

Note: NSPME will provide Page Title, Announcement & Vote! Instructions – as per page 3 of 2004 & 2006 Teacher Guide. This ballot is intended as a guide for teachers only, and an abbreviated ballot for students will be forthcoming.

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 Replacing old bridges, investing in modern rail networks, and upgrading our outdated electricity grid would create jobs and promote greater efficiencies that would benefit our economy.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 free-market 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.

**8. If miracles could happen, which of the following past presidents would you choose to lead the country? (Choose one please.)**

- a. Abraham Lincoln
- b. Franklin D. Roosevelt
- c. John F. Kennedy
- d. Ronald Reagan
- e. Bill Clinton