









ELECTION 2016:

A glance at the menu

As we approach the 2016 presidential election, working families want to know about the issues and where the candidates stand.

Here's some information compiled by NYSUT and its national

affiliates about some leading candidates and their positions on issues critical to NYSUT members. You can find more about these national issues — and the dozens of other candidates interested in the “top job” — at www.aft.org/election2016 and www.nea.org.

Name	Pre-K-12	Higher Ed	Health Care	Labor and Jobs	Retirement
 Hillary Clinton (D) Former Secretary of State	Leader of an effort to improve the health and well-being of children to age 5. Supports increased Title I funding. Opposes private school vouchers.	Has fought to expand financial aid for low-income college students.	Is committed to preserving and improving the Affordable Care Act.	Favors raising the minimum wage and is an avowed union supporter. “When I’m president, we’re going to stand up for unions.”	Opposes cutting Social Security benefits, privatizing the program and raising the retirement age.
 Martin O'Malley (D) Former Governor of Maryland	As governor, invested record amounts in public schools. Funding increased by 37 percent. Opposes private school vouchers.	Increased state funding to allow Maryland colleges and universities to freeze tuition from 2007-11.	Supports the ACA. Maryland was one of the first states to set up a health insurance exchange.	Supports increasing the minimum wage and strengthening bargaining rights. Granted bargaining rights to health care aides and child care workers.	Opposes privatizing Social Security and instead supports expanding the benefit.
 Bernie Sanders (I) U.S. Senator from Vermont (running for Democratic nomination)	Signed the Fix America’s Schools Today (FAST) Act of 2011. Co-sponsored an amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act for increased funding.	Co-sponsored the Student Loan Affordability Act, which extended the reduced interest rate for Stafford student loans.	Introduced the American Health Security Act, which would guarantee health care and provide every U.S. citizen and permanent resident with coverage through a single-payer program.	Supports raising the minimum wage. Is also a strong supporter of expanded collective bargaining rights for public employees.	Promotes strengthening the social safety net by expanding Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and nutrition programs.
 Jeb Bush (R) Former Governor of Florida	Signed legislation to evaluate students and teachers based on high-stakes tests, create for-profit charter schools and provide vouchers for private schools.	Ended affirmative action in Florida’s colleges and universities, leading to a sharp drop in minority enrollment.	Does not support the ACA and calls it “flawed to the core.”	Opposes minimum wage increases. Wants to weaken bargaining rights for teachers and other public employees and undermine public and private sector unions.	Advocates privatization of Social Security and raising the retirement age for Social Security.
 George Pataki (R) Former Governor of New York	Acted to expand the role of charter schools in the state, and to fund them as non-profit entities. Supported higher standards, but more assessments and sanctions.	Led expansion of Tuition Assistance Program in the '90s and invested significantly in infrastructure during a time of enrollment expansion at SUNY and CUNY.	Supported efforts to repeal the ACA.	Wanted to “in-source” foreign companies back to New York state. Supports free trade agreements.	Has advocated individual savings and work incentives to maintain long-term solvency of Social Security, Medicare.
 Rand Paul (R) U.S. Senator from Kentucky	Supports private school vouchers. Would abolish the U.S. Department of Education.	Voted to cut Pell Grants that help low-income students attend college.	Opposes the ACA and has voted to repeal it.	Says we should abolish the minimum wage. Opposes collective bargaining rights, and seeks to hinder unions.	Would raise the age for Social Security and supports the largest cuts to Social Security in U.S. history.
 Marco Rubio (R) U.S. Senator from Florida	Presided over a \$2.3 billion cut to Florida education. Supports federal voucher legislation.	Voted to cut Pell Grants that help low-income students attend college.	Opposes the ACA.	Opposes increasing the minimum wage and doesn’t think the minimum wage law works. Sponsored a bill attacking union rights.	Supports raising the age for Social Security.
 Scott Walker (R) Governor of Wisconsin	Supports expansion of voucher programs that defund public schools to fund private schools.	In 2015, slashed \$300 million from Wisconsin’s higher education budget.	Opposes the ACA.	In 2011, stripped public employees of collective bargaining rights; in 2015, signed a right-to-work bill to hinder and harass private sector unions.	As governor, slashed state contributions to employee pensions.