

# Presidential race heats up

By AJ GOREN

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including Clinton and popular Republican Jeb Bush, whose relatives have been past presidents, making them members of so-called political dynasties.

Hillary's top challenger in the Democratic polls so far is U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont. A self-proclaimed democratic socialist, Sanders is viewed as the more progressive alternative to Clinton.

Sanders, who hails from Brooklyn and got his political start as mayor of Burlington, Vermont, is praised for his staunch morals, having stayed steadfast in his progressive ideology for the known duration of his political career.

Sanders is viewed as a strong candidate for minorities and on social issues; climate change and income inequality are among his major talking points. Detractors consider Sanders' political alignment too far left or too radical, and worry that he may not be electable, though his poll numbers have been steadily climbing, closing in on Clinton's previously untouchable lead.

Maryland governor Martin O'Malley, former Rhode Island governor Lincoln Chafee, and former Virginia U.S. Senator Jim Webb are also running in the Democratic race, but all have performed very poorly in polls. U.S. Vice President Joe Biden has publically expressed interest in running but has not yet officially announced his candidacy.

The Republican field of candidates is much more populated, with so many candidates running that Fox News had to split them into two debates.

The top performer in many polls currently is business mogul and celebrity Donald Trump, whose candidacy is widely considered a joke due to his abrasive demeanor and lack of political experience.

Trump owns a significant real estate empire and hosts the reality TV competition *Celebrity Apprentice*, but he has a history of trouble, having expressed views largely denounced as racist during his speech announcing his candidacy.

Trump expressed a dislike of Mexican-American immigration. Following his

photo courtesy of nymag.com



The ten top-polling Republican candidates at the first official debate, held August 6 at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland, Ohio. The debate drew 24 million viewers, a cable TV record.

controversial comments, TV networks NBC and Univision cut ties with Trump and his media franchises. At the first GOP debate, Fox News host and moderator Megyn Kelly pressed Trump on his past sexism.

Aside from Trump, another frontrunner in the Republican field is Jeb Bush, former governor of Florida. One of Bush's priority issues

is defunding women's healthcare provider Planned Parenthood, which Bush and other anti-abortion candidates oppose because some of its clinics offer abortion services. Bush defunded the organization in Florida while serving as governor, which won him favor among conservative voters.

Other top-polling GOP candidates include Marco Rubio, U.S. Senator from Florida, Ted Cruz, U.S. Senator from Texas, Ben Carson, a neurosurgeon, Rand Paul, U.S. Senator from Kentucky and son of former US Presidential candidate Ron Paul, and Chris Christie, governor of New Jersey.

Paul has spoken on the importance of the middle class and is notable for his appeals to minority groups and opposition to the "fat cats" of Wall Street.

Christie was once highly favored as a more moderate conservative but has low approval ratings among New Jerseyans in recent years. Christie's image has suffered due to a scandal in 2013, when toll lanes on the George Washington Bridge were illegally reallocated without warning by Christie's appointees to the Port Authority in cooperation with members of his

administration. This created widespread and dangerous traffic backups.

Other GOP candidates include former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina, former New York governor George Pataki, former Texas governor Rick Perry, former Pennsylvania U.S. Senator Rick Santorum, Wisconsin governor Scott Walker, former Virginia governor Jim Gilmore, South Carolina U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham, former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee, Louisiana governor Bobby Jindal, and Ohio governor John Kasich.

Candidates for third parties are also running - Jill Stein for the Green Party, Robert David Steele for the Libertarian Party, and James Hedges for the Prohibition Party, among several others and some independents.

With early primaries held as soon as February and North Carolina's primary happening in the mid-spring, campaigns will continue to dominate the news.

If you will be 18 by November 8, 2016, you can register to vote as soon as 60 days before the primary election. For more information on voting, check with the North Carolina State Board of Elections and your county Board of Elections.

## NCSSM Acronyms



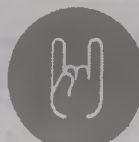
**RLA**  
Residential Life Assistants



**SLI**  
Student Life Instructor



**SGA (SG)**  
Student Government Association



**S&M**  
Science and Math

### Residential Life



**PEC**  
Physical Education Center



**ETC**  
Educational Technology Complex



**PFM**  
Perkins Food Management

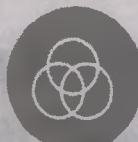


**BBR**  
Bryan, Beall, Reynolds

### Places



**SPL**  
Sustainability Project Leaders



**MPC**  
Multicultural Peer Counselors



**PCC**  
Peer College Counselors



**TA**  
Teacher Assistants

### Senior Leadership Positions



**TTS**  
Third Trimester Senior



**TWAN**  
This Weekend at NCSSM



**DEEP**  
Distance Education Extended Programs



**ITS**  
Information Technology Services

### Miscellaneous

*NCSSM has an endless list of quirks and foibles that can be difficult to figure out for incoming juniors and parents. One staple of NCSSM is the extensive use of acronyms. There are acronyms for the places where students sleep, eat, study, and work, for the people that students interact with, for the organizations students form, and more. To help any juniors who are feeling overwhelmed, and maybe any seniors whose memory is failing them, this a list of the most commonly used acronyms. You can expect to hear these terms used frequently among students, SLIs, and even faculty.*