

## Stockton poll reveals New Jersey voters prefer Obama over Christie

By **JENNIFER BOGDAN, Staff Writer** | **Posted: Monday, May 16, 2011 2:15 pm**

A new poll from the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey finds that 65.5 percent of likely New Jersey voters have a favorable or somewhat favorable opinion of President Barack Obama.

The poll, commissioned by the college's William J. Hughes Center of Public Policy, also showed that Obama would be favored in a hypothetical race against Gov. Chris Christie. In the poll of 1,000 voters, 51 percent favored Obama, while 35 percent favored Christie.

According to the poll, 68.8 percent of voters strongly disagreed or somewhat disagreed with Christie running for president in 2012. When voters were asked if they would re-elect Christie for another term as governor, the results were evenly split with 44.6 percent supporting him and 44.1 percent against a second gubernatorial term for Christie.

"We explored reasons as to why those with an unfavorable opinion of the governor felt that way," said Sharon Schulman, executive director of the Hughes Center. "(Nearly 80 percent) of the respondents did not like the way he treats the New Jersey Education Association and teachers. This was evenly split among Democrats and Republicans. Other strong reasons were his policies, handling of the state budget and the way he treats unions."

The poll was conducted from May 9 to 11 and has a 3.2 percent margin of error.

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