

FALL 2012

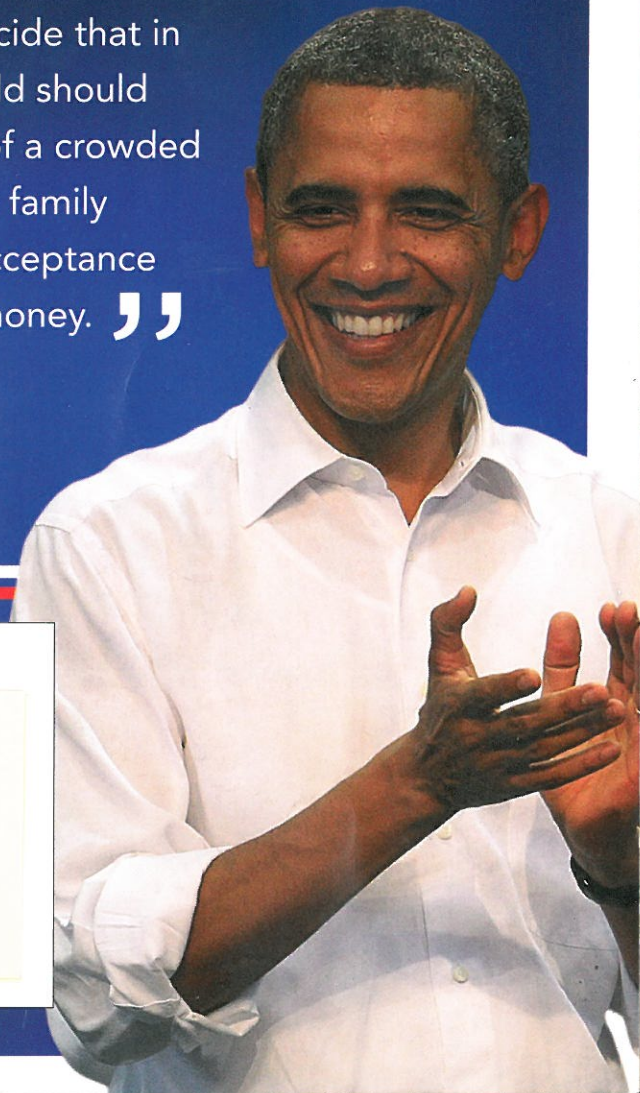
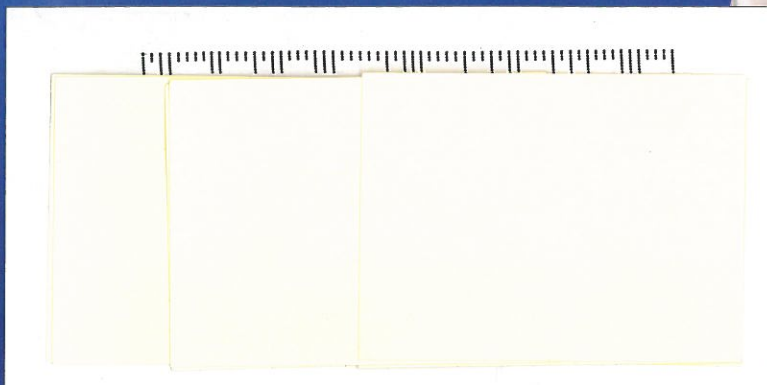
# neatoday

“AND NOW  
YOU HAVE  
A CHOICE.”

We can gut education, or we can decide that in the United States of America, no child should have her dreams deferred because of a crowded classroom or a crumbling school. No family should have to set aside a college acceptance letter because they don't have the money. ”



President Barack Obama,  
September 2012



# GET INVOLVED!

YOU can help steer the course for education in America. It all comes down to November.

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## **Educators** *for Obama*

- Check out [NEAFund.org](http://NEAFund.org) for the latest news and information on how you can make sure that public education is a winner this fall.
- Go to [ActionCenter.EdVotes.org](http://ActionCenter.EdVotes.org) to share information about the candidates with your friends and colleagues so you can help deliver a pro-public education victory this November.
- Learn more about the issues that your friends, family and neighbors need to know about before they vote in November. It's easy to make the case for why Obama is the right choice!
- Get detailed information on the differences between the candidates for president. No spin here: just the facts.

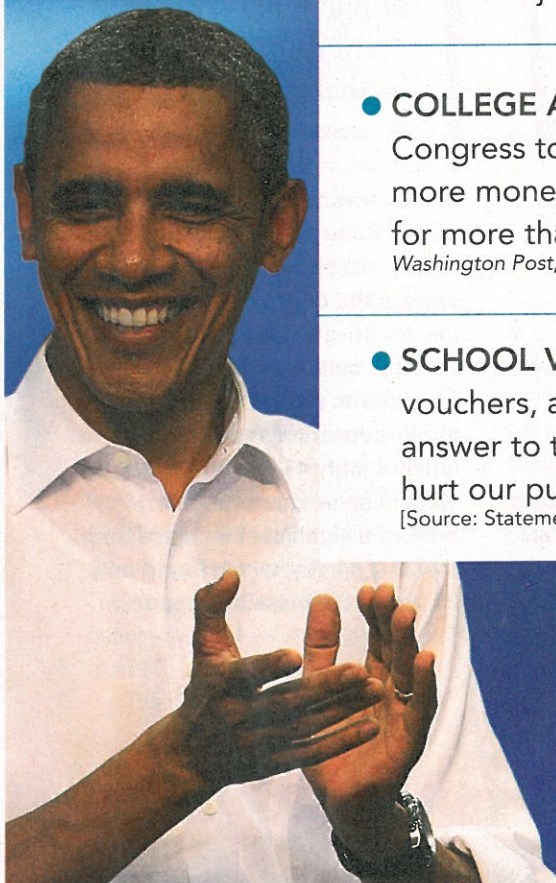
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Ask your state association about the **PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2012 POCKET GUIDE** on the issues for details on just how important this election is to the future of American education.

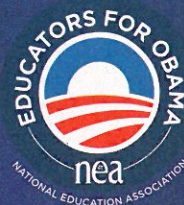
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION THAT  
EVERY EDUCATOR SHOULD KNOW

# BARACK OBAMA



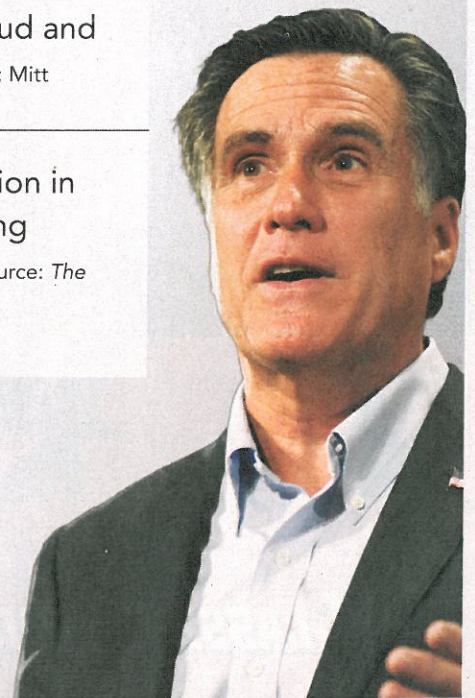
- **EDUCATION FUNDING:** The Obama Administration has made education funding its highest domestic priority: the 2013 fiscal year budget provides the largest percentage increase to education.
- **EDUCATION JOBS:** President Obama fought to save the jobs of educators including those in higher education and education support professionals across the country, protecting more than 450,000 education jobs from layoffs and helping keep class sizes down.
- **COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY:** President Obama worked with Congress to freeze student loan interest rates and secured more money for Pell Grants, making college more affordable for more than 7 million students. [Source: *Education Week*, 6/29/12; *The Washington Post*, 8/3/12]
- **SCHOOL VOUCHERS:** President Obama opposes school vouchers, and believes that the system is not a long-term answer to the educational challenges we face and that it would hurt our public schools and the students most in need. [Source: Statement of Administration Policy, H.R. 471, OMB, 3/29/11; *Education Week*, 6/19/12]

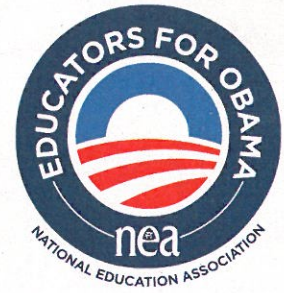


*How You Vote Is a Personal Decision,  
But It's Important to Know the Facts.*

# MITT ROMNEY

- **EDUCATION FUNDING:** As governor of Massachusetts, Romney cut funding for Head Start, special education and breakfasts for low-income students, and the Romney/Ryan plan could cut federal education funding by 20%. [Source: MA Budget and Policy Center, 3/5/03; Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 5/21/12; Reuters, 8/18/12]
- **EDUCATION JOBS:** Romney said the U.S. doesn't need more teachers and that class sizes don't determine school success – even though he sent his own children to a private school with 12 students per class. [Source: *The Washington Post*, 6/8/12; *The Washington Times*, 5/25/12; Belmont Hill School Website, Accessed 9/7/12]
- **COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY:** Romney's higher education plan calls for cuts in federal funding including \$170 billion in Pell Grants and rolls back student protection regulations in the for-profit and student loan industries that curb fraud and abuse. [Source: *The Huffington Post*, 3/27/12; *The Washington Post*, 11/4/11; Mitt Romney Education Plan, 5/23/12]
- **SCHOOL VOUCHERS:** Romney would siphon \$25 billion in federal money toward private school vouchers, harming low-income students and students with disabilities. [Source: *The Washington Post*, 5/23/12; *The New York Times*, 6/11/12]





# Educators for Obama Can Make a Difference in This Election



*“As Educators for Obama, it’s our job to help people see how this election connects to the future of public education. I ask people to look at the facts on record and tell them, ‘You’ll find the public education candidate very quickly.’ The clear choice is President Obama.”*

—KELLIE BLAIR HARDT, MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER  
AND PRESIDENT OF THE MANASSAS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, VIRGINIA

*“Don’t be intimidated about phone banking or talking to people in your local community about why President Obama is the best choice for public education. I found most people are willing to listen and . . . if you say that you are an educator, they are more receptive.”*

—LISA MAGIDOW, ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE SPECIALIST, PENNSYLVANIA

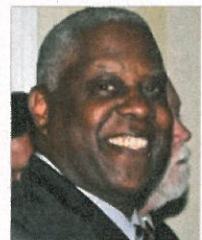


*“I took part in an EFO ready-to-go team rally because I decided it was time to put my boots on the ground. If you don’t get involved in the president’s re-election and let this other fella in, trust me, you’re going to see the demise of public education.”*

—LOIS JACOBS, RETIRED MEDIA SPECIALIST, MASSACHUSETTS

*“I’m trying to get the word out about Obama, because his opponent is trying to privatize the education system. We’ve come along as far as we have in America based the traditional education system, and I really want that for kids of future generations.”*

—DAVID FOUST, SCHOOL BUS DRIVER, MARYLAND



*“It is important that educators become active this election year and every year because every political decision made impacts our classrooms and our kids.”*

—TERRY CONWAY, EDUCATOR, CINCINNATI, OHIO

To get involved, join Educators for Obama at:  
[www.neafund.org/educatorsforobama](http://www.neafund.org/educatorsforobama).

# EDUCATORS WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THIS ELECTION

"To me, the choice in this election is very clear. Barack Obama has made education one of his top priorities, and he proved that during his first term in office."

- Ann



"I know that paying for college is tough, so I'm glad President Obama increased funding for Pell Grants and stopped new interest hikes on student loans."

- Eric



"When our jobs were in trouble, President Obama stepped up and saved 450,000 educator jobs. That had a huge impact on me and a lot of people I know."

- Kelly

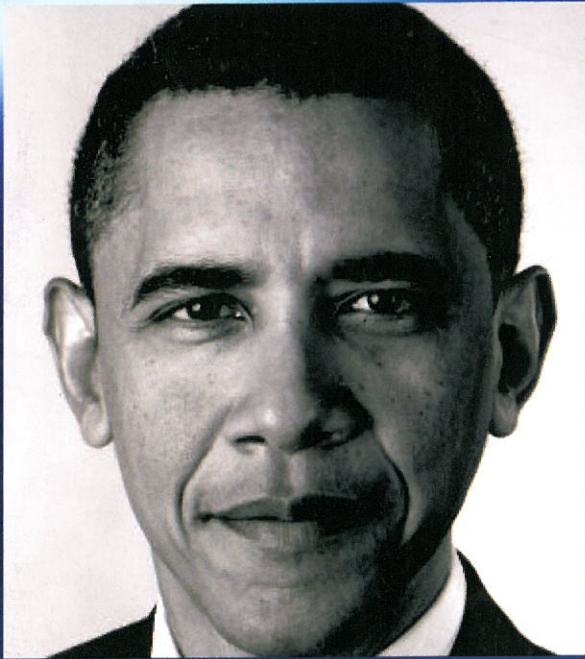


"As a parent, I was thrilled to hear that Barack Obama made sure the insurance companies can't deny health care to kids with pre-existing conditions. He's got my vote."

- LaTonya



# THE CHOICE IS CLEAR



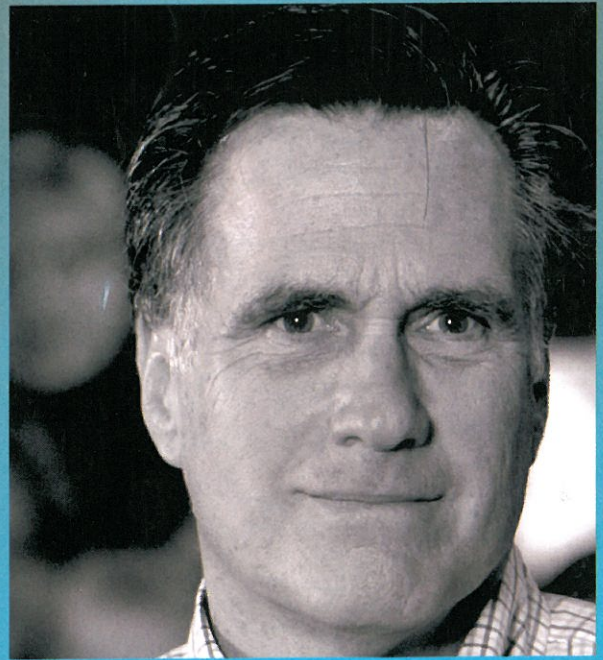
## OBAMA

### A PROVEN FIGHTER FOR AMERICAN EDUCATION

- Worked with Congress to freeze student loan interest rates and secured more money for Pell Grants, making college more affordable for more than 7 million students.<sup>1</sup>
- Fought to save the jobs of educators, including higher education professionals across the country, protecting more than 450,000 education jobs from layoffs and keeping class sizes small.
- Has a plan to reduce the debt while protecting investments in Medicare and public education, and fought to reduce taxes on the middle class and end the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy.

1. *Education Week*, 6/29/12; *The Washington Post*, 8/3/12

Authorized and paid for by the  
National Education Association.



## ROMNEY

### WRONG AGENDA FOR STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS

- Slashed funding for Head Start, special education and breakfasts for low-income children in Massachusetts. Moving forward, the Romney-Ryan plan could cut federal education funding by 20% to pay for more tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans.<sup>2</sup>
- Believes that class sizes aren't important to student achievement — even though he sent his children to a private school with class sizes of 12 students.<sup>3</sup>
- Would shut the door on 1 million students by reducing funds for Pell Grants by \$170 billion.<sup>4</sup>

2. MA Budget and Policy Center, 3/5/03; Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 5/21/12; Reuters, 8/18/12; *The Huffington Post*, 8/1/12; 3. Belmont Hill School Website, Accessed 9/20/12; Campaign Event in Philadelphia, 5/24/12; Florida Republican Debate, 9/22/11; Romney, Mitt. *No Apology: The Case for American Greatness*, 2011; 4. *The Huffington Post*, 3/27/12; *The Washington Post*, 11/4/11