issue.

6. Which of the following statements most closely reflects your beliefs about health-care policy and costs?
- a. The federal government has no responsibility for health care of private citizens. It should be the responsibility of each individual to gain health-care coverage through health insurance companies. Self-reliance and the freemarket system should be used for all services in the United States.
 - b. The federal government should largely stay out of providing health care to Americans. That should be done mainly through the private sector. Only the most needy citizens should be given a basic level of medical assistance.
 - c. The federal government should play a major role in assuring that affordable, quality healthcare is available to all Americans. Federal healthcare insurance should be provided to citizens who cannot get private healthcare coverage.
 - d. A national health-care insurance program is needed. All Americans should be provided quality healthcare through a federal program, funded by tax revenues. Health care is too important to be left to the private enterprise.
 - e. Uncertain, need to learn more about this issue.
7. Americans consider leadership qualities when selecting a new president. All of the Qualities listed below are important to be a President. However, which one of the following leadership qualities is the most important for the next President in order to be most effective?
- a. High ethical standards – has a clear understanding of right and wrong, and will act in a morally correct way with individuals, other peoples and nations. Can be trusted as a moral, honest person.
 - b. Strong decision-making skills – decisions are made in a reasoned, orderly manner with the input of all viewpoints and based on the consequences of the decision. Logical reasoning is used rather than acting compulsively and emotionally.
 - c. Patriotic – must believe the country comes before self-interests.
 - d. Organizational and team leader - ability to forge a team and get the most out of it, minimizing the tendency of subordinates to tell their boss what they sense he wants to hear.
 - e. Excellent public communicator – ability to communicate clearly his policies to the nation’s citizens and be skillful at public speaking to mass audiences.