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Roosevelt High School

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Students pick Obama

1109 students participate in mock election

BY DEVIN CADE

A mock presidential election for the student body was held on October 14, headed by Social Studies teacher Marshall Wymore.

"I just decided this year being an election year I'd like to try it and see how it turns out," said Wymore.

Wymore's government classes helped to organize the election.

"[The students] are future voters," said Principal Mary McFarlane. "This is their opportunity to experience the importance of understanding candidates and the planks and platforms for the elections."

Wymore first taught his students different advertising techniques used by the campaign teams and campaigns of the past. All types of advertising is used in the election from patriotism to "mud slinging".

"I found out more about what the [candidates] were campaigning about and what they represent," said junior Mary Skrypiec.

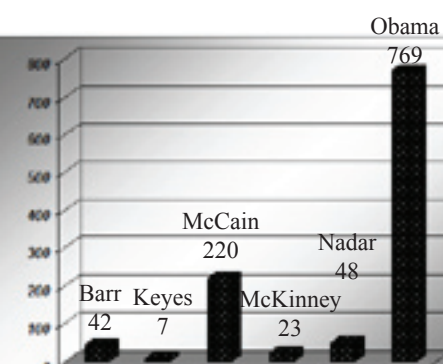
Classes were then put into groups and a candidate to campaign for was assigned. The students became the campaigning team for their candidate. Posters were created and other options like commercials were also available for the team members.

The posters were hung throughout the school and were hoped to inspire students to learn more about the election.

Ballots were handed out to all students during third hour on Tuesday, October 14 and were then collected and tallied up.

Obama won the overall election with 69.3% of the student body vote while McCain had a 19.8% of the vote.

The Results



By the numbers:

- 1109** Total students who voted
- 241** Seniors who voted
- 299** Sophomores who voted
- 295** Juniors who voted
- 254** Freshmen who voted



New Election Age Technologies of twenty-first century change campaigns

BY DEVIN CADE

The new age in electronics is bringing "changes" in the race to the white house.

Both Presidential candidates, Senator Barack Obama and Senator John McCain, have used "change" as a major part of their campaigns.

One thing that is already changing is who the candidates are targeting and how they are reaching them.

Social Networking sites, such as MySpace and Facebook, have become a place to reach the young voters.

"When I registered to vote, I did it online," said senior Matt Rumley.

MySpace alone has created many resources for the young voters, including MyDebates.

MyDebates is an extension of MySpace where "friends" can share opinions through forums, learn more about the candidates, and watch the debates live.

This site even allows members to send questions in to the debates for the candidates to answer.

"This election is different in the sense that young people realize the big challenges that are coming up," said Obama in an interview with Iowa Public Television. "I do think that you are starting to see young people pay attention to some long-term issues that they feel Washington is neglecting."

Both of the candidates have their own profiles on the networking sites as well.

McCain has 100,550 friends on MySpace while Obama has 543,713 friends.

This site allows the campaigns to contact all of these people with a click of the mouse.

One of the other resources provided by MySpace is Decision '08.

NBC News, MSNBC.com, and MySpace IMPACT have all teamed up to help voters stay informed.

YouTube is also a way the candidates and the voters can stay in touch with each other. The candidates post most, if not all, of their speeches on the website so voters can watch.

"I think YouTube has [changed the election] because you can watch the Democratic National Convention that they had or the Republican National Convention and it can sway the peoples vote," said senior Todd Sowards.

The Obama Campaign started using a very common form of communication in early August 2008 that is used by most of the young Americans, text messages.

The text stated: "Barack will be announcing his VP candidate through txt msg between now & the Conv. Tell everyone to text VP to 62262 to be the first to know! Please forward."

The plan back fired on the campaign when the message was sent in the early morning hours.

The results from this new style of campaigning is still unknown, but it is expected to draw many more young people to vote on November 4, 2008.

OBAMA	McCAIN
-Proposed 18 billion a yr in new federal spending on early childhood classes, teacher recruitment, performance pay and other initiatives.	-Believes the government should play a limited role in public education.
Education	
-Opposes gas tax holiday.	-Supports gas tax holiday
-Supports taxing windfall profits.	-Opposes taxing windfall profits.
Energy	
-Opposes offshore and Arctic drilling.	-Supports offshore drilling.
-Believes tax relief for working/middle class would stabilize the economy	-Believes his short-term plan is long term: eliminate minimum tax
Economy	
-Repeal Bush tax cuts for families earning more than \$250,000 per year.	-Voted to authorize invasion.
-Opposed invasion from the beginning.	-Still supportive.
Iraq	
-Opposed troop increase.	-Favors troop increase.
-Withdraw 1-2 brigades to be finished in 16 months.	-Opposed timetable for withdraw.

BIDEN	-Laid out \$30 billion Syc. Voted yes on national education standards.	Education	-Wants to fund alternative energy research	Energy	-Wants to repeal Bush tax cut for the top 1% of earners.	Economy	-Proposed withdrawing troops by summer 2009	Iraq	
PALIN	-Forward fund K-12 and early funding of education.	Education	-Opposes domestic drilling.	Energy	-Favors drilling	Economy	-Proposed suspending Alaska's gas tax.	Iraq	-Supports war.