



★ Election

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TOP SITES:

[Real Clear Politics](#)

One of the best all-around election sites, you will find an extensive collection of resources (e.g., news, editorials, commentary, polling data, video and more) from a highly respected independent organization. [Just be prepared to ignore the ads.]

[Vote Smart](#)

In addition to learning about how you can get people involved in the election process, you can also know your local and national candidates' biographical information, voting records [issue positions \(Political Courage Test\)](#), interest group ratings, public statements and campaign finance records.

UNDERSTANDING THE ELECTION PROCESS IN THE U.S.

[Elections: The American Way](#)

The American memory collection of the Library of Congress provides background on [candidates](#), [voters](#), [party system](#), [election process](#) and [issues](#) so that students will understand how the US system was created and gives sample historical events to demonstrate each section.

[USA Elections in Brief](#)

Learn about the nature of the modern American electoral process, and how it works at the federal, state, and local levels. This is a series of well-illustrated chapters that originally appeared in book form, translated into six languages and can be downloaded in pdf format.

[270 to Win.Com](#)

270towin.com is an interactive Electoral College map for 2008 that includes a history of Presidential elections, a blog, and more.

[U.S. Electoral College](#)

From the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), this site includes everything you need to know about the Electoral College.

[What Interest Groups Do](#)

[Electoral College Calculator](#)

Courtesy of the Wall Street Journal, this site invites students to be the campaign manager in an Electoral College simulation. It includes background info about each state's electoral vote history since the 1988 election. You can save your work as you play the game and come back later.

[Election Statistics](#)

Since 1920, the Clerk of the House has collected and published the official vote counts for federal elections from the official sources among the various states and territories.

[Election Law Blog](#)

The law of politics and the politics of law: election law, campaign finance, legislation, voting rights, initiatives, redistricting, and the Supreme Court nomination process. This is Law Professor, Rick Hasen's web log and is supported by Loyola Law School.

THE ISSUES

[Election 2008](#)

and <http://election2008.usc.edu/topics/education/>

This resource for journalists was created by the media relations staff at the University of Southern California. It includes the Education Archive which covers education-related election stories. Most appropriate for secondary students.

[On the Issues](#)

Click on a topic for background on that issue. Each page then links to political leaders' views on that issue. Click on a topic for pages listing headlines for elected officials and popular candidates and opinion leaders. Each section has links for "full quotes" for each summary headline.

[CNN Election Center: Campaign Issues](#)

From concerns about the economy and the war in Iraq to the perennial topics of Social Security and the health care system, this site includes the range of issues guiding the 2008 presidential race.

[Telling America's Story \(U.S. Department of State\)](#)

Search

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From the State Department's Bureau of International Information Programs, here you can learn more about major candidates' positions on key issues of interest to other nations.

[Pro/Con.org](#)

*The mission of Pro/Con is "Promoting education and informed citizenship by presenting controversial issues in a simple, nonpartisan primarily pro-con format."*

[Select a Candidate](#)

Courtesy of American Public Media, here you can play the *Select A Candidate* game to see how your views match up with opinions stated by the 2008 Presidential candidates. You can then compare your answers with those of other demographic groups.

[Compare the Candidates](#) (Channel 5, Boston)

Includes a quick comparison tool to see two presidential candidates side-by-side.

[2008 Election Issues: Candidate Positions \(NPR\)](#)

Here you can find detailed comparisons of major candidates' positions on the economy, Iraq, health care, immigration, and climate change.

[FactCheck](#)

This project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania monitors the factual accuracy of what is said by major U.S. political players in TV ads, debates, speeches, interviews, and news releases. Many the articles include audio and videocasts.

## POLITICAL CARTOONS

[2008 Election Cartoons](#)

[PoliticalCartoons.com](#)

[Nick Anderson 2008 Election Archive](#)

[Today's Best Cartoons](#)

[New York Times Cartoons](#)

[Dan Shefelman's Red and Blue](#) - Video Cartoons

## VOTING

[Declare Yourself](#)

Declare Yourself is a national nonpartisan, nonprofit campaign to empower and encourage every eligible 18-year-old in America to register and vote in the presidential primaries and 2008 presidential election.

[Beyond Red vs. Blue: Where Do You Fit?](#)

Here students can take the Pew Center's Political Typology Questionnaire to identify their political typology group.

[YouthRadio: Election 2008](#)

Youth Radio is following Election 2008 around the country through the perspectives of young people who are getting a close-up view of the process.

[Absentee Voter Guide](#)

## SAVE THE DATES!

[The Election Co-nection](#)

From Oct. 23 to Oct 28, K-12 students can vote in an online mock presidential election. Also includes an online activity, "Create a Candidate" that focuses on presidential qualifications, issues, political parties, and campaign strategies.

[National Student/Parent Mock Election](#)

On Oct. 30th there will be a National Student/Parent Mock Election with millions of participants! "This event is a unique opportunity to provide information and educate students and their parents about the duties of citizenship and the voting process."

## And More...

[Campaign Finance: OpenSecrets](#)

OpenSecrets.org is the nonpartisan guide to money's influence on U.S. elections and public policy. From the Center for Responsive Politics, "a non-partisan, non-profit research group ... that tracks money in politics, and its effect on elections and public policy." Information about the 2008 presidential election is found at <http://www.opensecrets.org/pres08/index.php?cycle=2008>

[Elections and Electoral Systems Around the World](#)

Links to election information in many countries around the world as well as to the best general sites on the topic. Scroll down for a view of the vast resources maintained for the Political Science Resources page at the University of Keele in the United Kingdom.

### [The Living Room Candidate](#) ↗

Presidential campaign commercials from every presidential election 1952 - 2008.

### [WBUR: Vote By Issue Quiz](#) ↗

Do you really know where the candidates stand? Learn about the candidates through their platforms, not their personalities. This quiz features some of the issues that have gained traction this campaign season. Your job is to simply select positions that correspond with your own views and that way, learn about where the candidates stand.

### [P2008: Race for the Whitehouse](#) ↗

From Democracy in Action, a "nonpartisan, nonprofit effort dedicated to educating citizens about the political process and their role in making it work." Features background and analysis of the 2008 U.S. presidential elections, including candidates, their campaigns, media coverage, political parties, interest groups, and voting.

### [Polling Report: Election 2008](#) ↗

If you have to choose one polling site for 2008, this is the one! The free web site includes current and historical polling results from all of the major polling organizations (e.g., Pew, Gallup, Reuters/Zogby, NPR), plus many more). In addition, you can find polling results from previous elections.

## FOR K-6

### [Scholastic's Connect to Campaign 2008](#) ↗

Scholastic Kid Reporters are on the campaign trail, reporting on the latest election news. A map is provided so you can read reports from your region. Election related lessons are available.

### [New York Times Learning Network](#) ↗

The NY Times Learning Network is sharing valuable activities for election, history of government projects with links to articles. Crossword puzzles and links to other related resources are provided.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

### [The New York Times Election Guide 2008](#) ↗

### [Fox News: You Decide 2008](#) ↗

### [National Public Radio](#) ↗

### [The Washington Post Elections 2008](#) ↗

### [The News Hour with Jim Lehrer: Vote 2008](#) ↗

### [The Wall Street Journal Campaign 2008](#) ↗

### [Christian Science Monitor](#) ↗

### [MSNBC Politics: Decision '08](#) ↗

### [Yahoo! News Presidential Election '08](#) ↗

### [CNN Election Center 2008](#) ↗

### [ABC News Vote '08](#) ↗

### [Chicago Tribune](#) ↗

### [Los Angeles Times Campaign '08](#) ↗

### [USA Today](#) ↗

### NEWSEUM: [Today's Front Pages](#) ↗

Here you can compare election coverage on 600+ front pages from 61 countries!

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