

**Platforms to Policies -
A Look at
Presidential Contributions to
Higher Education**

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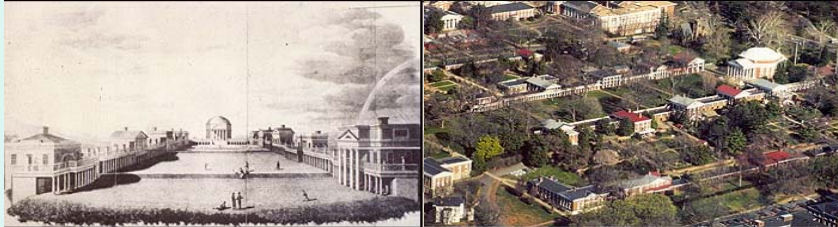


Founding Fathers & Mothers Planting the Seeds of Aid

- 1643- First financial aid award was created at Harvard University.
- George Washington
- John and Abigail Adams



- Thomas Jefferson- *“It is safer to have the whole people respectably enlightened than a few in a high state of science and the many in ignorance.”*



- Abraham Lincoln



Presidential Trivia



- Where did John Adams go to college?

Answer:

- John Adams graduated from Harvard College


- What two presidents died on July 4th?

Answer:

- Both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, creators of the Declaration of Independence, died on July 4, 1826. Adams dies just hours after Jefferson, on the 50th anniversary of the Revolution.

- Bonus- What were the last words Adams spoke before he died?

Answer:

 – “Thomas Jefferson survives.”





Fast Forward to Franklin D. Roosevelt!

- Education was essentially a non-issue in the Democratic platforms in 1932, 1936 and 1940. Thanks Great Depression and world war!
- Signed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, better known as the GI Bill.



Go Franklin Go!

- American Legion support
- In 2008, the GI Bill was updated once again.



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THE NEW
DEAL!



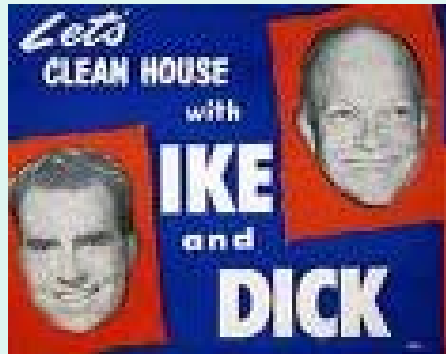
Big Bill, Big Benefits

- GI Bill helped millions of US veterans and helped spur the postwar economic boom that built many of America's suburbs.



Dwight Eisenhower

- 1958 National Defense Education Act



John Kennedy

- 1960 platform proposed a program of loans and scholarship grants for higher education.
- Signed amendments to the 1958 National Defense Education Act.



Lyndon Johnson

Great Society and War on Poverty-

Substantial pieces of legislation that had the following goals:

- Help low-income people via education and health programs
- Stimulate the economy for new jobs
- Remove race and sex barriers to educational and employment opportunities



LBJ's Great Society and War on Poverty

- 1964 Civil Rights Act
- Voting Rights Act of 1965
- Clean Air Act
- Medicare and Medicaid
- Higher Education Facilities Act
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act
- Operation Head Start
- Higher Education Act of 1965





Richard Nixon

- 1968 Republican platform
- Generally bogged down with the Vietnam War and Watergate with no significant higher ed legislation signed.



Gerald Ford



Favorite dessert: butter pecan ice cream.

Jimmy Carter!

- Created the Department of Education
- A campaign promise kept
 - Strong ties to NEA made some nervous
- One of the few major accomplishments of the Carter administration



Ronald Reagan

- Made campaign promise to abolish ED
- Reductions in spending rejected by Congress
- Believed education responsibility laid with the states
-



Presidential Trivia



- Which President created the Direct Lending program?

Answer:

- President George H.W. Bush created the Direct Lending pilot program to save an estimated \$1 billion

- Who is the first President to hold an MBA?

Answer:

- President George W. Bush earned his MBA from Harvard Business School





Bush-Clinton-Bush



- 1992 Democratic platform encouraged investment in education, including lifelong learning.
 - Domestic G.I. Bill
- Bill Clinton signed the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1993.



Bush-Clinton-Bush



- In 1993, Clinton signed the National and Community Service Trust Act
 - Built on the first National Service Act signed by President H.W. Bush in 1990.
- George W. Bush created tax incentives to help families save for college tax-free- ex. 529 college savings plans
- In 2003, George W. Bush signed the Strengthen AmeriCorps Program Act, which nearly doubled the number of AmeriCorps members.
- Signed the 2007 College Cost Reduction Act



President-Elect Barack Obama



Create the American Opportunity Tax Credit

- Fully refundable tax credit will ensure that the first \$4,000 of a college education is completely free for most Americans, and will cover two-thirds the cost of tuition at the average public college or university.



Simplify the Application Process for Financial Aid

- Simplify the financial aid process by eliminating the FAFSA and its complicated calculations altogether.
- Streamline by enabling families to apply simply by checking a box on their tax form, authorizing their tax information to be used and eliminating the need for a separate application.



College Readiness Programs

- Another common reason that high school students decide not to attend college is that they discover they are unprepared for it in 12th grade.



Expand Pell Grants for Low-Income Students

- Inflation adjustment model



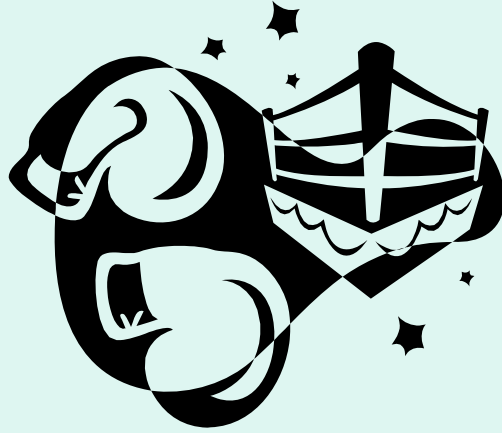
Community College Partnership Program

- Community colleges serve 12 million people each year, almost half the undergraduate students in the U.S.
- Create a Community College Partnership Program to strengthen community colleges by providing grants.



Eliminate Costly Bank Subsidies

- Direct Loan vs. FFEL costs
- Saving taxpayer money



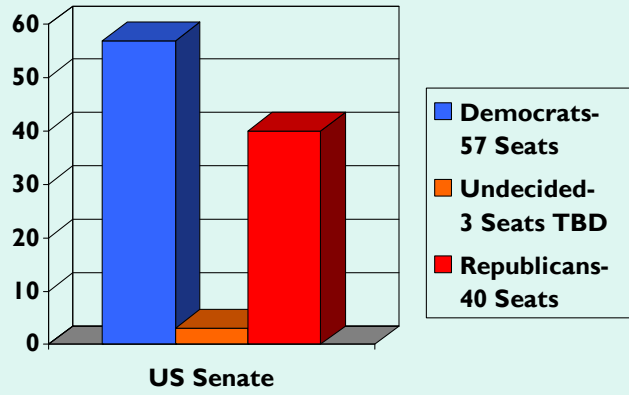
The Next Secretary of Education?



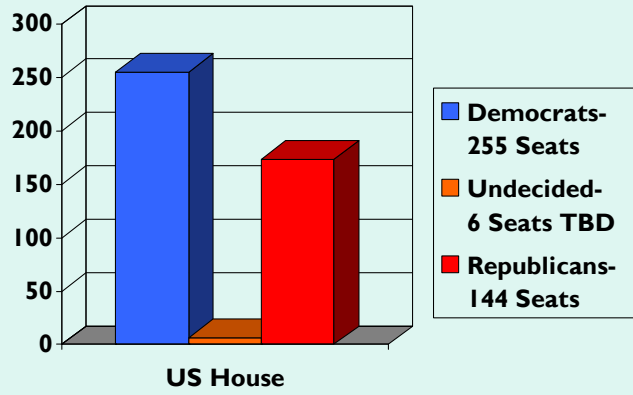
- Janet Napolitano, Gov. of Arizona
- Joel Klien, NYC Schools Chancellor
- Colin Powell, Founder of America's Promise Alliance
- Caroline Kennedy, Obama VP Selection Committee
- Linda Darling-Hammond, Top Obama Education Advisor
- Arne Duncan, CEO of Chicago Public Schools
- James Hunt, Jr., Former Governor of North Carolina



Election Results- US Senate



Election Results- US House



What's Next?

- Contact your elected officials to weigh in on the issues.
- Write letters to media outlets.
- Stay involved in the political process.
- Discuss the issues in a civil and constructive way.
- Vote!



Remember to Vote in MASFAA's
upcoming election!

