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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF METROPOLITAN COLUMBUS

VOTER INFORMATION BULLETIN

Nonpartisan Guide to November 7, 2023 Election for Franklin County Voters
Containing information on candidates running for:

CITY/VILLAGE/TOWNSHIP OFFICES

SCHOOL BOARDS

FRANKLIN COUNTY JUDICIAL OFFICES

STATE & LOCAL ISSUE PROS/CONS

Additional Candidate & Issue Information Online at



VOTE 411

The League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus prepared this material. Candidates were informed of the following:

- Each response would be printed exactly as received and each candidate would be responsible for the content of the replies.
- All responses were given a word limit, and once the response exceeded the word limit then the remainder of the response was cut off.

Information and answers from the candidates have not been evaluated in any way. The League of Women Voters, in presenting this material, neither endorses nor rejects the views of any candidate quoted and does not and cannot assume responsibility for the contents of any

candidate's reply or motive. It is more important than ever that our citizens be informed about the candidates and issues before them. The mission of the League of Women Voters is to encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy.

The publication editor is Elizabeth Grieser, with assistance from Sheryl Hardin, Cara Dillon, Mary Jo Baumeister, Lucy Buzzee, and Suzanne Surface. The LWVMC President is Cheryl Roller.

The information in this bulletin can also be found on the League of Women Voters website and at www.Vote411.org. For membership information in the League of Women Voters, please see our website at www.lwvc.org.



Candidates for Franklin County Municipal Court

Visit www.JudicialVotesCount.org for judicial candidate profiles.

Franklin County Municipal Court Judge 1/1/2024 (vote for no more than 1) Uncontested Race

ANDREA PEEPLES

Franklin County Municipal Court Judge 1/2/2024 (vote for no more than 1) Uncontested Race

ZACH GWIN

Email: gwinforjudge@gmail.com
Website: www.gwinforjudge.com
Education: Miami University-BA 2011; The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law-JD 2014
Occupation: Senior Assistant City Attorney
Qualifications for Office: During my first years of practice, I focused on criminal prosecution and then criminal defense. As a prosecutor, I represented the City and State in enforcement of misdemeanor offenses within Franklin County. During my time as a criminal defense attorney, I handled misdemeanor offenses throughout Central Ohio, as well as some felonies. I represented both privately retained as well as indigent clients. While in private practice, I also handled civil cases involving education law, personal injury, consumer protection, and medical malpractice. In my current role with the Columbus City Attorney's Office, I serve as a community attorney on the west side of the city and serve some of the most under-resourced communities in the state of Ohio. My role is to improve quality of life for residents by bringing actions to close drug houses, holding landlords

accountable, and improve housing conditions. I live in the community, and it is important to me to serve neighbors and those whose voice is not always heard. I work with a variety of departments within the City including the Department of Development, Code Enforcement, Building Enforcement, Columbus Public Health, Columbus Division of Police, and the Columbus Division of Fire.

Bar Association Rating: I received a Four-Star rating from the Columbus Bar Association

List Your Judicial Experience: Non Incumbent

What about your non-judicial experience qualifies you to be a judge? I have nearly a decade of experience in the Court where I am seeking a seat. Nearly the entirety of my career has involved litigation in Franklin County Municipal Court and has been evenly divided between criminal and civil litigation experience. I have tried numerous cases to verdict before judges and juries and I have taken opportunities to broaden my legal knowledge and prepare for this type of role. I bring a balanced and fresh perspective which includes experience as a prosecutor, defense attorney, victim witness advocate, and community attorney. I also bring the experience of having worked, volunteered, and lived in one of the most under-resourced communities in the entire state. I have dedicated myself to the community and can bring this perspective to the bench.

Why are you running for this particular court seat? I have spent nearly my entire career in Franklin County Municipal Court and held numerous roles that have prepared me for this position. The Franklin County Municipal Court is truly "The Peoples Court" and I believe this is an important judgeship that provides the opportunity to positively impact the community.

Franklin County Municipal Court Judge 1/3/2024 (vote for no more than 1) Uncontested Race

JARROD SKINNER

Email: jarroddskinnerforjudge@gmail.com

Website: www.judgeskinner.com

Education: The Ohio State University, Bachelor of Arts (2001); Capital University Law School, Juris Doctor (2005)

Occupation: Franklin County Municipal Court Judge

Qualifications for Office: Franklin County Municipal Court Judge (elected in 2017, term began 1/2018); City of Columbus Senior Prosecutor (2007-2017); Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Staff Attorney (2005-2006)

Bar Association Rating: 2023 Columbus Bar Association Judicial Screening Committee: 5 out of 5 stars. 2021 Judicial Performance Poll: 4.31 out of 5. The average for all judges was 4.01.

2019 Judicial Performance Poll: 4.12 out of 5. The average for all judges was 3.93. 2017 Judicial Preference Poll: 66% to opponent's 34%. 2017 Columbus Bar Association Judicial Screening Committee: Highly Recommended.

List Your Judicial Experience: 2018-current: Judge, Franklin County Municipal Court & MAVS Presiding Judge.

What about your non-judicial experience qualifies you to be a judge?: In addition to my judicial experience, I serve my community by being on the CBA Board of Governors, the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Domestic Violence, the Franklin County Law Library Board, the Franklin County Facility Governing Board and served previously as the President

of the JMLBA and on the Board of the African American Law Alumni Association at Capital University Law School. I have mentored and continue to mentor law school, college and high school students.

Why are you running for this particular court seat?: My greatest accomplishment as a judge is presiding over a courtroom that values community safety, restorative justice and respects everyone who enters. Five years ago during my swearing in ceremony, I pledged that regardless of how many cases I preside over, I will always treat every person as an individual and not a case number. In addition to presiding over my regular docket, the judges of Municipal Court have selected me to preside over the Military and Veterans Services Specialty (MAVS) docket. This docket implements individualized plans that help veterans with housing, mental health services and alcohol and drug counseling. It is an intense program where justice system-involved veterans meet with our staff on a weekly basis and we help them overcome their substance abuse or mental health struggles. As the chair of the Technology department in Municipal Court, we have made dramatic technological improvements over the last three years. I lead a team of dedicated court employees that implemented video arraignments, which dramatically changed how the court system manages criminal arraignments. We also now have our own court IT team that has created a new website and are currently working toward a paperless courthouse. All these improvements will bring the courthouse into the digital era, thus having a positive impact on how the Court serves the public. Lastly, I am a huge supporter of the Franklin County Municipal Court Self-Help Center. Over the years, the Self-Help Center has held expungement clinics throughout

Franklin County. As judge, I was able to waive outstanding fines and costs which prohibited people from applying for expungements. Being able to have an honest conversation, listening to legal arguments and not taking it personally as well as keeping my composure in a stressful environment are all fundamental traits of being a successful judge in Franklin County Municipal Court. Despite the frantic and sometimes chaotic environment, the citizens of Franklin County deserve a judge who can handle the stress and who also values the time and effort of all attorneys, defendants and victims. As a judge, I have maintained my pledge and will continue to do so if I have the honor to continue my service.

Questions for Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk

1. What are your one or two priorities if elected to office?
2. Why are you particularly qualified to fulfill the duties of this office?

Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk (vote for no more than 1) Uncontested Race

LORI M. TYACK

Email: Tyackformunicipalclerk@gmail.com

Website:

Education: A.A. Degree - Columbus State; B.A. Degree - Ohio Dominican University; Certified Court Manager, Certified Court Executive & Institute for Court Management Fellow - National Center for State Courts

Occupation: Clerk of Court
Qualifications for Office: Paralegal/Legal Assistant, Hanley Law Offices; Bailiff, Judge Jennifer Brunner, Franklin County Common Pleas Court; Small Business Owner, Secretary's Helper; Elected and Served three times as Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk

Question 1: My goals include leveraging technology to create new efficiencies for internal processes and procedures and making it easier for the public to electronically file and view court documents. I plan to collaborate with other Justice partners at the local, state and federal level to support new program initiatives through data sharing.

Question 2: My experience in both the private and public sector provides me with a well-rounded view of the justice system. I understand the complex nature of the Clerk's Office and am committed to serving the public in this capacity. I have a history of being fiscally responsible with public funds and take that responsibility very seriously. I am invested in serving the public's needs and have expanded our services by creating and implementing programs such as the Safe Surrender Program, and Driver's License Reinstatement Workshops. My staff has provided support to the Court during offsite programs such as Record Sealing/Expungement Clinics and Taking the Courthouse to the Community.

Columbus City Council Districts - 2023/2024

- In 2018, Columbus voters approved the creation of 9 districts in the City of Columbus, and the addition of 2 council members, for a total of 9 council members, representing each of the 9 districts
- Council members must live in the district they represent. Council candidates must have lived in that district for at least a year.
- All council members will be voted on by all voters in the City of Columbus
- In 2023, all 9 council members will run for election. 5 seats will be for a 4 year term and 4 seats will be for a 2 year term, determined by drawing straws after the November election.
- District maps will be redrawn every 10 years when new census data is available.

Questions for all Columbus City Council Candidates:

1. What is the top need of your Columbus city council district and does that match (or contrast) the overall needs of the city? How would you address that issue?
2. Given your city/village/township's fiscal responsibilities, how would you fund your primary goals?

City of Columbus Council Member - District 1 (vote for no more than 1) Uncontested Race

CHRIS WYCHE

Email: chris@wycheforcolumbus.com

Website:

www.wycheforcolumbus.com
Education: B.A., Ohio Wesleyan University

Occupation: Director External Affairs, AT&T Ohio

Qualifications for Office: Chris has built relationships with Mayors, Council Members and County Commissioners to address telecommunication policy issues. He has also negotiated multi-million dollar partnerships, organized youth development initiatives to reshape our workforce.

Question 1: It is impossible to boil down the concerns of all of the neighborhoods within the district to one top need. The same can be said about the city as a whole. We are a fast-growing city, facing challenges due to accelerated growth - an outdated transit system, a looming workforce development crisis, a housing shortage, and limited ways to support people out of poverty. Addressing all of these challenges will require a collaborative approach.

Question 2: There are various tools in the toolbox to fund the goals of the city. It really depends on the specific project to determine which funding option to choose.

City of Columbus Council Member - District 2 (vote for no more than 1)

NANCY DAY-ACHAUER**Email:** nancy@nancy4ohio.com**Website:** www.Nancy4Ohio.com**Education:** Bachelor Science Business Management, Master of Divinity**Occupation:** United Methodist Clergy

Qualifications for Office: I have 20 years of experience in business administration in the private sector and served on the Westland Area Commissioner for 8 years. For the past decade, I have been serving the Westside of Columbus addressing human service needs focusing primarily on food insecurity, senior services and homelessness.

Question 1: The overall needs of Columbus are public safety/crime and housing. Most District 2 residents would agree that these are top needs for the city overall. However, when I speak with district residents about the top need IN the district, they typically mention area specific issues. District 2 is not a monolith and is divided in half by an entire town (Hilliard), the neighborhoods have notable differences resulting in different needs. Some of these needs are unique to the district and others are found elsewhere in the city. I will work to address both the overall needs of the city and the variety of top needs that are specific to the district. For in-district needs, I will work with my staff to create a strategic plan for tackling various needs.

Question 2: The City of Columbus has a variety of funding tools that vary according to the project, we need to review all potential options including public-private partnerships, bonds, grants, etc.

LOUIS GIL

Candidate did not respond.

**City of Columbus
Council Member - District 3**
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

ROB DORANS**Email:** info@robdorans.com**Website:** robdorans.com**Education:** BA- Ohio University, JD- University of Toledo**Occupation:** Union Attorney & City Council Member

Qualifications for Office: I began my career working as a legislative aide in the Ohio House of Representatives where I learned both the complexity of public budgeting, how to navigate the legislative process, and the immense importance of constituent services. I have spent over a decade as a union attorney fighting for workers to ensure that Ohio's wage and hour laws are enforced, that local buildings are built with union

Question 1: Columbus is experiencing unprecedented growth creating challenges to ensure we have a supply of housing so that every family has a home they can afford. We also need to make sure that residents have access to career training to ensure that economic progress is shared among all neighborhoods. Finally, we currently have public safety challenges that must be a central focus of those in

elected office and our community organizations, especially those that serve youth. These issues effect every single neighborhood, District 3 is unique in that it encompasses the University District, where you have students from all different walks of life living away from home for the first time, alongside many longtime residents who have more long-term needs.

Question 2: Columbus has a long history of strong income tax growth. This has allowed the city to not only fund current priorities, but also to look at unique opportunities such as the affordable housing bond package to tackle some of our most pressing current challenges. As a Council Member I am focused on ensuring that as we budget, both via the operating and capital budget, we are focused on ensuring we match new investments with growth in our income tax, in order to make sure our long term budgeting is sustainable.

**City of Columbus
Council Member - District 4**
(vote for no more than 1)

ADRIENNE HOOD**Email:** hoodforcols@gmail.com**Website:** adriennehood.com**Education:** Master of Arts Human Services, Bachelor of Science Criminal Justice Administration**Occupation:** Customer Account Specialist

Qualifications for Office: A combination of life experience to include both personally and professionally. I am a retired Master Sergeant of the U.S. Air Force Reserves and also served 3 years of active-duty service with U.S. Army. I also serve as a Central Committee member in ward 54.

Question 1: My number one priority for my district would be to set up town halls and actually listen to the needs of the community instead of telling them what I think they need. While the needs are similar on each side of town the priorities of the community most likely won't be the same. One thing is for certain, Columbus should be safe and equitable to each of its residents. Regardless of the needs I would work closely with traditional organizations and grassroots organizations to come up with real solutions to the challenges facing their particular communities.

Question 2: I think that it would be wise to assess what should be prioritized and then execute accordingly. There are many challenges facing our city right now, public safety I believe is paramount to the health of our city and allocating resources to these needs is essential.

EMMANUEL REMY**Email:** joe@rtadvisorsllc.com**Website:** EmmanuelRemy.com**Education:** Adrian College - BBA Management**Occupation:** Realtor

Qualifications for Office: 5 1/2 years as Columbus City Councilmember, 6 years Northland Community Council President

Question 1: All Columbus residents deserve the right to feel safe in

their neighborhood. Concerns over crime affect my district as well as the entire city equally. As Public Safety Chair, I have worked hard to make sure that we are developing Alternative Crisis Response programs and staffing personnel to answer every call, the right way, every single time. I've also led work to introduce better training for police officers, salary increases for cadets, and recruitment efforts to increase diversity in our safety forces. Public Safety is my #1 priority.

Question 2: Columbus City Council (CCC) is charged with reviewing and passing the final operating and capital budgets every year. I meticulously evaluate every department budget proposal, including that of Public Safety, to ensure a balance of support on all major issues (public safety, sustainability, housing affordability, infrastructure, etc.). We use research and benchmarking to guide our decisions and fund the projects/ideas/programs that get to the root cause of our city's issues. When a surplus exists, I lean on community leaders and organizations to help CCC make final earmark decisions.

**City of Columbus
Council Member - District 5**
(vote for no more than 1)

NICK BANKSTON**Email:****Nick@BankstonForColumbus.com****Website:****BankstonForColumbus.com****Education:** B.A. Philosophy, The Ohio State University**Occupation:** Councilmember, City of Columbus | Director of Community Partnerships, Alvis

Qualifications for Office: Over 13 years of public service experience. **Question 1:** The top issues that face Columbus District 5 mirror those of the overall city and region; growth. This is our greatest opportunity and also our greatest challenge. District 5, the Northeast quadrant of the city, is one of the fastest growing areas of the city and is poised to absorb even more of our regions growth. With these pressures, three of the biggest needs we see that also impact our city as a whole are affordable housing, transportation, and safety. We must prioritize not simply preparing for growth but, ensuring that we have equitable access to quality, affordable housing; dignified, high-capacity transit; and ensure that every resident feels safe.

Question 2: To ensure we meet my primary goal of economic justice through affordable housing, high-capacity transit, and higher wages we must continue to invest in our neighborhoods to ensure that families choose to live in Columbus proper. All of the quality of life infrastructure, programs and policies to move the needle on equitable economic prosperity rely on strong income tax collection. This means we have to continue to bring good paying jobs to Columbus, and also ensure we have neighborhoods of choice for the rise in work from home options to ensure that we have the resources necessary to fund both general fund and capital improvement investments.

FARXAAN JEYTE**Email:****Farxaan@jeyteforcolumbus.com****Website:** Jeyteforcolumbus.com**Education:** Ohio Dominican University**Occupation:** Self employed**Qualifications for Office:**

Entrepreneur,

Question 1: The top need of Columbus is to eliminate poverty, and they only we can eliminate is through education in the long run. We have plan for economic development by introducing plan to eliminate food desert and implementing trade school in our school district.

Question 2: It's important for the city council to engage in careful financial planning and consider a combination of funding options based on its specific needs, community input, and long-term sustainability. Professional financial advisors and experts in municipal finance can provide valuable guidance in developing a comprehensive funding strategy.

**City of Columbus
Council Member - District 6**
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

MELISSA GREEN**Email:** info@greenforcolumbus.com**Website:****www.greenforcolumbus.com****Education:** Melissa maintains a dual Bachelors' Degree in Communication & Cultural Anthropology; and a Masters' Degree in Social Work, with specializations in macro social work & addiction services.

Occupation: Melissa is a Licensed Social Worker and currently serves as a Behavioral Health Policy Associate for an organization that advocates to expand access to mental health & addiction supports across Ohio.

Qualifications for Office: Melissa is an experienced Social Worker with specializations in addiction and harm reduction. She has worked at all levels of our social services system, including in public health, direct practice as a clinician, non-profit leadership, and policy roles. Her career has centered on promoting health equity; and she has worked to address issues like addiction, homelessness, and sustainability.

Question 1: The top needs and challenges that I hear from constituents, both in my district and across Columbus, are safety, housing, and good-paying jobs. As a social worker, I understand that inequities in our social system (like disparities in education, transportation-access, criminal justice, and economic opportunity) both cause AND further intensify challenges in those key areas. Because of this, I view addressing those social determinants as our greatest need. If we really aim to address safety, housing, and good-paying jobs, we must first tackle the root causes of inequity - by making significant investments in the socioeconomic, environmental, and systemic factors that influence wellbeing.

Question 2: My top priorities are to

build healthier and safer neighborhoods--and that means ensuring welfare for all our neighbors, especially those experiencing hardship. I am especially focused on supporting people experiencing addiction and homelessness. We must consider all funding options, including grants, public-private partnerships, bonds, etc. Re: Addiction--in conjunction with regional partners, gaps in services should be identified and bridged strategically using money from the Opiate Settlement funds. Re: Homelessness--there are many key federal grant opportunities (HUD, SAMHSA) we should seek to supplement City funds being invested, so we can 1) expand homeless outreach efforts and 2) build more supportive housing units to end homelessness.

**City of Columbus
Council Member - District 7**
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

SHAYLA D. FAVOR**Email:** gen@genmurphy.com**Website:** www.shaylafavor.com**Education:** JD, Capital University**Occupation:** Columbus City Councilmember and Attorney

Qualifications for Office: I was appointed to serve on Columbus City Council in January, 2019 and was elected to a full term in November, 2019. Prior to joining Council, I served as an Assistant City Attorney in Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein's office.

Question 1: The biggest need facing my district, and all of Columbus, is public safety and affordable housing. I have been working on innovative solutions to address both of these issues throughout my public service career, first as an attorney in the Columbus City Attorney's office and now as a member of Columbus City Council.

Question 2: It is one of the top responsibilities of the City Council to fund efforts to increase public safety and affordable housing. I will advocate that these efforts continue to be priorities in our budget every year. We can also fund these priorities through bonds and public-private partnerships.

**City of Columbus
Council Member - District 8**
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

LOURDES BARROSO DE PADILLA**Email:** lourdes4columbus@gmail.com**Website:****www.lourdesforcolumbus.com****Education:****Occupation:** Non profit executive

Qualifications for Office: As a younger person I served two years as an AmeriCorps member and have spent more than 20 years in the non-profit sector. I was elected as the first Latina on the Columbus City Council in 2021 and am running for reelection this year.

Question 1: The city is facing a housing crisis, transportation and public safety issues. These are top priorities not only for my district but for all of our residents. Columbus

City Council has made significant investments in each of these areas along with policy changes that will continue to have an impact as we face unprecedented growth throughout the region.

Question 2: The city of Columbus has been in excellent financial standing wisely leveraging bonds and levies when necessary. We will leverage public-private partnerships when appropriate and draw down from federal and state funds for larger infrastructure projects.

**City of Columbus
Council Member - District 9**
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

SHANNON GRANVILLE HARDIN**Email:****millie@strategiesconsulting.com****Website:** shannonhardin.com/**Education:****Occupation:****Qualifications for Office:**

Question 1: We are creating a lot of great jobs, but we need to give these new workers a place to live. Right now, we are only adding one home for every two jobs we create. If we don't reverse this trend, we will become unlivable - similar to cities like Austin and San Francisco, where plenty of folks drive in for work, but can't afford to live within the city limits - and owning a home for most residents will be virtually out of the question. That's why I helped pass a \$200 million affordable housing bond package and am working to reform the city's outdated zoning code established during the Jim Crow era, which will make it easier for housing providers to build more homes at all price points.

Question 2: My primary goal in the next year is passage of the LinkUS public transit initiative. The change in the sales tax is set to come before voters in November 2024 and allow us to leverage hundreds of millions of dollars in federal matching funds. LinkUs will implement frequent and reliable rapid-transit lines along five of the fastest-growing and highest-potential corridors in the region. It will also develop 500+ miles of protected bikeways, safe sidewalks, and greenways just off the corridors. Our goal is to concentrate housing, jobs, and other assets along these corridors, channeling our growth into walkable, transit-oriented development, instead of the sprawl that has characterized the region.

**Questions for Columbus
Mayoral Candidates**

1. What is the City of Columbus' one or two top needs and how would you address those issues?
2. Given the City of Columbus' fiscal responsibilities, how would you fund your primary goals?

City of Columbus Mayor
(vote for no more than 1)

ANDREW GINTHER**Email:** info@andrewgintner.com**Website:** www.andrewgintner.com**Education:****Occupation:** Mayor of Columbus

Qualifications for Office:

Incumbent Mayor

Question 1: Neighborhood safety is my top priority. Every resident deserves to live in a neighborhood that is safe, well-maintained and supported by top-notch city services. That means ensuring police are on our streets, slowing speed limits to reduce crashes and clearing refuse to keep streets clean. We also need residents to step up. Parents, know where your kids are at all times and enforce curfews. Others can mentor, tutor or start Block Watch programs. Also means neighbors must be accountable. Attend a community meeting or town hall or share your concerns with my office or your City Councilmember. Together, we can make Columbus even better for years to come.

Question 2: My top priority is unapologetically safety. That's why 2/3 of our operating dollars go to police officers, firefighters and EMTs, 911 Operators. For our region to continue to grow, we consider housing as infrastructure. Thanks to voters overwhelming approval, we have \$200 million in bond dollars to spend on our housing strategy to build more housing at all price points, invest in more affordable housing, preserve existing affordability and include everyone by cultivating economically diverse neighborhoods. Core city services are crucial, too. We've upped removing illegal dumping, doubled recycling pick up to once a week, and added food scrap drop off. We're also continuing to replace our roadways and being nimble in snow removal

JOE MOTIL

Email: joe.motil@yahoo.com

Website: joemotil.com

Education: Attended Youngstown State University and graduate of Bishop Watterson High School
Occupation: Retired. Laborer's Local 423 Union Construction worker of 24 years and 14-year construction safety professional.

Qualifications for Office: 67-year resident of Columbus. Pro-Choice Democrat. 38 years involvement with numerous city government depts. Decades advocating improving the lives of all people, families, and neighborhoods. Former University and Clintonville Area Commissioner, Cols. Historic Resources Commissioner, Executive Committee member of Cols. NAACP, and current 31-year President of The Friends of Tuttle Park.

Question 1: Maintain & create truly affordable housing, reduce crime and violence, invest in people and neighborhood infrastructure, eliminate unnecessary tax abatements, end corruption, shape a more democratic and publicly responsible city hall, develop a 21st century mobility & transit system, and place more emphasis on parks and the environment. Private profit has taken priority over people and neighborhoods. Columbus needs a mayor who knows and leads the city. Not one who is led and rewarded by developers and big business. I have a 14-point Affordable Housing Plan. I support gun reform and law enforcement. "Housing First"

strategy for the homeless. I will repeal unnecessary tax abatements. Prioritize funding for neighborhoods & public schools.

Question 2: My Affordable Housing Plan and Housing First for the homeless will be funded in part by the recent voter approved \$250 million affordable housing bond package. Construct permanent warming and cooling centers for our unhoused rather than Ginther's knee jerk solution and failure of renting out vacant buildings in the middle of winter. The excise tax created by my new Empty Homes Tax (vacant homes and commercial structures) will also fund my Affordable Housing Plan. Discontinue reckless spending such as Ginther's police officer buyouts, nonessential departmental spokespersons, eliminate endless wasteful political patronage positions, and review and report the spending and operations of all departments. The City needs a real Ethics Office.

CARRIE GRIFFIN

(write in candidate)

ALLISON WILLIFORD

(write in candidate)

Questions for all City, Village & Township Offices

1. What are your city/village/township's one or two top needs and how would you address those issues?
2. Given your city/village/township's fiscal responsibilities, how would you fund your primary goals?

CITY OF BEXLEY**City Council of Bexley**
(vote for no more than 4)**DANNY HURLEY**

Email: hurleyforbexley@gmail.com

Website: www.hurleyforbexley.com

Education: B.A. in Political Science

Occupation: Lobbyist

Qualifications for Office: Resident of Bexley, Nearly two decades of experience in Federal, State and Local Government

Question 1: Bexley is a vibrant community and I think that the biggest need for residents is compassionate and competent leadership on Council. We have many opportunities for new development in our commercial corridors, continued work towards celebrating our diversity and making Bexley more inclusive, and addressing infrastructure issues throughout the city. As a lobbyist with nearly two decades of experience in Federal, State and Local government, I bring the professional skills needed to deliver more for my friends and neighbors. Through collaboration and energy, I will help Bexley thrive and become the best version of itself.

Question 2: Bexley has a robust property tax base as well as significant income tax collections. Through a combination of revenue growth and one-time coronavirus relief funds, we can invest in new programs to drive thoughtful community growth and refresh city services to meet the needs of citizens. I have

worked extensively on state budgets and have a detailed understanding of local government finance. I can utilize these skills to enact policies that are fiscally sound and will result in new investment in Bexley.

MATTHEW KLINGLER

Candidate did not respond.

TROY MARKHAM

Email: tmarkham@bexley.org

Website:

Education: M.S. Plant Biology

Occupation: Instructor/Advisor

Qualifications for Office: Eight year incumbent

Question 1: Our top needs remain good roads, serviceable water and sewer lines, responsive and responsible police services, and a city government that listens and responds efficiently to the needs of the community. I have worked steadily through my eight years and each budget season to make sure these needs are met and that we do it under budget.

Question 2: Currently each budget that I've approved has spent less money than we take in, and that would continue to be my objective.

JESS SAAD

Email: jessicasaad@sbcglobal.net

Website: SAADFORBEXLEY.COM

Education: Indiana University, Bachelor of Arts, Telecommunications, Political Science, Communications, 2000
Occupation: Bexley City Council Member, Current Chair of Bexley Park and Recreation, Prior Chair of Zoning

Qualifications for Office: As a current Councilmember I have had the opportunity to serve Bexley the last 4 years as Zoning Chair and Parks and Recreation Chair. I am the city liaison to The Bexley Education Foundation (2019 Chair), Team Bexley Pelotonia (5 year rider), Bexley Park and Recreation Board, and Bexley Boosters. I have 15 years of business experiences in private, public, and start-up companies.

Question 1: I have had the privilege these last 4 years to work with our city department heads and learn how to advocate & work together for my constituents top needs. I have supported Revitalize Livingston Avenue, teen and senior programming, resources for all, equity & inclusivity, environmental stewardship, enhancing walking and biking safe routes, calming corridors, responsible development & business support & growth, investments in safety services, and accountability. My experience on city council has allowed me the opportunity to be an effective leader. I look forward to continuing to lead, listen, and advocate Bexley through change and growth.

Question 2: As a city council member I will continue to work on the City of Bexley's primary goal funding by reviewing finances with our Auditor and Finance department. I will work to advocate during our budget review on goals, before we approve the City of Bexley's budget. Our recent city council finance report showed that overall city revenue, especially from city

income tax, is significantly higher than forecasted and will allow us to continue to fund necessary and vital projects. OPW, Federal and State, and The Bexley Community Foundation grants are all great resources to fund primary goals as well, especially when prioritizing capital improvements.

ALEX SILVERMAN

Email:

silvermanforbexley@gmail.com

Website: silverman4bexley.com

Education: Bachelors in hospitality management from the ohio state university

Occupation: Project Manager

Qualifications for Office: Business management background, skilled at community builder and managing complex projects

Question 1: I believe the top issues facing our community are housing, commercial development, public safety, and infrastructure. I would like to see developments including expanding housing and a mixture of mixed-use buildings that include family-friendly restaurants, quality retail stores, and expanded housing options. The business and housing should focus on accessibility and affordability, enabling diverse groups of residents, including all income levels, seniors' citizens, young professionals to live, dine, and shop in Bexley.

Question 2: The taxes (property, sales, income), user fees (water, sewage, waste disposal), grants from higher levels of government & Local Community Foundations (BCF, BC&E) to service the action items above. Effective financial planning and management are essential so Bexley can meet its budgetary needs and provide essential services to residents while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

City of Bexley Mayor

(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

BEN KESSLER

Candidate did not respond.

CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER**City Council of Canal Winchester- Unexpired Term Ending 12/31/2025**

(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race.

STEVE BUSKIRK

Email: sbuskirk614@gmail.com

Website:

Education: Associate degrees from Columbus State in Civil Engineering and Construction Management, and a bachelor's degree from Ohio Christian University.

Occupation: Employed at the Franklin County Engineer's Office for 30 years. Current position: Utilities Supervisor.

Qualifications for Office: Previous experience serving on Canal Winchester City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission, 30 year experience working for Franklin County Engineer's office. and a love for Canal Winchester.

Question 1: I feel that the residents

of Canal Winchester are concerned about increased traffic on S.R. 33 and Gender Road, Safety, and the number of warehouses being built in and around the city. I have already reached out to ODOT in support of proposed improvements to S.R. 33. As a member of city council, I am supporting city staff in making improvements to the Gender Rd corridor. I have reviewed recent police studies and spoke with Fairfield County Sheriff and Madison Township police regarding our staffing needs. I support our building and zoning codes in an effort to maintain our high standards. I also support the community development plan that has been put in place by our community.

Question 2: I plan to work with staff to help identify outside funding sources that are available for projects to improve the infrastructure in Canal Winchester.

City Council of Canal Winchester (vote for no more than 3)
Will Bennet

Email: bennettforcw@gmail.com

Website:VoteBennettBack.com

Education: BFA from Columbus College of Art & Design

Occupation: Advertising & Marketing Manager

Qualifications for Office: Along

with two previous terms on city council, I have an extensive community service record, which includes participation on City Planning Commission, CW Joint Recreation District Board, Historical Society Executive Board, Charter Review Commission, Landmarks Commission, Destination: CW Board of Directors, and Main Street CW Board.

Question 1: I serve on the City Planning Commission and we are in the midst of finalizing our Community Plan. One thing that stood out as something we need to take action on is to address our standards for industrial and multi-family developments.

Additionally, I would like to work to improve communication with residents. To help with this I have created a number specifically for residents text me directly. I believe we also need community leaders bringing organizations together in partnership for the betterment of our community. We have the potential to be much stronger when we work in unison.

Question 2: The work we need to do requires more effort and organization than fiscal support. However, our community has been extremely fiscally responsible and have the ability to budget the funding required for the studies and standards documents. I will be funding my direct text line personally at no expense to residents.

ALEC MCLAUGHLIN

Candidate did not respond.

CHUCK MILLIKEN

Candidate did not respond.

RICHARD MOORE

Candidate did not respond.

TINA WELCH

Candidate did not respond.

City of Canal Winchester Mayor
(vote for no more than 1)**MIKE EBERT**

Email: ilikemike15@gmail.com

Website: Cwmayor23.com

Education: CWHS Grad

Occupation: Mayor of Canal Winchester

Qualifications for Office: Have served Canal Winchester as mayor for the past 16 years.

Question 1: Wants and needs are totally different and varies from resident to resident. But I believe their top needs are, They need a place where they can have a nice home, a place where they can walk the streets day or night and feel safe, a place where everyone is your friend, a place where they can shop and dine, often on same street, a place that is neat and clean, a place where their city services are the best amongst the best, a place where they can have good, clean & safe drinking water, free of harsh chemicals, a place where their kids can attend quality schools and a place where they have professionals within the city working for them daily. This is what I believe their needs are, and we currently provide them all here in Canal Winchester.

Question 2: Grants & low interest loans. The City of Canal Winchester has a strong financial background. In my 16 years as Mayor, we have never increased taxes or added any new taxes, even throughout the recession of 2008-09 and most recently COVID-19 of which both forced many villages and cities to do so. In both events we saw the warning signs early on and took action immediately. Our primary source of revenue comes from a City income tax. You can live here and not have to pay here, if you work outside the city. Less than 10% of our city residents pay income tax to the city. Home ownership taxes in the city are reasonably inexpensive comparatively speaking, as the average residential property in C W pays \$61.25 per \$100,000 of appraised valuation.

JOE STEAGER

Email: Joesteager@gmail.com

Website: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550601636034&mixid=2bWkLw

Education: Master's Degree, Business Administration, Bachelor's Degree, Business Management, Associate's Degree, Applied Science, Studied Civil Engineering at Columbus State, Integrated Leadership Systems 3yrs

Occupation: Estimating and Project Management (Construction)

Qualifications for Office: I have worked in an executive level position as a Vice President for Heiberger Paving, Inc., a mid-sized paving company in Canal Winchester, for 23 of my 35 years there. I have worked throughout the state with municipalities on construction projects, and schools and universities including Ohio State University. I understand executive leadership and will bring these skills to the the Mayoral Job.

Question 1: Security: Canal Winchester Community Plan/ Survey

indicates the number one priority for the citizens of this city is public safety. We will add any required police coverage. Economic Health/Sound Development: Grow on current growth sensibility. Community Cohesion/ Communication. Survey Third Priority. Build consensus, trust, and openness between citizens and city government through communication, ethical actions, and sharing of ideas in open forums and close conversations with residents of the city.

Question 2: For Security I would first work to improve our relationship with Madison Township Police which already serves the City. With better coordination, at minimal cost, we can increase services by working more closely together to better meet our security needs. If more Fairfield County Sheriff deputies are still needed after this reorganization then we will look at other areas in the budget to cut in order to hire more officers. Economic Health & Development we will look for projects and businesses that bring good revenue into the city for increasing our budget, and that meet the needs of the residents not duplicating services. This can be done through zoning. Community cohesion with Gov. will come with better leadership to increase trust.

MIKE WALKER

Email: **Website:**

Education:

Occupation:

Qualifications for Office:

Question 1: All of our constituents need to feel safe knowing that we have the proper amount of law enforcement in place. As I have in the past 8 years on City Council, I will continue to monitor the crime statistics provided by the Sheriff's department and the extensive studies that we have undertaken. And as we grow with more residents and businesses, I will continue this practice of looking at the facts and analyzing the statistics to ensure we keep all our citizens well protected from crime.

Question 2: In order to fund our primary goals, I believe we need to continue to add businesses and jobs. From 2015 until now, there have been approximately 75 businesses opened and 2500 jobs created, and this has served our community well, providing funding for city projects and jobs for those in our growing community.

CITY OF DUBLIN

City of Dublin City Council
(vote for no more than 3)
Uncontested Race

CHRISTINA ALUTTO

Candidate did not respond.

CHRIS AMOROSE GROOMES

Email: ElectCAG@gmail.com

Website: Chris4Dublin.com

Education: Bachelors of science in Horticulture and Agricultural Business

Occupation: Horticulturist

Qualifications for Office: 8 years on the city of dublin Planning and

Zoning Commission and 8 years on Dublin City Council

Question 1: As a City, we need to continue to provide the excellent City services and events that our community expects us to deliver, on time and on budget in this competitive environment.

Question 2: We have a reliable and solid income tax base that funds the largest portion of our budget. We need to continue to grow those revenues by a business friendly, visionary and equitable place for large and small companies to do business.

ANDREW KEELER

Candidate did not respond.

CITY OF GAHANNA

City of Gahanna City Attorney
(vote for no more than 1)

RAYMOND J. MULARSKI

Email: rmularski@hotmail.com

Website: MularskiforGahanna.com

Education: Juris Doctor

Occupation: Gahanna City Attorney

Qualifications for Office: Almost 4 decades serving the Gahanna Community for their legal needs. Over 35 years as Prosecutor for Gahanna. 4 years as Gahanna City Attorney

Question 1: The tops needs of my constituents for my office are to have a safe community and to make sure our City is best positioned to defend or prevent lawsuits. I have been Gahanna's Prosecutor for over 35 years. I will continue to make sure we are one of the safest communities in the state of Ohio. I will give fair and equal treatment to all individuals and continue to use all of my experience to protect the residents of Gahanna. I review every contract that is presented to the City to make sure we are legally protected and that the contracts are financially sound. Since I have been City Attorney there has not been a lawsuit filed against us for any that I have been a part of, that has succeeded. I intend to continue that winning streak.

Question 2: My office does not fund goals, but rather I save the City money. My office prosecutes all Municipal Court and Mayors Court cases. I review all contracts the City enters into. I have represented the City in several lawsuits at no additional cost to the City. I co-counsel on all cases that require expert outside counsel, resulting in coming in \$44,000 under budget for 2022, out of an estimated \$180,000 budget for outside counsel.

PRIYA TAMILARASAN

Email: priya@priya4gahanna.com

Website: www.priya4gahanna.com

Education: J.D.

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: J.D.

Question 1: My constituents top needs are better communication with the administration, more transparency, and reform in Mayor's Court to increase due process rights and provide diversion opportunities. I intend to provide more comprehensive reports during City Council

Meetings, and include communication with residents and stakeholders for any settlement agreements that bypass the routine methods of public input. I also intend to reform Mayor's Court to utilize a public defender to provide due process protections and institute formal diversion programs and screenings.

Question 2: My primary goals to address the needs of constituents largely does not require a cost, with the exception of the utilization of a public defender. In order to fund this piece, I intend to decrease the spending on special counsel and co-counseling where necessary.

City of Gahanna Mayor
(vote for no more than 1)

STEVE BROWNE

Email: Browne4Mayor@gmail.com

Website: www.Browne4Mayor.com

Education: B.S. in Business

Administration from Ohio Dominican University, Executive MBA from The Ohio State University, Fisher College of Business, Ohio School Administrator's license

Occupation: School Administrator
Qualifications for Office: I have 35+ years of relevant government experience. In the Army, I held administration, operations, transportation mgmt. & logistics positions earning Army Commendation, Army Achievement, National Defense & Humanitarian Service medals. For 6 years, I've served as Asst. Principal for a Cols City middle school co-managing 45 staff members (teachers, security, bus drivers, custodians) & 750 students.

Question 1: Smart economic development, strategic planning and quality affordable housing. 1. I will work with residents to create a smart business development plan via a transparent/inclusive design process. Our plan will create a unique identity for Gahanna and bolster the city's major business corridors. 2. I will increase walkability and ensure safety in our community and schools through thoughtful investment in our parks/neighborhoods. 3. I will ensure residents of all generations have access to quality affordable housing by eliminating code/zoning barriers and encouraging diverse home development in terms of type, size, cost. 4. I pledge to build a better Gahanna through "principled leadership" based on honesty, integrity and trust.

Question 2: On Nov. 5, 2019, Gahanna voters passed Issue 12, a 1% income-tax rate increase expected to generate abt \$9 million per year for city maintenance and improvements. The balancing act for the City is to: (1) keep up with street, sidewalk, park and building maintenance, (2) spend its levy dollars responsibly, (3) stop the revolving door of director-level/engineering employees and (4) update the City's charter to eliminate the old zoning, building and business regulations/rules that drive businesses away - while spending within its means. All of these issues, when as poorly managed as they have been for the past few years, cost the City millions of dollars that it simply does NOT have, i.e., 2023 primary election and 2024 new city hall building.

LAURIE JADWIN

Email:

jadwinforgahanna@gmail.com

Website: JadwinforGahanna.com

Education: Juris Doctor, University of Pittsburgh School of Law; Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, Duquesne University

Occupation: Mayor, City of Gahanna

Qualifications for Office: Mayor, City of Gahanna (2020-); Vice Chair, MORPC Sustainability Advisory Comm.; Member, Central Ohio Mayors and Managers Assoc.; 30 yrs. practicing attorney; Exec. Director, Visit Gahanna (2013-2019); Board President, Visit Gahanna (2009-2013); Board Member, Gahanna Neighborhood Bridges

Question 1: As in most cities, Gahanna residents' top needs remain focused on having a safe community that offers a high quality of life and delivers superior and reliable city services. Over the last 3.5 years, we have consistently added to the City's income tax base by attracting quality jobs that have contributed both revenue and career opportunities for our residents. Continuing to pursue smart economic development initiatives will allow us to increase investments in the things that matter most to our residents - public safety, public services, roads, parks, trails, and other amenities, while maintaining financial stability and reducing the tax burden on our residents and businesses.

Question 2: The passage of an income tax increase in 2019 created a dedicated funding source for capital projects, requiring a strategy for addressing years of deferred maintenance. In response, I have led initiatives such as the creation of the City's first Capital Improvement Plan, refresh of the Parks Master Plan, and finalization of a City Facilities Assessment. These strategic initiatives direct future investments and align projects that will safeguard the City's financial stability without the need for new taxes. Ensuring that these programs reflect the residents' long-term vision for the community and address critical needs will be a priority that will be informed by an update of the City's strategic plan that is guided by citizen input. City of Gahanna Council Member-At-Large (vote for no more than 3)

MERISA BOWERS

Email: merisa.bowers@gmail.com

Website:

www.merisaforgahanna.com

Education: Juris Doctor cum laude, Case Western Reserve University; Bachelor of Arts with Departmental Honors, University of Cincinnati

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: Successful completion of a first term in office! Prior service on public commissions/committees; Litigation attorney and small business owner for over 13 years; Current professional role in legal industry professional conduct, ethics, and risk management; community volunteer, advocate, and organizer.

Question 1: Gahanna, and all of Central Ohio, is soon to be impacted by unprecedented economic

expansion in the areas of technology and manufacturing. As part of this, our region will feel further pressure for housing for working families and families and individuals on fixed incomes. After passing housing non-discrimination legislation that included a provision to tamp down the eviction rate across the county during my first Council term, I plan to advance affordable housing policy with required set-asides for units for working and fixed income households in housing development projects and work with housing experts to advance other policies that address housing affordability. We will also need to respond to demand on public services and utilities.

Question 2: My top goals include policies that would not have a cost to taxpayers, including policies for set-asides for affordable housing units in new developments, sustainability policies, and common-sense gun violence prevention. These can be achieved by continuing to build coalition across business, faith, and resident communities. As we continue to attract and retain jobs that pay competitive wages and provide competitive benefits, the tax base will continue to grow from income tax revenue to fund additional infrastructure projects, such as those that provide comprehensive pedestrian and cyclist safety, and sustainability projects such as a comprehensive street tree program to protect and expand the urban canopy.

BETTY COLLINS

Email: Collins4gahanna@gmail.com

Website:

www.Collins4gahanna.com

Education: Mount Vernon Nazarene College

Occupation: Business owner and CPA

Qualifications for Office: Proven Leader, Longtime Resident and Community Leader and Volunteer

Question 1: The constituents of Gahanna needs are about Health, Safety and Welfare. They deserve leadership at all levels in the city to ensure that basic services are provided, infrastructure needs are met, and that safety is a priority. As a CPA and business owner, I would bring intense fiscal review of the budget and expenditures. The question to ask - Is it good for Gahanna?

Question 2: To obtain fiscal responsibility and reach goals that are about Gahanna and its citizens we should not spend more on operations than the annual income for the year. Our focus should be on capital expenses such as improving our roads, bridges, parks, police and water/sewer systems. Gahanna lives on income taxes from our businesses. Businesses locate where there it is good infrastructure systems to support them. The Administration, City Government and City Council need to work together to have successful outcomes.

ROSS A. GOLDSMITH

Email: ross@goldsmithforgia-

hanna.com **Website:** www.

GoldsmithForGahanna.com

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration from Capital

University

Occupation: Senior Director of Marketing, Communications, & Public Affairs at the American Association of Service Coordinators

Qualifications for Office: I've spent more than a decade working in local government - working for and with elected officials to build good public policy. At Franklin County, I served former Franklin County Commissioner Marilyn Brown, worked as a spokesperson and digital media coordinator for the Board of Commissioners, and served in multiple agencies crafting public policy designed to lift families.

Question 1: Talking to neighbors across Gahanna, I've heard the same things over and over - we need an intentional community plan that helps us build a better future, we need to invest in opportunities that move our city forward, and we need to work together to build a community for all. As our region grows, I will work with residents to ensure our city has a comprehensive plan to guide future development - one that prioritizes affordable housing and high-wage jobs. I will work with colleagues on council to use Issue 12 dollars in fiscally responsible ways that ensure we take care of capital projects that have languished for years, but are also available for emergencies. Finally, I will make city government a good partner in building a better Gahanna.

Question 2: Our city responded to decades of disinvestment by city leaders in 2019 by passing Issue 12 - and it's our responsibility as city council members to ensure these dollars are invested in opportunities to move our city forward. We must demonstrate to residents that we are spending these funds wisely with future development and resident needs in mind. Good government can only be effective when the majority of residents feel like their interests are top of mind for city leaders - and I will always work to ensure our constituents receive clear communication and understand that we do not take spending their tax dollars lightly.

JAMILLE JONES

Email: jamille@jamilleforgahanna.com

Website:

www.jamilleforgahanna.com

Education: Bachelor of Fine Arts

Occupation: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Professional

Qualifications for Office: Human Resources, Management, Non-Profit Management, Activism & Community Organizing

Question 1: Recently, Gahanna administration has established a track record of making decisions that impact residents without informing them or inviting them to be a part of the conversation. When elected, I will be committed to transparency and keeping my constituents informed of and involved in the decisions that impact them.

Question 2: As a middle-working class community, it's important that we do whatever we can to absorb costs as a city and not place additional financial strain on residents. When elected, I plan to explore grants and state funding and

public-private partnerships to fund goals. Most importantly, I will work with fellow council members and city officials to ensure that every dollar is allocated wisely by identifying areas where we can streamline expenses without compromising essentials needs of the community.

NANCY MCGREGOR

Email: nancymcgregor4gahanna@gmail.com

Website:

Education: BA Miami University, Botany Post Grad 40 hours towards teacher licensure, Ohio Dominican

Occupation: City Council member, Substitute Teacher, 2001- 2018. Math Teacher 2001-2002.

Qualifications for Office: Serving 4th term as Council Member at Large, Active in many organizations over the years

Question 1: With our dedicated funding sources from Issue 12, passed in 2019, and the newly passed Capital Improvement Plan we can continue to work on long deferred maintenance projects in a methodical manner. Our staff is constantly looking for and acquiring grants to help supplement our local tax dollars. The last three summers have seen the largest street repair program in Gahanna history. The police have added new police officers and new equipment. Our parks have added new playgrounds, repaved parking lots and provided excellent summer programming for our residents. The parks dept also has been able to support many local events such as the Blues and Jazz Festivals, the Symphony event at Headley Park and the Mill St. Market.

Question 2: With our dedicated funding sources from Issue 12 and the newly passed Capital Improvement Plan, we will continue to work on deferred maintenance projects in a methodical manner. The tax increase of 2019 provides for dedicated dollars for capital, parks, police and public service projects. Our staff is constantly looking for and acquiring grants to help supplement our local tax dollars.

JASON RUARK

Email: **Website:** RuarkforGahanna.com

Education: High School Graduate

Occupation: Driver

Qualifications for Office: Engaged and active in the community.

Question 1: Our residents want a safe and equitable community to live, work, and play in. Providing neighborhoods that have good streets, sidewalks, and a sense of safety is what I'm committed to providing the residents of Gahanna with. This can be accomplished with good planning and good communication both to and from our residents. Implementing programs such as The Sidewalk Maintenance Program and community-oriented policing are just a few ways we can continue to achieve this. The recent adoption of the CIP is another tool we now have available to help plan and guide the city forward. As a councilmember I will also hold monthly constituent hours so I can remain engaged with the residents.

Question 2: Our residents passed issue 12 in 2019 which has helped our

city make great strides on deferred maintenance. Issue 12 dollars will help fund much of our capital projects. We must also search out any grants or Federal funding that could be awarded based on the types of projects. Additionally, we need to continue to attract businesses that will add to our income tax base.

CITY OF GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS

City of Grandview Heights Council Member

(vote for no more than 3)

RYAN EDWARDS

Email: **Website:**

Education: Master's Of City and Regional Planning, Master's of Public Policy and Management, Bachelor's in Political Science

Occupation: Self Employed

Qualifications for Office: 4 years of service on Grandview Heights City Council, 15 years in Community Development and Planning, Member of the Bobcat Boosters, Member of Grandview K-Tribes

Question 1: In Grandview Heights we are very fortunate to have high quality safety and services. We have top notch Parks and Recreation programming, service staff that keep our city clean and beautiful, police and fire departments that keep us safe and healthy, finance and community development professionals that we trust to keep the business of Grandview going. Ensuring that we are able to keep pace with the expectations of our citizenry in those areas is my primary focus. We have aging infrastructure that requires routine and ongoing maintenance. Making sure that these basic necessities are available and in place for our residents are amongst the things most important to me.

Question 2: Funding for city services and local infrastructure is driven by the local income tax. Grandview has been fortunate over the past decade to enjoy increases in income tax revenue due to increased employment in the Grandview Yard. Work from home has introduced a dynamic that threatens that revenue stream. Working with development partners and prospective employers to understand and create office environments that are attractive in a changing employment eco system is critical. As the current Chair of the City Council Economic Development committee I have championed and supported recent amendments and updates to key economic development agreements that will allow the city to remain competitive as the work environment evolves.

REBEKAH HATZIFOTINOS

Email: **Website:**

Education: BA-Communication The Ohio State University; JD Capital University Law School

Occupation: Attorney/Small Business Owner

Qualifications for Office: As a practicing attorney, I have a skill set and knowledge base surrounding the legislative process and other legal matters the city encounters such as home rule. In my role as a small

business owner, I have experience in managing budgets, payroll and operations to ensure things run smoothly and within the business' financial means. As an incumbent, I bring a prior term's experience.

Question 1: Our constituents' top needs are continuation of city services at the level they are accustomed to being served. We are the smallest full service city in Ohio. Ensuring the city's financial health in order to keep up with trash pick up, fire/ems/police response, street maintenance and repair is a priority. Our city is one of the most popular in central Ohio, and city services help maintain property values. To accomplish this, completion of the new municipal building is essential. I hope to be re-elected so that I can see the passage of Issue 32's project through.

Question 2: We rely a great deal on income tax withholdings from area businesses. Our duties as city leaders is to recruit and retain businesses that provide a steady stream of jobs. This requires flexibility and creative solutions to bring businesses to Grandview Heights. Further, we must continue to work with area developers to ensure projects planned that will bring income to the city stay online and get completed.

EMILY KEELER

Email: emilyakeeler@yahoo.com

Website: electemilykeeler.com

Education: BA Music, BM Music Performance, MA Arts Administration

Occupation: Project Manager

Qualifications for Office: I have served on council since 2016, the past four years as council president. I have experience in project management and building consensus while thinking outside the box.

Question 1: I will continue to be a strong supporter of multimodal transportation and keeping Grandview Heights a great place for walking and biking while working with our neighbors to ensure cross jurisdictional connections.

Question 2: We have a strong history of supporting bike and pedestrian infrastructure through not only City funds, but grants and federal or state dollars. I will continue to ensure we make use of funds available for these purposes.

DENISE WALKER

Candidate did not respond

City of Grandview Heights Mayor

(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

GRETA KEARNS

Email: greta@gretakearnsformayor.com

Website: gretakearnsformayor.com

Education: J.D. with honors - University of Iowa 1997; B. A. with honors - University of Kansas 1993

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: I have been the Mayor since January, 2020. I served as City Council President from 2016 -2019 and as a Councilmember from 2014-2019.

Question 1: Constituents expect

City Hall to deliver strong municipal services: a safe community, rapid response times, dependable waste and snow removal, quality recreation programs, and beautiful parks. My essential mission as Mayor is delivering the highest possible quality services. Last year, voters supported a \$25 Million bond to finance a new Fire/EMS, Police, and Municipal Services facility replacing a 1924 functionally obsolete building. In my second term, I will complete this capital project with related parks improvements that will also bring online a new Recreation and Parks facility and 1.5 acre park expansion. These improvements will support Grandview Heights' ability to continue delivering quality services well into its second century.

Question 2: Our \$25 Million Fire/EMS, Police, and Municipal Services facility will meet a critical need which was out of reach due to lingering effects of economic distress in past decades. Through fiscal discipline, we committed additional cash to support a related recreation facility and 1.5 acre park expansion. Capitals aside, essential to funding City operations are our municipal income tax and municipal property tax levies. A concerning new development is declining local income tax revenue due to the post-COVID hybrid work environment. Mayor and Council need to focus on revenue stabilization strategies next term, including incentives to backfill underutilized commercial office space, as we implement our economic development strategic plan.

CITY OF GROVE CITY

City of Grove City Council Member - At Large

(vote for no more than 1)

JODI BURROUGHS

Email: jodiburroughs@gmail.com

Website: www.jodiburroughs.com

Education: Engineering & Business Administration

Occupation: Business Owner

Qualifications for Office: Grove City Resident for 30 years

*Experienced and Successful Small Business Owner *Engaged Local Community Leader & Volunteer

Question 1: 1) Our residents want the City to address outdated and future infrastructure needs. I will work with city & township administrators on these needs, including roads, bridges, buildings, and cellular service, by working together on future strategic and financial planning to support responsible growth in Grove City. 2) Residents want the City to invest in new amenities and public services that support a thriving community where ALL can live, work, connect, and play. This includes Adult Parks/Recreation programs, including Wellness & Mental Health, along with expanding Senior Services such as weekend COTA Plus services. This will require the City to better sell itself to attract new businesses and jobs to expand our income tax base.

Question 2: As Grove City continues to grow, we need to go out and find new businesses and jobs that complement what our city already

has to offer and what we need for responsible growth. This in turn, will generate a new income tax base to provide for the infrastructure needs and amenities that our residents want and need.

AARON SCHLABACH

Email: acsforgcoh@gmail.com

Website:

Education: I went through all of my primary education in South-Western, graduating Central Crossing. Studied at the Culinary Institute of America, Columbus State Community College, and The Ohio State University.

Occupation: Chef and Realtor

Qualifications for Office: In my time on council I worked hard to protect the people of Grove City. My knowledge of economics balances well with the business and government minds currently on council. My focus on unconsidered consequences of government legal action is one of my main focuses, consequences that are often caused by well intentioned government action.

Question 1: There have been closed door discussions about raising taxes in Grove City and that is not what we need at this time. I will fight any tax increase. As well as the high water events we have in the Town Center and the old Grove City neighborhoods, where I live, that are often forgotten about, need remedied and that requires prioritizing a plan that was presented to council. The cost of housing is also a monumental issue, expensive housing sounds great when you're selling but when buying it is hindrance. Buying and selling must be brought back into balance and my plan is ethical growth and to not only approve housing for the upper middle class and upper class communities but for the younger and lower middle class.

Question 2: There are many projects that the city takes out loans to fund that I believe could be done more slowly or postponed. When there are times that people have to park around the corner from their homes and walk through neighbors yards to get to their own house because the street is flooded, that should be rectified. When the Town Center floods and harms our businesses it harms our community. I would prioritize spending on necessities. My plan for ethical growth and affordable housing will increase city tax revenue which will allow for more investment in our infrastructure.

City of Grove City Council Member - Ward 2

(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

RANDY HOLT

Candidate did not respond

City of Grove City Council Member - Ward 4

(vote for no more than 1)

MELISSA J. ANDERSON

Email: VoteMelissaAnderson@gmail.com

Website:

VoteMelissaAnderson.com

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Communications from The Ohio

State University

Occupation: Marketing & Operations, Small Business Owner

Qualifications for Office: 20 year resident with embedded roots, raising school-aged children here. 22+ years business experience in marketing and operations roles. Community leader with many years in volunteer roles serving on non-profit boards, and holding executive trustees leadership positions. A small business owner, owning and operating vacation rental properties.

Question 1: Lacking infrastructure and inadequate cell phone service, are wide-spread improvement opportunities for Grove City, including Ward 4, where I am running. If elected, I will focus on infrastructure first. Our city must commit to infrastructure improvement plans for new development we approve. I will be pushing for documented infrastructure improvement plans and written accountability for those projects. These commitments need to be in legal agreements between our city and the developers. Regarding inadequate cell phone coverage, Grove City conducted a 2023 study that identified the need for 7-9 additional cell towers. I will be a constant advocate for this work and efficient implementation of towers across the city to build out the plan.

Question 2: Drawing on years of corporate business experience managing multi-million-dollar budgets, and personally operating a small business, I have the financial skills to manage tax dollars responsibly with transparency to our community. I would work to fund primary goals by listening to citizens' needs, pushing for priority improvements and exploring external funding where possible, before tapping our city budget. A hot button issue is the usage of TIF funds, a large funding source in our city's budget. This is especially true in the Ward 4 Pinnacle TIF Fund that is generated from the ward I am running in. I plan to seek citizen input on how best to use Ward 4 TIF funds in order to strengthen our infrastructure and to help our community thrive.

ROBY SCHOTTKE

Email: schottkeforgc@gmail.com

Website:

Education: BS, MS, M.Ed

Occupation: Retired

Qualifications for Office: Have been a city councilman for 8 years. Past council president and current Lands and Zoning Chairman. Previously served on the GC Planning Commission, MORPC trustee, past GC Park Board Member.

Question 1: Community surveys have constantly revealed the need for a community recreation center. After obtaining the approval of city council, two years ago I made a proposal to GC Park Board to partner with me to build a community recreation center. In the proposal, I had provisions for public partition, construction funding, potential locations on park land, and funding sources for operations. The Park Board accepted my proposal, and we proceed to start the project. Over the two years, we have a core working group of citizens, contracted a firm to conduct focus groups,

to send out a statically accurate survey, and to solicit responses from the community. We expect to have an accurate report of the community desires in a community/rec center.

Question 2: In my community/rec center proposal, I provided construction funding from the Pinnacle TIF. The TIF proceeds would then be used to fund the construction bond package. Since the TIF proceeds are funding the center, no additional tax revenue would be needed to build the center. Therefore no new taxes for construction.

**City of Grove City
Council Member-Ward 5**
(vote for no more than 1)

RODNEY DEW**Email:** rdew7705@gmail.com**Website:****Education:** Bachelor's of Science Business Administration from The Ohio State University; Major: Finance**Occupation:** Veteran of the US ARMY 1968-1970, Retired Real Estate Appraiser**Qualifications for Office:** Business oriented work experience, Vast knowledge of Real Estate Evaluation Principles, Member of GC social clubs**Question 1:** With the expansion of Grove City to the west which included a new middle school, the former middle school in my ward was left underutilized. I would like to see the building repurposed for more community centered activities other than housing. Given the fact both Big Splash and an elementary school are both adjacent to this property I believe the location would be ideal for such. Another need for my ward concerns the demolition of Gantz Park Barn. I would like to see a similar structure re-established not just for pre-school this time but one with a multi-purpose focus to include additional park programs.**Question 2:** I would work diligently with the Community Development Leaders who have already established numerous plans addressing the future development in our community. I would prioritize that we adhere to our rooted community values and goals that have served us well to this point. I would also monitor the funding and be open for change as we move forward.**AARON SCOTT MILLER****Email:** miller4ward5council@gmail.com**Website:**

www.aaronmillerforgrovecity.com

Education: Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Certified Case Manager**Occupation:** RN**Qualifications for Office:** Community Health, non-profit organization leadership**Question 1:** City connectivity; Growth of the city; Housing developments**Question 2:** There are things that need to be looked at regarding income, tax that is brought in to the city and from the property taxes. I am not wanting to go for a tax increase but look at opportunities to get more tax brought in by making grove city a desirable location for

businesses to come and operate in. This will then provide needed tax dollars that the city needs to do the work that is needed for the growth the city needs. Currently Grove City is the 3rd largest 12 central Ohio suburbs and yet we are ranking 5th out of the 12 for the tax revenue, Our current tax revenue to resident is \$841 per resident. This does not provide our city with the much needed funds to do everything we need to do. We also need to remove focus on continuously just b

City of Grove City Mayor
(vote for no more than 1)

CHRISTINE HOUK**Email:** electchristinehouk@gmail.com**Website:** christinehouk.com**Education:** BA Accounting**Occupation:** Accountant/Firm Manager**Qualifications for Office:** 23 years managing local accounting firm; Member of City Council (Safety, Finance, Service Chairs/President); MORPC Member; Treasurer - SWCS Educational Foundation; Former board member of Grove City Town Center, Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce, Visit Grove City, and Grove City Community Club; Served on multiple citizen-led committees.**Question 1:** Thoughtful management of the city's growth by keeping residents at the heart of our decisions... "How will this make Grove City better?" This includes addressing traffic and infrastructure deficiencies; expanding parks and recreation amenities; welcoming new businesses to provide quality jobs; recruiting the dining and retail options residents desire; and improving communication with residents by placing a priority on transparency, accountability, relationship building, and collaboration.**Question 2:** My short-term goals for Grove City can be funded through the city's current operating budget. Longer term capital projects should be evaluated and prioritized; all available grant opportunities explored; and every opportunity for private and philanthropic investment seized. I would also prioritize a thorough review of all current programs to ensure that funds are effectively being used to achieve desired outcomes.

Richard L. Stage

Email: ike.stage@gmail.com**Website:** www.ikestage.com**Education:** Under graduate studies Franklin and Ashland Universities, Graduate Retail Banking University of Virginia**Occupation:** Retired Huntington National Bank, currently Mayor of Grove City**Qualifications for Office:** Experienced in managing large scale operations. Managed over 100 bank branches, \$2 Billion in assets and over 1000 employees at The Huntington National Bank. Have served 4 consecutive terms as Mayor and 4 years as City Administrator 2000-2003. Served on City Council. Past member of the Board of Directors of the Sarasota Bank, Sarasota, Florida.**Question 1:** Safety of the city is the number one need identified by our

citizens. We will continue to ensure our Police are adequately staffed & trained to meet our current and future needs. The Department is accredited by the Commission for Law Enforcement-CALEA. Maintaining this certification is a priority. We are served by the Jackson Township Fire Dept. which is consistently rated 90+ by our citizens. A second need is a Community Center offering a wide variety of activities for all of our citizens. We are actively working to fulfill this need. Thirdly, the community needs adequate infrastructure. Over the past 5 years \$72 million has been invested in streets, sidewalks, sanitary sewer and storm sewers. We will continue to make sizable investments.

Question 2: We will continue to foster higher paying professional job growth to enhance our current workforce generating an incremental increase in our income tax revenue. This strategy significantly impacted our past 5 year revenue stream by 60% adding \$15 million to our annual income tax growth. Secondly, we would continue to remain conservative in managing our operating expenses. This strategy lead to an Aa1 bond rating and a reserve for an unanticipated shortfall. Additionally, the city pursues grants from Federal, State and other agencies to fund numerous projects resulting in millions of dollars in outside local revenue.

CITY OF GROVEPORT

City of Groveport Council Member
(vote for no more than 2)

SHAWN CLEARY**Email:** **Website:****Education:** Groveport Madison High School 1978, OPTC 1979**Occupation:** Fleet Supervisor American Electric Power**Qualifications for Office:** Life long resident, I love my town**Question 1:** We are very blessed to live in a town that is very stable financially we are in great shape, but we must maintain our spending limits and keep an eye on the economy and how the world economics are developing each and every day**Question 2:** We are blessed to be a community that has a great source of income, but we all must be responsible for how we spend less money my reputation as a conservative on spending speaks for itself**JEAN ANN HILBERT**

Candidate did not respond

JOHN HOUGLAND

Candidate did not respond.

CHERYL IRVING

Candidate did not respond.

City of Groveport Mayor
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

LANCE WESTCAMP

Candidate did not respond.

CITY OF HILLIARD

City of Hilliard Council Member
(vote for no more than 3)

GREG BETTS (D)**Email:** BettsforHilliard@gmail.com**Website:** BettsforHilliard.com**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, The Ohio State University; Master of Strategic Studies, United States Army War College**Occupation:** Colonel, United States Army (Retired)**Qualifications for Office:** I retired as an Army Colonel, with 30 years of service and multiple combat tours to the Middle East; therefore, I know full-well what it means to swear a solemn oath and to answer a call to duty. Having served as a Brigade commander in the Middle East—commanding 2,500 troops—and as the Director of Human Resources for the Ohio National Guard, I am an experienced policy maker and problem solver.**Question 1:** What my fellow citizens of Hilliard need most is a city council that is united under the premise that government—at all levels—has two very basic functions: 1) protecting its citizens from all forms of harm and 2) empowering those citizens to reach their full potential (individually and collectively). Moreover, they need a united city council that understands that—for government service to be done right—it begins with empathy for one's fellow citizens and a willingness to act on that empathy in the form of service to others and for the greater good. I would address this need by working closely with the members of council, whom I know already embrace these views, and I would never stop trying to persuade the others to unite under this cause.**Question 2:** As I alluded to above, I want to foster a sense of shared purpose within the city council, where that purpose is simply making the lives of our fellow citizens better and strengthening our community bonds. This, of course, requires no funding. One area, however, where we do need to improve the lives of our fellow citizens is housing: e.g., making the dream of homeownership more attainable for far more of our citizens. I'm, by no means, an expert in this area; however, I want to explore all options, including but not limited to providing tax incentives for builders and partnering with both State and Federal entities, to take advantage of any and all available infrastructure funding, to defray the overall cost to the city and its taxpayers.**MIKE CARNEY (R)****Email:** citizensforcarney@gmail.com**Website:** www.carneyforhilliard.com**Education:** Graduate of Ohio State, B.S. Exercise Science & Masters in Education, Biology**Occupation:** Science teacher, Hilliard City Schools**Qualifications for Office:** Engaged citizen in Hilliard for 18 years; Husband of Kate; Family man and Dad of four children; Graduate of Ohio State, B.S. Exercise Sci. & M.Ed Biology; Teacher of Biology, 18 years at Hilliard Davidson; Coach of Hilliard Schools Wrestling & Baseball; Elder & Treasurer of

Cornerstone Christian Fellowship; Elected Franklin County Central Committee; Fiscally Responsible; Supportive of Police

Question 1: 1) Budget/Fiscal responsibilities: Good stewardship.-Meeting regularly with the city manager & economic development director, trustees, and others (along with council team) to learn and confer more about the ongoing budget/forecasts & issues, and then communicating this to my constituents. 2) Peace & Safety through Police and good citizenship. Going on regular ride alongs and listening to their needs so that they can be more proactive rather than just reactive.-Approving good police budget 3) Community Plan - clarity and implementation.

-Responsible, wise, and balanced growth toward lower taxes and traffic. Assure good conditions for effective recruitment of commercial/small businesses, R&D, along with diversity of housing.

Question 2: Collaboration with the city manager & economic development director, trustees, developers, school board, and others (along with council team) to learn and confer more about the ongoing budget/forecasts, different funds & arising issues that come up, and then communicating this to my constituents. My goal is to collaborate with all stakeholders and approve meaningful and responsible budgets/funds and development/projects throughout the year and be a part of wise accountability for the good of our community.**EMILY COLE (D)****Email:** emily@colegforhilliard.com**Website:** www.colegforhilliard.com**Education:** Master of Public Administration from The Ohio State University John Glenn College of Public Affairs; B.S. in Political Science, International Concentration and in Economics from Shepherd University;**Occupation:** Nonprofit executive **Qualifications for Office:** I am a working mom with a decade's worth of experience building stronger and healthier communities across Ohio. I've built community-service driven nonprofits and dedicated my career to making Ohioans safer, healthier, and freer to live long and vibrant lives. I have the hard skills and the heart skills to work together with my fellow council members and residents to build a sustainable Hilliard.**Question 1:** It is a dynamic and exciting time to live in Hilliard. In going door to door and talking with residents across Hilliard, I've learned many of our neighbors want to make sure new developments are planned, strategic, and sustainable. Families are looking for interconnected neighborhoods with increased walking trails; environmentalists need to see preserving our watersheds and resources incorporated as a priority; and residents in Old Hilliard want to make sure we protect what keeps us special as we undertake thoughtful and strategic development. On City Council, I will prioritize implementing resident-driven urban planning based off of the 10 year community plan hundreds of Hilliard residents

developed, focusing on these opportunities.

Question 2: We are so fortunate in Hilliard to have strong city leadership under our City Manager. On Council, my role will be to support our Manager as she implements any needed enhanced financial controls. Further, I would like to improve how the city invites community inputs, so that all residents have ample opportunity to steer the growth of Hilliard, particularly as we enter the new phase of overhauling zoning and appeals. These things can be done at low cost, with an eye on increasing transparency and engagement in our governing. I look forward to working in partnership with the Hilliard Board of Education and Norwich Township Trustees to preserve what makes Hilliard special as we grow dynamically.
PETER MARSH (R)**Email:** pmarsh111@gmail.com**Website:** www.facebook.com/votepetemarsh**Education:** University of Notre Dame - Accounting and The Ohio State University - Master of Landscape Architecture**Occupation:** Landscape Designer - Owner of Blue Oak Patio & Landscape**Qualifications for Office:** Small business owner, active in numerous community organizations and boards, 6 year member of City Council**Question 1:** Our top need is to manage and promote the continued growth of our city and addition of amenities, while also being careful to maintain and upgrade infrastructure needs and maintain the small-town feel that attracts so many to live and work in Hilliard. This is done through careful implementation of our comprehensive plan, detailed analysis of proposed zoning code adjustments, and maintaining a fiscally responsible multi-year capital improvement project budget. **Question 2:** We are fortunate that through smart development, our city income tax revenue continues to grow. A recent income tax increase, approved by the voters, is allowing us to fund our Recreation and Parks Department at levels that were not previously feasible. We must now keep our focus on preparing and planning for infrastructure additions and improvements that will be coming down the road so that we have adequate funding ready to meet those needs.**CYNTHIA VERMILLION (D)****Email:** cvermillion77@gmail.com**Website:** votevermillion.blue/**Education:** BS Telecommunications and Film, San Diego State University**Occupation:** Realtor **Qualifications for Office:** Finishing my 4th year on City Council**Question 1:** Adequate infrastructure (roadways, trails, storm water drainage) is always a priority for Hilliard residents and businesses. Council and the city are definitely planning for the transportation needs of the future by planning more efficient intersections, more roads where needed, more multi-use trails to improve non-vehicular transportation, and ensuring adequate storm drainage. I

strongly support economic development as it broadens the commercial tax base and has a positive impact on city services. I have supported small retail businesses where our residents can shop and eat closer to home. Lastly, I support a more diversified housing stock which will benefit people of all income levels. **Question 2:** I strongly support Hilliard's expansion of fiber optics throughout the city. This has helped to attract more commercial growth and the Hilliard City Lab, an innovative technology hub for start-up businesses. Income taxes are the main source of funding for the city. It's critical to have a healthy commercial sector as well as a successful workforce component in Hilliard. I have advocated for the city's use of grant funding for infrastructure improvements to help meet the demands of a growing city.

JT YSSELDYKE (R)

Email:

citizensforysseldyke@gmail.com

Website: facebook.com/JTforCC/

Education: Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Cum Laude, Minor in Political Science at Bowling Green State University

Occupation: Legislative Aide at the Ohio House of Representatives

Qualifications for Office: I have been a resident since 2004, and attended both St. Brendan's, and Hilliard City Schools. I work at the Ohio House of Representatives, where I have worked on legislation impacting Ohio's 11.7 million residents, including efforts to balance the budget, cut taxes, and red tape, and increase local investments. I bring these experiences to the table to serve all Hilliard residents.

Question 1: Our top three challenges are affordable owner-occupied housing for both seniors and young families, infrastructure in our community and taxes. Let's not have our new families looking to move into our community throw money away on high rent prices! Secondly, infrastructure. I'm starting to notice potholes more and more. Why not refill the roads versus the slurry process, we surely have the resources to do it right. Three, taxes. If we focus on commercial growth and limit high density residential developments we lower the tax burden on our residents. If we maintain controlled growth, we can consistently expand our infrastructure as the needs arise. Finally, a measured, compatible, neighborly development will help the city stretch its dollars.

Question 2: I am committed to keeping property and income taxes from rising by moderating community residential growth and focusing on commercial development. By attracting new businesses and fostering growth among existing ones through economic development, we can increase sales tax revenue and create jobs. Exploring partnerships with private entities for certain projects can be a win-win. This approach can help us deliver services efficiently and share the financial responsibility. Think the YMCA operating the community center, a 30% savings and lower membership rates for the community! Let's save the YMCA and build

out of the community center. The YMCA has many successful joint operational models in Reynoldsburg and Delaware, and we should join-in.

CITY OF NEW ALBANY

City of New Albany Council Member

(vote for no more than 2)

MARLENE BRISK

Candidate did not respond.

MICHAEL DURIK

Candidate did not respond.

KIRK J. SMITH

Candidate did not respond.

City of New Albany Mayor

(vote for no more than 1)

Uncontested Race

SLOAN SPALDING

Candidate did not respond

CITY OF OBETZ

City of Obetz Council Member

(vote for no more than 2)

Uncontested Race

MICHAEL FLAHERTY

Candidate did not respond.

DEREK VARNEY

Candidate did not respond.

City of Obetz Mayor

(vote for no more than 1)

ANGELA KIRK

Candidate did not respond.

BONNIE WILEY

Email: Website:

Education: Hamilton Township HS. Capital University Political Science, Secondary Education, BA. Academy of Court Reporting, Paralegal. Mater's Program Courses, Business Administration, Franklin University.

Occupation:

Qualifications for Office: Dale Carnegie Professional Development: Teamwork, Communication, Leadership, and Problem Solving. Set goals, inspire others and guide organization to sustainable success. Council Representative for 16 years. Planning and Zoning Board. President Pro Tem of Council 3 times. Clerk of Obetz Historians to preserve Obetz history. Legal Qualifications: Obetz resident and registered voter.

Question 1: Food, housing, transportation, wellness, safety, clean air, water, open space and nature, image/reputation, electric and other important services. Citizen-Come-First Mindset. 30-year Plan. 1. Inform. Inform public with balanced and objective information. Problem solving issues, 2. Consult. Citizens advisory committees. Participatory decision making Community conversations. Representative group of residents draw community input and make suggestions. Keep citizens informed by website, fact sheet mailing, open house and obtain public feedback on analysis or

alternatives. Listen and acknowledge concerns and aspirations. Use community forums, surveys, focus groups, public meetings and council meetings.

Question 2: Primary Goals:

Balanced Budget, debt reduction, low-cost living, maintain/update services, high paying jobs, low crime, green space, good air quality, cultural activities, college campus partnership, historical buildings, a city beautiful at night (architectural), seasonal attractions for a sense of community, attractions which are site of interest to things to do. At Annual Budget meeting do a review of revenue, expenses, potential cash flow and debt reductions. Present request from a "Wish List". Each year check Budget for funding goals that didn't get done. The General Fund is the principal financial support for general government operations. I would donate \$3000 of salary towards the goals.

CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG

City of Reynoldsburg City Attorney

(vote for no more 1)

Uncontested Race

CHRIS SHOOK (D)

Email: Website:

Education: The Ohio State University, B.A. 2002 and The University of Akron, J.D. 2005

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: Attorney for almost 18 years, City Attorney for almost 4 years. Well versed in the law with a significant amount of courtroom experience.

Question 1: Residents have varying needs from the City Attorney, which include objective legal advice to their elected officials and experienced, professional prosecution of criminal offenses. My office has provided this service well over the past 4 years and I hope we continue to do so in the next 4 years. We want to continue to focus on dilapidated commercial and residential properties, good legislative initiatives for City Council, and considered legal guidance for our trusted officials.

Question 2: Our primary source of funding in the City is income tax revenue but we have been fortunate to received various grants over the years that have help the City launch the Recovery Court program. We hope to pursue additional grant opportunities, specially in the area of domestic violence.

City of Reynoldsburg Council Member - Ward 1

(vote for no more than 1)

Uncontested Race

SHANETTE STRICKLAND (D)

Email: friendsofshanettestrickland@gmail.com

Website: www.shanettestrickland.com

Education: Franklin University - Master Business Administration

Occupation: CEO of The Source Group LLC

Qualifications for Office: Proven Leadership, Community Engagement, Public Safety

Advocacy, Forward-thinking Planning, Transparent Governance:

Question 1: To address constituents' top needs, including responsible development and traffic management, a comprehensive approach is required. This approach involves conducting thorough assessments of development needs, engaging the community in decision-making, to ensure the city's character is intact. Promoting sustainable development practices, alternative transportation options, and smart traffic management systems can alleviate traffic congestion and enhance infrastructure. Furthermore, securing funding for road improvements, public awareness campaigns, and collaborating with neighboring municipalities are essential steps to ensure that Reynoldsburg continues to thrive while addressing these pressing issues.

Question 2: Funding our primary goals while maintaining fiscal responsibility is a top priority. To achieve this, I would employ a multi-faceted approach: 1. Prioritizing Budget Allocation: Reviewing our existing budget to identify areas where funds can be reallocated toward our primary goals, such as infrastructure improvement and public services. This might involve streamlining administrative costs or reducing less critical expenditures. 2. Seeking Grants and Partnerships: Actively pursuing grants from federal, state, and local sources is crucial. Identify available grants and partnerships that align with our objectives, especially in areas like transportation, infrastructure, and environmental sustainability.

City of Reynoldsburg Council Member - Ward 2

(vote for no more than 1)

Uncontested Race

LOUIS SALVATI (D)

Email: Website:

Education:

Occupation:

Qualifications for Office:

Question 1: Our city continues to grow and diversify at lightening speed. This trend will not slow with the tremendous development coming to the surrounding area. We will need to continue to manage this change and capitalize on it where reasonable.

Question 2: We will need to continue to use all of the fiscal tools in the toolbox, such as attracting development that is rich in good quality jobs, and finding grant opportunities.

City of Reynoldsburg Council Member - Ward 3

(vote for no more than 1)

Uncontested Race

BHUWAN PYAKUREI (D)

Candidate did not respond.

City of Reynoldsburg Council Member - Ward 4

(vote for no more than 1)

Uncontested Race

ERIN HILL (D)

Candidate did not respond.

City of Reynoldsburg Council President

(vote for no more than 1)

Uncontested Race

MEREDITH LAWSON-ROWE (D)

Email: friendsofmeredithlawson-rowe@gmail.com

Website: www.facebook.com/LawsonRowe4Reynoldsburg

Education: Some college

Occupation: Executive Administrator

Qualifications for Office: Every lived experience I have leading up to today has prepared me to serve as Council President. I am a servant leader that meets people where they are and encourages them to become involved. I am a relationship builder and connector that bridges gaps between residents and local government. I am a daughter, wife, mother, and grandmother that understands the challenges family face on a daily basis.

Question 1: Reynoldsburg needs to continue to work on its infrastructure. Attracting small businesses will help to increase our tax base. We need to partner with the developers to address traffic flow and traffic patterns. Our quality of life improves when we build a community where we can live, work and play.

Question 2: Growing Reynoldsburg's tax base via new businesses will fund our primary goals.

City of Reynoldsburg Mayor

(vote for no more than 1)

Uncontested Race

JOE BEGENY (D)

Email: jbegeny@aol.com **Website:**

Education: Bachelor's of Science in Education, Masters Degree in Social Sciences

Occupation: Mayor

Qualifications for Office: I have spent my adult life in public service, first as an educator for Columbus City Schools, member then President of the Reynoldsburg City Schools Board of Education, and I am in my fourth year as Mayor of the City of Reynoldsburg. I am hoping to continue to grow our local economy, improve services offered to our residents, improve the quality of life of our residents.

Question 1: This is one of the most common questions I get, but three items are consistent no matter who I talk to. Infrastructure, safety, and quality of life. With the continued growth of Central Ohio we will always work to improve our roads and storm water infrastructure to meet the needs of our entire community. Our community wants to feel safe, and we need to provide the resources and training to our Officers, work with our schools and community members to improve relationships with each other. Reynoldsburg is great place to live, but we need to work to bring in new restaurants and entertainment options, improve connectivity for all to enjoy our parks, and attract career based jobs so all can live, work, and play in Reynoldsburg.

Question 2: The City of UA depends primarily on income tax revenues to fund the municipal budget. City Council promotes growth of income tax revenues by maintaining UA as an attractive place to live and work, supporting existing UA businesses and welcoming new business opportunities. City Council also is responsible for adopting and monitoring a municipal budget that serves the residents' basic local government needs in a fiscally prudent manner.

Question 2: The last few years have brought a lot of economic uncertainties for Reynoldsburg. We have to continue to work together to maximize the taxpayers' dollars to provide the much needed infrastructure improvements, efficient City services like snow removal, and maintain if not expand our parks and green spaces throughout our community. In the past three years the City of Reynoldsburg has been awarded over 15 million dollars in grants and federal funds in addition to the America Recovers Act to address infrastructure, police and public safety, connectivity, flood mitigation and recycling initiatives just to name a few. These grants have allowed us to increase services without additional cost to the taxpayer.

CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

City of Upper Arlington Council Member

(vote for no more than 3)

JOHN KULEWICZ

Email: john.kulewicz@gmail.com

Website: JK4UA.com

Education: B.A., The Ohio State University(History); J.D., Yale Law School

Occupation: Lawyer

Qualifications for Office: Four years of experience on UA City Council, and over forty years of experience as a lawyer and as president of the boards of organizations including the Columbus Zoo and Federal Bar Association (Columbus Chapter), officer of the Ohio Historical Society board, member of the Ohio Bicentennial Commission and volunteer.

Question 1: Completion of the Community Center on time and within budget is the most important priority. As a member of the UA City Council, I monitor construction progress reports and financial data, ask necessary questions, walk the site, and keep residents updated. In addition, the growth of Central Ohio's population to 3 million in the next decades will present great opportunities and challenges. Our community will become increasingly attractive due to the quality of our homes and schools and proximity to OSU and downtown Columbus. The upsurge will pose increased demands on basic services. The City Council must focus intensively on steady improvement of fundamental services and preservation of the essential character of our neighborhoods.

Question 2: The City of UA depends primarily on income tax revenues to fund the municipal budget. City Council promotes growth of income tax revenues by maintaining UA as an attractive place to live and work, supporting existing UA businesses and welcoming new business opportunities. City Council also is responsible for adopting and monitoring a municipal budget that serves the residents' basic local government needs in a fiscally prudent manner.

HEIDI MUNC

Email: info@heidiforua.com

Website: heidiforua.com

Education: Bachelor of Arts from The Ohio State University, 1993

Occupation: Vice President, User Experience

Qualifications for Office: People leadership, team leadership, strategic problem solving, integrity, work ethic

Question 1: Many older residents are concerned they will be unable to remain in Upper Arlington due to rising costs and the increase in property taxes. Residents of Upper Arlington value multi-generational families, and we should prioritize building housing options that are attainable to these seniors. This will allow young families to have additional single family home options to consider when they move to UA. Young families looking for a place to call home are now interested in more than excellent schools to send their children to. They also want vibrant neighborhoods with local businesses that create a unique sense of place they can take pride in. Residents are yearning to have more options to keep their entertainment and dining dollars in UA.

Question 2: In the current climate raising taxes is not an option, and I would need to work within our existing budget and create partnerships to fund my priorities. Working for a mutual (a private firm that is owned by its customers or policyholders) has taught me tremendous fiscal responsibility. There are a lot of trade-offs to consider when determining where our tax dollars are used. For me, a guiding principle will be ensuring that tax dollars are used responsibly so they have the most impact for the most people.

ANDREJ ROTTER

Candidate did not respond.

TODD WALTER

Email: walterforuacouncil@gmail.com

Website: toddwalterforua.com

Education: Georgetown University Law Center, Miami University, Upper Arlington High School

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: 20 years as a business lawyer focused on real estate development, capital markets, finance, and investments. Co-chair of Citizens for UA Schools (successful 2022 school levy) • Upper Arlington Community Center Task Force. Treasurer's Financial Advisory Committee for UA Schools. Youth sports coach for girls soccer, flag football, UA youth football, Bear Cub baseball, UA/JBA baseball

Question 1: I am a bridge builder willing to listen, learn, and engage in a dialogue. It is important that we can disagree on matters of substance without being disagreeable. Transparency: An open and transparent approach to governing; Responsible Development: Responsible development that provides the amenities and financial resources UA needs but preserves the neighborhood characteristics that UA residents cherish; Fiscal Responsibility: Ensuring your tax dollars are spent wisely so we do not burden the next generation of residents and leaders; Infrastructure: Maintaining and

improving our roads, sewers, and sidewalks; Parks: Reinvesting in our parks so our children and residents have high-quality athletic fields and parks

Question 2: Upper Arlington residents should be proud that the city is currently in a strong financial position. We need to keep it that way, especially because we are constructing our new Community Center. We must be smart with our financial decisions. I will bring a disciplined approach to expenditures. Our leaders need to evaluate the performance of the Community Center as it opens and ensure our fiscal management is responsible and does not burden future leaders and residents with our decisions today.

CITY OF WESTERVILLE

City of Westerville Council Member

(vote for no more than 3)

AARON GLASGOW

Candidate did not respond.

DAVID GRIMES

Email: grimesforwesterville@gmail.com **Website:** www.grimesfor-westervilleohio.com

Education: Bachelors+

Occupation: Educator

Qualifications for Office: Active community member, Chair of Westerville Green Team, member of the council appointed Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, participant and member of many civic organizations in the city. Love for my city and doing my part to make it the best it can be for all.

Question 1: Housing and cost of living: I will encourage and leverage the talents of our city staff to facilitate development and redevelopment of the city that encourage a variety of housing options. We must address our missing middle level housing, with creative and innovative approaches. Our current city services are at excellent competitive rates for our residents and I will work to keep it that way. Sustainability: I will advocate for staffing dedicated to sustainability initiatives and encourage creativity from our municipal owned water and electric divisions. A place for all. I will meaningfully engage with community organizations and strengthen our DEI department and initiatives to ensure residents feel safe and valued.

Question 2: Our city currently has an excellent financial department and staff. During budget work sessions and priority setting sessions I will advocate for those priorities in discussions with my fellow council members. Setting priorities as a council will then direct our excellent staff to dedicate time and resources to those efforts. Addressing the missing middle housing options, increasing sustainable practices, and making our city a place for all can be done within the budget process and still continue to be fiscally responsible.

CHARLES RUTHERFORD

Candidate did note respond.

JEFF WASHBURN

Candidate did not respond.

KENNETH WRIGHT

Email: kennethwright623@gmail.com

Website:

Education: B.A. Journalism/Public Relations (Howard University); Master of Project Management (Keller School of Management), PMP Certification (Project Management Institute)

Occupation: Marketing Director, Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence, Inc. www.maccinc.net

Qualifications for Office:

Incumbent, Westerville City Council **Question 1:** Westerville residents need housing options. I've driven the housing agenda and influenced the city's pilot housing program. Westerville's 2022 Housing Study stated 75% of its housing stock is 23-63 years old, and residents support new housing development. Residents want smaller houses or cottages, more single-family homes, townhouses, and mixed-use homes with retail on the ground floor. I support working with MORPC and engaging neighboring communities to discuss best practices and identify workable solutions. Developers have requirements for their projects, but they must listen to residents' concerns; and the residents must stay reasonable about the developers' projects and investments. There must be collaboration and communication.

Question 2: Westerville has responsible financial management, steady revenue streams, and a strong business base. The city's fiscal policies allow it to maintain robust reserves and flexibility for capital financing and debt management. A majority vote is required for Council action. As such, I would present the business case to my colleagues and city leadership for consideration, feasibility, and funding. Also, where applicable, I would seek federal, state, and county grant funding (i.e., CDBG, CSBG, etc.), as well as collaborations and partnerships with the applicable businesses (i.e., Intel, Honda, Amazon, COTA, etc.) and relevant stakeholder organizations (MORPC, Chambers of Commerce, etc.) to help fund and support the primary goals and projects.

CITY OF WHITEHALL

City of Whitehall Attorney

(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

BRAD NICODEMUS

Candidate did not respond.

City of Whitehall Council Member-At-Large

(vote for no more than 3)
Uncontested Race

LORI ELMORE

Candidate did not respond.

AMY M. HARCAR

Email: harcar4whitehall@gmail.com

Website: forwardtogetherwhitehall.com

Education: Certified in Trauma

Responsive Care, B.A. in Art from OSU, Associate in Photography OIP&T

Occupation: ETSS Family Care Manager

Qualifications for Office: Amy Harcar has worked at Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS) in Columbus, Ohio since 2014. Amy provides direct services to immigrant and refugee survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and other forms of trauma. She also works to educate others on the needs of immigrants and refugees. Her experience will guide her to promote the needs of all Whitehall residents.

Question 1: Amy believes that the best way to serve the community is to amplify the voices of the residents, including those who feel unheard. She is thrilled to see the economic boom that is expected in Whitehall over the next few years. Many people feel like they are surviving and Amy wants to see people in her community thrive. She believes the best way to do this is by having affordable housing, including everyone in the process, and making sure the safety of ALL Whitehall residents is a top priority.

Amy will focus on these priorities: Safety; Housing; Inclusion; Thriving Communities.

Question 2: Whitehall is on the cusp of amazing growth and opportunity; I want to see this move forward. A large development project is in the beginning phase of a five-year expansion. This will provide a great deal of rental and for sale homes, bring in new businesses, and create an exciting social area for the city. Of course, these things are not free of opposition. Some of the naysayers see resources as enabling instead of creating thriving communities. I believe cities with the needed services and supports help the entire community. Having low-income or affordable housing, food pantries, or behavioral health services helps families/individuals that are already here and may be struggling. I want to see us lift up our neighbors in a time of need.

LARRY MORRISON

Candidate did note respond.

Whitehall Council President
(vote for no more than 1)

LEO KNOBLAUCH

Candidate did not respond.

TOM POTTER

Candidate did not respond.

City of Whitehall Mayor

(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

MICHAEL BIVENS

Email: Website:

Education: Graduate of Capital University (BA in Economics) & Capital University Law School (Juris Doctorate)

Occupation: Whitehall City Attorney

Qualifications for Office: I have been a resident and qualified elector of Whitehall for 20 years. I also possess the requisite experience,

character, and education to manage the City of Whitehall.

Question 1: The top needs of the constituents centers primarily on three (3) things: the ability to manage fluctuating income tax revenue, inflation, and the economic factors driving up construction costs. City services must remain a top priority, and addressing these issues requires discipline and focus on a strategic plan to attract new businesses, while taking care of everyone that calls Whitehall home.

Question 2: Management of the budget will fund the primary goals of the City. The management must be mindful of two things; cost cutting and/or revenue enhancement. The analysis of cost cutting will examine the necessity of hiring freezes, delays in capital improvements, purchasing restrictions, furloughs, service cutbacks and department budget cuts just to name a few. On the other hand, this management must also consider whether there are revenue enhancement measures to make up shortfalls. Revenue enhancement analysis must consider factors like asset sales, and fee increases just to name a few.

City of Whitehall Treasurer

(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

SHAQUILLE ALEXANDER

Candidate did note respond.

City of Worthington City of Worthington Council Member

(vote for no more than 3)

FELICITY BECK

Email: votefelicity23@gmail.com

Website: felicitybeckforworthington.com/

Education: Worthington public schools, graduating 1985; Ohio State College of Barber Styling and Ohio State School of Cosmetology, graduating 1986, 1989, respectively.

Occupation: Small Business Owner, Wacked Hair Salon

Qualifications for Office: Deep engagement with our community for decades through my daily work where I have listened to your ideas, concerns and dreams for our community; and I possess sound judgment, good instincts, and the ability to get things done.

Question 1: The Worthington public deserves a City Council that listens to them and then acts effectively on their behalf. Though this sounds simple, it has not always been the case in recent years. That's what we can change through this election. Many issues require decisive action—UMCH, outdoor pools, and senior housing, to name a few. UMCH should be developed along the lines of current zoning, and in response to the many public surveys and petitions that reject high-density apartments, and support High St commercial and a large community commons. The outcome would be fair to all, satisfying to most. To do this, we need Council Members that can think creatively and act courageously for the community. I am that kind of person. We can do hard things

Question 2: Income tax revenue accounts for roughly 75% of our City's revenue. So commercial development is of greatest importance for maintaining our City's financial health. As a small business owner myself (Wacked Hair Salon in downtown Worthington), I have a good sense for much of the Worthington business community. UMCH (along High St), the Wilson Bridge Rd. corridor (which accounts for about 50% of our income tax revenue), and the Huntley/Proprietor Rd corridors represent significant upside opportunities for the City. It should be kept in mind that housing represents a net cost to the City, when taking in to account cost-to-serve. There are good reasons why we may want to develop additional housing, but helping the City budget is not one of them

PETER BUCHER

Email: pete@pete-bucher.com

Website: www.pete-bucher.com

Education: Worthington Kilbourne High School & The Ohio State University - BS in Environmental Policy

Occupation: Chief of Staff - Ohio Environmental Council

Qualifications for Office: I am currently in my first term on City Council where I have strived to use steady judgment and a community first approach to make decisions. This work requires me to collaborate with citizens, businesses, and others so that we can maintain safe and vibrant neighborhoods with the highest quality city services.

Question 1: In terms of day-to-day experience, I believe the top needs of the community are maintaining a high quality of life through retaining premium city services and safe neighborhoods. I also believe that many in our community need to see better management of the deer population to improve public safety and reduce frequent property damage that's occurred. When considering the bigger picture, I believe our community needs to make responsible decisions when considering any development or re-development given that we are a largely built out community. What we do with every acre of land is critical. Additionally, many residents want to see a long term solution to restoring our outdoor pool so that families can enjoy it for decades to come.

Question 2: The City budget revenue is primarily generated from income taxes. To ensure that we maintain strong finances to offer premium city services, we need to retain businesses and recruit new ones that will create jobs in Worthington. A key part of pursuing responsible development for our community would be to ensure that any projects wouldn't come with an undue burden on the City, financially or otherwise. Balancing the economics of any project with community needs should be a top priority. To properly restore the outdoor pool it will cost millions of dollars. To generate these funds the City would need a public private partnership or to look at phasing in improvements over several years to preserve resources without raising taxes.

TOM BURNS

Email: tomlovesworthington@gmail.com
Website: tomlovesworthington.com
Education: BSBA The Ohio State University '05, JD The Ohio State University '09

Occupation: Project Development Manager
Qualifications for Office: Public servant who is active in this community - knowledge of and participant in Council, subcommittees, and how government should work, while being dedicated to collaborative, forward-thinking solutions.

Question 1: Worthington has a number of needs, such as a housing shortage, continually increasing cost of living, and the repair and rebuild of the Worthington Pool. However, I believe the biggest issue remains a lack of compassion and empathy in our community. Rather than work together on solutions, we talk past each other, rarely truly listening to our concerns. If elected, I plan to remedy this situation by having 2 public "office hours" meetings each month, with rotating times and locations to ensure I can reach and talk to the largest number of my constituents. I fully believe in transparency, accountability, and democracy, and through these ideals I will demonstrate empathy and compassion, and ensure Worthington citizens are always heard.

Question 2: Any discussion of Worthington's finances must begin with understanding that Worthington has already been lagging behind our other central Ohio communities. Since 2014, Worthington's inflation-adjusted revenue growth is 3%. Other communities have vastly outperformed Worthington, such as Whitehall (22%) or Upper Arlington (88%). Because of this, our residents have been burdened with an increasing share of the expenses in our City. My background in public-private partnerships ensures I have the experience and expertise to help attract business and development to Worthington, increasing our tax base and reversing a years-long trend of our existing residents and businesses shouldering an ever-increasing tax bill.

RACHAEL DOROTHY

Email: rachaelrdorothy@gmail.com
Website: www.rachaeldorothy.com
Education: BSME Univ. of Dayton 1999, OSU John Glenn College of Public Affairs: Certification in Public & Nonprofit Leadership, 2022
Occupation: Licensed professional mechanical engineer, specializing in sustainable building design
Qualifications for Office: 10 year council member, licensed professional engineer, community organizer, volunteer and participant around Worthington

Question 1: Living into the Vision Worthington principles, providing collaborative, forward thinking leadership, to create a more diverse, equitable, and connected community, dedicated to the vibrancy of downtown, that offers a high quality of life in a sustainable manner, with an economy that is balanced and resilient. I'll work with all community

members to provide more housing and transportation options throughout Worthington and grow and bring in new businesses to expand our tax base and allow for more investments in our shared infrastructure and community events.

Question 2: Keeping existing and growing new businesses in Worthington will allow us to fund more infrastructure improvement projects and community events. People who work in the city pay the 2.5% income tax, which provides 70-75% of the city's revenue. We need to provide excellent infrastructure, city services and allow for more opportunities for people to work and live here, which will then grow a sustainable revenue base which we can reinvest in ourselves.

MIKE DUFFEY

Email: citizensforduffey.com
Website: duffeyforworthington.com
Education: MBA, The Ohio State University; BA, University of Michigan
Occupation: Senior Vice Chancellor
Qualifications for Office: Twice elected to Worthington City Council; four-time elected to Ohio House of Representatives. Spirit of Columbus award winner. Spirit of Healing award winner - AIDS Resource Center. Forty Under 40 winner. Lifetime Worthington resident and TWHS graduate. Husband to Lindsay, school librarian at Evening Street. Parent to two students, Jack and Annie, in Worthington Schools.

Question 1: We need a council that makes decisions. With Mike Duffey, you are voting for that, plus experience and pragmatism. UMCH is not zoned residential, which is important if you live in Potter's Creek or Worthington Estates, and you are concerned about school redistricting or 600+ units' car traffic. We can do better. If we keep the current zoning, we will enjoy the benefits of offices (tax revenue) and park space (fishing pond, historic barn, walking trails, recreation fields, etc.) All it takes is a little courage to stand up to a litigious developer. I support fixing Worthington Pools using city funds and bonding, and reducing over-populated deer to healthy levels. I support better traffic calming and public safety for our kids.

Question 2: Worthington depends on income tax revenue. And the city's comprehensive plan explains that we need offices, more than anything else, to produce it. That is why, in addition to the concerns raised by residents, we should not rezone UMCH to build 600+ units of housing. That's a 10% increase in our city population without the tax revenue to support it, driving new expenses in water, sewers, roadwork, fire/EMS and police services without sufficient revenue. Worse, it cannibalizes land that is already zoned for tax-revenue generating offices. We only have one chance to preserve our treasury. Generate revenue with offices and create amenities like world-class parks that help attract future business to Worthington.

AMY LLOYD

Email: lloydforworthington@gmail.com

Website:

www.lloydforworthington.com
Education: Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Architecture, Kent State University; High School Diploma, Worthington Kilbourne High School
Occupation: Self Employed
Qualifications for Office: Worthington Architectural Review Board appointee 2008-2019, Worthington Schools Board of Education 2020-2023

Question 1: Worthington residents' top needs are protecting and increasing our tax base, more diversified and attainable housing options and being welcoming to everyone. In addition, our community needs to decide if we want to continue to have a community pool and how that might be funded. I am a longtime Worthington public servant, currently serving on our school board through 2023. Prior to that, I served on the Architectural Review Board for 12 years, which is integral to how things are planned and (re)built in Worthington. I am a collaborator and a community connector and want to work to continue to make Worthington a great place to live, work and play for generations to come by working with other community leaders and community members.

Question 2: As a city and school district we have to rely more heavily on local taxes due to decreases in State funding. The city is primarily funded by local income tax. The school district is primarily funded by local property taxes. We have to recognize our challenges and collaborate on how we are going to address our tax base moving forward. If we want to continue to maintain our great city services and amenities, we have to recognize how this is tied to the health of city finances. If we want property taxes to remain affordable, we need to recognize that 75% of property taxes go to the school district. All community leaders need to work together on economic and residential development for the future of our community.

DOUG SMITH

Email: smithforworthington@gmail.com
Website: www.DougSmithOhio.com
Education: MBA
Occupation: Project Management
Qualifications for Office: Served on Council 12 years

Question 1: There are individuals who want to change Worthington fundamentally. There are local architects, commercial brokers and city council candidates who stand to gain professionally and financially from this density-based paradigm shift. NCR sold the new Hartford project concept to the community as affordable housing for seniors. They are now charging \$3,300 to \$6,000 per month for rent. Council approved that. I voted no. E. Wilson Bridge Rd. zoning changed to commercial so approximately 20 residential homes became a non-conforming use. Council approved that. I voted no. These voices are well-funded by outside interests who philosophically believe we must change Worthington because it's broken. They believe in "fixing" Worthington's future

Question 2: Worthington's city budget is very healthy. One goal is to fight the LC lawsuit (and not settling with them) so we can ensure a resident-centered mixed use development on the site. Another goal is to advance sustainability initiatives and save residents money by hiring a sustainability manager. This person can work on updating city codes to support green building and mitigate runoff, capture federal funds for sustainability-focused programs, and help residents navigate residential sustainability incentives.

VILLAGE OF BRICE

Village of Brice Mayor
 (vote for no more than 1)

JOHN MATHYS
 (write in candidate)

LORI RUNYON
 (write in candidate)

Village of Brice Council Member
 No valid petition filed.

VILLAGE OF HARRISBURG

Village of Harrisburg Mayor
 (vote for no more than 1)
 Uncontested Race

BRANNON DAWSON
 Candidate did not respond.

Village of Lockbourne
Village of Lockbourne Council Member
 (vote for no more than 2)
 Uncontested Race

KAREN CARTER
 Candidate did not respond.

TAMMY LANGLEY
 Candidate did not respond.

Village of Lockbourne Mayor
 (vote for no more than 1)
 Uncontested Race

CHRISTIE WARD
 Candidate did not respond.

VILLAGE OF MARBLE CLIFF

Village of Marble Cliff Council Member
 (vote for no more than 2)
 Uncontested Race

JOANNE TAYLOR
 Candidate did not respond.

MARCIA THOMAS
 Candidate did not respond.

Village of Marble Cliff Mayor
 (vote for no more than 1)
 Uncontested Race

MATTHEW CICCIONE
 Candidate did not respond.

VILLAGE OF MINERVA PARK

Village of Minerva Park Council Member
 (vote for no more than 2)

MARK BRUGGER
 Candidate did not respond.

RANI CONGER

Email: Website:
Education: B.A. in History from OSU
Occupation: Project Manager
Qualifications for Office: My primary qualification for this office is that I am a citizen of Minerva Park, and want to make a positive contribution to our growing community here. I have previously served as Chair of the Charter Commission for Minerva Park, which helped me become familiar with how our village government works. I am currently involved as a non-voting member of the Planning & Zoning Committee.

Question 1: Communication
 2. Safety We live in a small community, but we still struggle to communicate effectively. Our government is local people doing things in our local community, and yet somehow our citizens frequently feel as if they don't know what or whether anything is being done. Likewise, our citizens frequently need things but don't know where to ask or look for them. Bridging this gap would be one of my major goals if elected. The other top need in our community is safety. With the increase in homes, new streets, and a large influx of traffic into the village for the new schools, we are all concerned about the additional safety needs. Identifying specific needs and potential solutions is also critical to keeping our community safe.

Question 2: Talk is cheap - and that works out well for the finances of improving communication! We already have many of the tools in place to communicate, such as the Village website, live streaming of official meetings for those who cannot attend in person, our monthly printed newsletter, weekly email subscription, and text alert options. What we need to do is learn to use them better, and also talk to each other in person again. Minerva Park has a strong history of taking advantage of grants and other funding options, in addition to utilizing tax revenues. This applies to safety initiatives as well, and I expect this will continue beyond this election. Continuing to identify these opportunities will ensure that our village stays a safe community.

TOMMY GRANT
 Candidate did not respond.

CATHY PLESSUN

Email: Website:
Education: doctoral candidate - Franklin University
Occupation: real estate owner
Qualifications for Office: 20 years for profit communications experience; 20 years nonprofit management & fundraising
Question 1: Reclamation of our lakes - making sure they are safe, clean and the shores are secured. This will require working with environmental professionals to map out the best plan and determining how to move forward. Sewers - our current mayor has achieved substantial success in updating our sewers. However, we are not done. We must continue to

identify next steps and build plans to continue updating until we are done. Pool - our community pool is a wonderful, unique asset to our Village. Now is the time to envision the next 60 years of this asset.
Question 2: We are a small village with limited revenue. We need to carefully prioritize our needs and wants. We are fortunate to have experienced people in our administrative roles who understand how to maximize our revenue sources.

Village of Minerva Park Mayor
 (vote for no more than 1)

TONY BENEDETTI
 Candidate did not respond.

TIFFANY SOUTHARD
 Candidate did not respond.

VILLAGE OF RIVERLEA

Village of Riverlea Mayor
 (vote for no more than 1)
 Uncontested

DANIEL SCHLICHTING
 Candidate did not respond.

Village of Riverlea Clerk
 No valid petition filed.
Village of Riverlea Councilmember
 No valid petition filed.

Village of Urbancrest
Village of Urbancrest Board of Public Affairs
 (vote for no more than 2)
 Uncontested race

DONNA BOGUE
Email: votedonnabogue@gmail.com
Website:
Education: Graduated from Westland High School and Sinclair Community College.
Occupation: Neighborhood advocate, Board of Public Affairs, Board of Zoning Appeals
Qualifications for Office: Currently serving on the Board of Public Affairs as well as being a neighborhood advocate.

Question 1: Educating the constituents on the importance of what goes into our storm water run off. Researching and distributing information on how to improve the quality of our storm water run off.
Question 2: We have a quarterly village newsletter that the Board of Public Affairs can use at no additional cost to educate the public.

LOLITA D. WALLACE
 Candidate did not respond.

Village of Urbancrest Council Member
 (vote for no more than 2)

ALICIA SKINNER
 Candidate did not respond.

SABRINA WEST
 Candidate did not respond.

V. NIKKY ZIGLAR-ZIMMERMAN
 Candidate did not respond.

Village of Urbancrest Mayor (vote for no more than 1)

JOSEPH L. BARNES, SR.
Candidate did not respond.

BEVERLY COLEMAN STEWART
Candidate did not respond.

BLENDON TOWNSHIP

Blendon Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

JOANN BURY
Candidate did not respond.

Blendon Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)

DELENA CIAMACCO

Email: DeLenaForTrustee@gmail.com
Website:
Education: High School and College
Occupation: Realtor
Qualifications for Office: Nearly 23 year resident of the Township; Active in the Township; On the Blendon Twp. Zoning Board & Blendon Twp. Community Improvement Corp (CIC) board

Question 1: Needs are ever changing and often only the loudest voices are heard. I intend on serving as a representative of all people, not just the most vocal. I believe in a democratic assessment of the people to hear concerns and what the majority feel are their top needs. Whether this be by ballot, the local community/social media pages or going into the community and speak directly to the people; It is important to be as inclusive as possible in the process to get feedback from the majority. Next, I think it is very important to be completely transparent and provide as much feedback possible. Finally, reviewing all the resources the township has available to meet those needs and to use those resources in a responsible and responsive manner.

Question 2: I think it is important, whenever possible, to utilize the revenues the township already has in order to fund these needs before ever asking the people and the businesses of the community to pay more than they are already paying.

JAMES WELCH
Candidate did not respond.

BROWN TOWNSHIP

Brown Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

BECKY KENT
Candidate did not respond.

Brown Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)

MICHAEL HELDERMAN
Candidate did not respond.

PAMELA A. SAYRE
Email: passayre154@gmail.com
Website:
Education: BA in Psychology from

Otterbein University, Magna Cum Laude; Hilliard High School graduate
Occupation: Brown Township Trustee
Qualifications for Office: 43 year resident of Brown Township; 35 years experience in township government

Question 1: The residents of Brown Township need prompt fire and emergency medical services as well as prompt response from the police when necessary. They appreciate roads free of snow and well maintained, and ditches mowed to allow water to flow. These are all our responsibility as trustees and we take that responsibility seriously. For Fire/EMS, we contract with Norwich Township. We provide the fire station and they provide the personnel and equipment. We pay for our contracted services through fire/EMS levies. For police protection, the Sheriff's department patrols all unincorporated areas; incorporated areas are patrolled by the Hilliard Police Department. To maintain roads and ditches, we work with the Franklin County Engineer and our own crew.

Question 2: As previously noted, we pay for contracted services for Fire/EMS through levies. Our road crew is paid through the Gas Tax Fund and Motor Vehicle License Fund. We have been able to fund all repairs and upkeep on our roads with no tax increases.

MICHELLE STAYROOK
(write in candidate)

CLINTON TOWNSHIP

Clinton Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

DEBORAH STEELE

Email: steele.deb@gmail.com
Website:

Education: BA in Sociology
Occupation: Accounting
Qualifications for Office: I live in the Township and have been serving as Fiscal Officer for the previous 10 years.

Question 1: They need strong local government services, by keeping the finances in order we know where our resources are.

Question 2: We have an Income Tax.

Clinton Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)

DAVID CLARK
Candidate did not respond.

CARL REARDON
Candidate did not respond.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

Franklin Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

LINZIE JUSTUS
Candidate did not respond.

Franklin Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)

MIKE BLEVINS

Email: Blevins4trustee@gmail.com
Website:

Education: Attending Franklin Heights High School
Occupation: I am retired from Nickles Bakery after 39-1/2 years as a route salesman. I spent 20 years as a union steward.

Qualifications for Office: I have actively attended Franklin Township board of trustee meetings since 2017, and have learned their business practices, budget meetings, and community meetings.

Question 1: I believe one of the top needs of my constituents is their personal safety and protecting their homes. If elected, I plan to work closely with the township administrator to review the police department and look for areas that can be realigned to open up funds to provide more officers on the street. This process may require eliminating a non-bargaining position (with benefits) to create part-time positions (without benefits). Which will allow for more officers on the street to meet my constituents needs.

Question 2: Many of my primary goals will not require funds, such as revitalizing the scholarship program that the township had established but ended due to loss of funding. I would fund the scholarship program myself with my personal money for the next four years. I will give two \$1,000.00 scholarships to two eligible Franklin Heights graduates. I would research to see what other options are out there to find permanent funding for the fire department, so they don't have to depend on the SAFER grant. I would like to realign the police department to reduce overall expenses to open up enough funds to hire part-time officers (adding more boots on the ground). I would try to form a working relationship with ODOT to improve the roadways in the township.

ZACHARY WHITT
Candidate did not respond.

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP

Hamilton Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

LISA SHIRKEY
Candidate did not respond.

Hamilton Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)

BELINDA ANDERSON
Candidate did not respond.

GARY ARMSTRONG
Candidate did not respond.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Jackson Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

RON GROSSMAN
Candidate did not respond.

Jackson Township Trustee

(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

RONALD MCCLURE
Candidate did not respond.

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

Jefferson Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

KEN JONES
Candidate did not respond.

Jefferson Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

MIKE ROWEN
Candidate did not respond.

Jefferson Township Trustee - Unexpired Term Ending 12/31/2025

(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

SUSAN LEWIS KAYLOR
Candidate did not respond.

MADISON TOWNSHIP

Madison Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

LAURIE VERMEER
Candidate did not respond.

Madison Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)

BRUCE JARVIS
Email: jarvis4madison@gmail.com
Website: jarvis4madison.org
Education: B.S. Computer Information Systems
Occupation: Retired I.T. Director
Qualifications for Office: Served as Township Trustee since Jan. 2023, 18 years Canal Winchester City Council, Formed and operated C.W. Visitor Bureau 6 years, Oversaw I.T. service organization of over 400 employees and contracted personnel.

Question 1: The residents of Madison Township deserve the most effective and efficient services humanly possible. Public safety (Fire and Police), roadway infrastructure, and no-nonsense fiscal responsibility are fundamental needs that must be addressed daily. It takes a dedicated administrative/legislative leadership team to make it happen. My experience, skills, knowledge, and professional contacts within the community have helped oversee the successful management and execution of those critical services and I naturally would like to continue that mission if given that opportunity. I take this responsibility particularly seriously with the deep understanding that on occasions, it may literally be a matter of life over death to those in need of them.

Question 2: Township revenue has remained relatively flat while the costs have risen rapidly in recent years. The result? ...it takes more to provide the same levels of service. To offset the difference, I believe

that every grant opportunity should be leveraged for the township. Difficult decisions regarding priorities, trade-offs, and delayed purchases are already part of the norm. In addition, I would seek opportunities for community partnerships and areas where applied technology can reduce the demand for staffing.

ANDREW NIMELY
Candidate did not respond.

MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP

Mifflin Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

NANCY WHITE
Candidate did not respond.

Mifflin Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

RICHARD ANGELOU
Candidate did not respond.

NORWICH TOWNSHIP

Norwich Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)

JAMES THOMAS FRIEL
Email: **Website:**
Education: Grandview High School - 1962 . The Ohio State University - 1966 BS/Finance - University of Toledo , College of Law - 1969 JD degree. Toledo Trust Company - Personal Trust / Probate - Union Bank - Los

Occupation:
Qualifications for Office: I have experience with Finance and Investments. I have been a Fiduciary (Highest Degree of Integrity) a Trustee at Children's Hospital - San Diego - a Commercial Banker / Interim Construction Lender- Lawyer - and Team Builder - Volunteer with USA Peace Corps - Thailand (2014-2017 . A Record of Success • Volunteer at Britton - Norwich - Teacher ESL Program with Festa - Mentor Program - Finance M

Question 1: The question I most get is - will you be my advocate ! My watchdog ! Protect me from group think they say. Will you put the needs of the voters ahead of all others ? I am elected by the voters, not appointed by the Trustees . That makes me a Fiduciary-from my days of Law , trust, & investment, I know what that means ! Will you be an intercessor with the Trustees ? I will prepare reports for our Trustees that are accurate, unbiased, understanding of voter concerns , that protect and consider value , and integrity. I made a very good living dealing with " Highly Compensated , Ego Centric , Time Demanding Individuals " I feel I will be fine ! I am a Persuader not a Lecturer. I am a financial caretaker .

Question 2: The Fiscal Officer provides information to the Trustees . If asked for an opinion sure I would . My job is to stay current on new ways to fund , even create new ways . I will do that by auditing courses on public finance at OSU . I will be aware with a future mindset , that evolving needs for fire stations ,

infrastructure, and housing may impact the ability of our fire and safety capabilities. Our Trustees have a big job ahead of them , they deserve and will receive my best effort each day .

OMAR TARAIZ
Candidate did not respond.

Norwich Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

RICK TIDD
Candidate did not respond.

Norwich Township Trustee - Unexpired Term Ending 12/31/2025
(vote for no more than 1)

LES CARRIER
Email: les.carrier@icloud.com
Website:

Education: Ohio University, Athens, Ohio Bachelor of Business Administration, Cum Laude, November 1991 Major: Finance Concentration: Business Law/HRM University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio Doctor Jurisprudence, 1

Occupation: Structure Consultant
Qualifications for Office: I have lived in Norwich for over 20 years. Served on numerous community committees and most recently, the last decade on Hilliard City Council.

Question 1: Fight to lower taxes. You do this by partnering with City and Schools to require development be a win for the entire community, challenging Tax Incentives when necessary, and ensuring any incentives that are utilized create revenue for the Township; More connectivity. Working with County and Country Engineer to secure grant funding to create walkability within the township. We should plug into the regional pathway systems; Pushing hard to secure the contract for fire and Ems services for Brown Township. That partnership is very important.

Question 2: It will be very important the community understand the cost associated with the new fire station. I not sure issuing debt with interest rates inching ever higher makes most sense. I would need to see the breakdown of the operational costs to staff new station and whether borrowing only delays an inevitable need for small levy? Additionally, a levy may be avoided if the abatements start to roll off the Amazon buildings on Britton.

GREG YOUNG
Candidate did not respond.

PERRY TOWNSHIP

Perry Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

MICHELE ELLIOT
Candidate did not respond.

Perry Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

CHET CHANEY

Candidate did not respond.

PLAIN TOWNSHIP

Plain Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

EUGENE ZAPITELLI

Candidate did not respond.

Plain Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

JILL BECKETT-HILL

Candidate did not respond.

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP

Pleasant Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)

DONALD GOLDHARDT

Candidate did not respond.

PAULA WILKINS

Candidate did not respond.

Pleasant Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

EDWARD SHEETS

Candidate did not respond.

Prairie Township

Prairie Township Fiscal Officer
(Vote for no more than 1)

NANCY MCKAY

Candidate did not respond.

ALEX MILAM

Candidate did not respond.

Prairie Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)

CATHERINE MARTINEZ

Candidate did not respond.

MARK MCKAY

Candidate did not respond.

DOUG STORMONT**Email:** dstor19180@aol.com**Website:****Education:** Westland High School**Occupation:** business owner**Qualifications for Office:** 20 years experience

Question 1: I believe that maintaining and improving township services (safety services, road & parks, zoning & commercial building services) is a priority for residents. As new building continues in township we need to be making plans for the for the future increase in services.

Question 2: The new buildings in the township will supply more revenue from property taxes. Plus the growth in the JEDZ area will also bring in an increase in revenue. With the TIF in the new development in the Galloway area will pay for many infrastructure improvements.

SHARON TOWNSHIP

Sharon Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

MICHAEL D. FARLEY**Email:** Website:**Education:****Occupation:****Qualifications for Office:**

Question 1: Our constituents need to have confidence that their tax dollars are being spent according to Ohio law. They need to be assured that each dollar is protected and used to maximize the quality of life in Sharon Township.

Question 2: Sharon Township provides essential and basic services. These include our police department, road department, and fire services. We maximize investment in each of these areas to guaranty quality service to our residents. This is why I was part of the team that engaged the City of Worthington to establish a plan to maintain a long term funding mechanism for our joint fire services. The result of those discussions is a modest levy that does not dramatically raise the tax burden for residents--but maintains our high quality fire service.

Sharon Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

TONY PALMER

Candidate did not respond.

TRURO TOWNSHIP

Truro Township Fiscal Officer
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

NATALIE WEST-NICODEMUS

Candidate did not respond.

Truro Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)

TONY KLECKLEY

Candidate did not respond.

PAT MAHAFFEY**Email:** jpatrick49@ameritech.net**Website:****Education:** Associates Degree**Occupation:** Real Estate Broker**Qualifications for Office:** 24 years as Truro Twp Trustee

Question 1: As always safety. We are constantly training our firefighters and providing them with the best equipment they need to do their job. Mental health and senior citizens have increasing needs, and our Community Medic aids in identifying those citizens and addressing their issues.

Question 2: Since I have been Trustee, we have been setting goals based on an 8-10-year cycle of needing to increase our income. We are in the middle of that cycle. As a result of this long-term planning, we were able to reduce last year's levy by 40% resulting in individual property tax savings. Additionally,

we established the MECC Regional Council of Governments with 4 other townships to share the costs of our vital services. We have 6 dispatching partners, over a dozen EMS partners, and scores of Medical Director and Technology partners. Sharing these services saves us hundreds of thousands of dollars.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

Washington Township Fiscal Officer
No valid petition filed.

Washington Township Trustee
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race.

JAN ROZANSKI

Candidate did not respond.

Questions for School Board Candidates

Question 1: If you had the power to change one thing about your school district, what would that be and what would be the potential impact?
Question 2: Given the Board of Education's need for fiscal responsibility, how would you fund your change?

Educational Service Center of Central Ohio
(vote for no more than 1)
Uncontested Race

CHRISTOPHER LOPEZ

Candidate did not respond.

Bexley City School District Board Member

(vote for no more than 2)
Uncontested Race

MIKE CARTER**Email:** bmcarter2.mc@gmail.com**Website:****Education:** BS, AS**Occupation:** Healthcare Provider**Qualifications for Office:**

Question 1: I think I would focus on providing a safe and equitable learning environment for our children. I believe it would foster and develop more of the hidden and suppressed talent children possess.

Question 2: If real estate taxes fund the school system, Bexley has a surplus of money and it just needs to be reallocated.

VICTORIA POWERS**Email:****Website:** powersforourschools.org**Education:** Mount Holyoke College

BA (Philosophy); UC Law San Francisco JD

Occupation: Law Practice 1987-2018; Ice Miller/Schottenstein, Zox & Dunn 1991-2018; chair, Financial Restructuring practice 2001-2018, 3-time member of management; Capital Law School adjunct faculty 2018-2020

Qualifications for Office: Bexley School Board 2020-present; Bexley Education Foundation board 2010-19; Bexley Music Parents, Theatre Parents; Columbus Montessori Education Center board 2000-05;

Voices for Children board, 1998-01; BalletMet board 2005-13, 2015-present, chair 2015-17; Broad Street Presbyterian Church Elder, 2018-21, Personnel Committee 2016-present; Harmony Project choir, volunteer; Legal Aid volunteer

Question 1: A major area of focus in our district's new Strategic and Equity Plans is school culture, including physical, mental, and emotional well-being and a sense of belonging for each of our students. I am committed to effecting the needed change and will focus on identifying and eliminating barriers to achieving it. I will help our district strive for a school culture built around curiosity and kindness reflecting our newly-identified values of empathy, equity, inclusion, respect, well-being, integrity, and responsibility. Meeting these goals will permit our students to thrive every day in our schools and our community, ensure they feel seen, welcome and valued, and help them to develop the emotional readiness for success after graduation.

Question 2: Although we are just getting started with the priorities and goals laid out in our Strategic and Equity Plans, our district has already estimated the costs for their achievement and has budgeted for them in our current five-year financial forecast. I am firmly committed to fiscal responsibility and transparency. A focus on school culture is somewhat less reliant on financial resources and more dependent on broadly- shared commitment, clarity of purpose, consistent investment of time, iterative practice, and determined leadership. Our goals around school culture were identified with significant input from our students, faculty, staff, and community. I believe that together we can attain our vision without a negative impact on our budget.

Canal Winchester School District Board Member
(vote for no more than 2)

KEVIN W. BUTLER**Email:** mrwesleybutler@gmail.com**Website:**

Education: High School (C/O 2000) Shaker Heights High School, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (BA) University of Toledo (2005), Master of Education (M.Ed.) University of Toledo (2008)

Occupation: Teacher

Qualifications for Office: I have worked as a special education teacher in Whitehall City School District for 16 years. I also have served as a member of the Canal Winchester Local School District Board of Education for the last 8 years. In that capacity I have served multiple years as board president (2019, 2021, 2022), and board vice-president (2018, 2021). OSBA Central Region Executive Committee (2017-present)

Question 1: One thing that I would change as a board member is increasing the collaboration between the school district and the community. As the school district grows, the partnerships we build in our community will be essential for continued success. As Canal Winchester grows, proactive

planning and collaboration will be essential for the school district. I am committed to increasing our partnerships with students, families, local governments, businesses, and civic organizations.

Question 2: The school district will be asking voters to renew an existing tax levy in 2023. I will be supporting this renewal tax levy because it does not increase taxes while keeping the district in a solid financial position for the next decade. The renewal of this existing levy, and the districts continued commercial development, will enable the school district to fund our primary goals without asking for additional tax dollars.

SCOTT FERGUSON

Candidate did not respond.

CHLOE GREEN

Candidate did not respond.

MATT KRUEGER

Candidate did not respond.

ADAM TWISS**Email:** twiss4cw@gmail.com**Website:**

Education: Bachelor of Arts from Baldwin Wallace College; Master of Education, Marygrove College; Master of Educational Leadership, University of Dayton

Occupation: Middle School Principal

Qualifications for Office: I have lived in Canal Winchester for over 45 years and taught in the Logan Elm (1 year), Reynoldsburg (3) and Canal Winchester (22) communities for 26 total years until leaving teaching and joining the Logan Hocking Middle School Administrative team as an assistant principal 5 years ago. As a girls basketball head coach for 18 years, I was in the position to make difficult decisions and be held ac

Question 1: My primary goal is to ensure the safety of our students and staff. I am a committed listener and promise to make fair decisions regarding all matters and appreciate that my behavior and attitude are reflective of the CWBOE. Ensuring that students of CW are in an environment that will be inclusive and supportive of the emotional and social needs of all students as well as staff. Administrators need to have a "Coach First" mentality that will be supportive and nurturing to all teachers. Relationships and connectivity will support a welcoming, safe and supportive environment which will build an internal culture that appeals to current and potential employees.

Question 2: It is difficult to put a price on our kids' safety, though I know it is a reality. We will weigh in on the ideas that are both brought to the board and by the board and make decisions on how to fund these areas. One change I would advise to make has ZERO cost to it and can help students in a time of need or crisis. Handle With Care (HWC) is a program designed to enhance communication between first responders, community mental health services and supports, and schools regarding children's exposure to traumatic events. HWC is aimed at ensuring that school-aged

children who are exposed to adverse childhood experiences receive appropriate interventions so they can succeed in school to the best of their ability.

Columbus City School District Board Member
(vote for no more than 4)

JENNIFER ADAIR**Email:**

friendsofjenniferadair@gmail.com

Website: www.adairfordschools.com

Education: B.A. Northwestern University; J.D. Capital University Law School

Occupation: DEI Professional & Attorney

Qualifications for Office: CCS Graduate, CCS Parent, Daughter of CCS Teacher, Community Advocate, Attorney, DEI Professional, Board Member since 2019, and Board President since 2020

Question 1: I believe we must change the look, feel, delivery, value, and funding of all public education in Ohio. The concept of "school" has not changed since the early 1900's. In CCS, this looks like a radical transformation of our student's experience in and out of the classroom, upgrading our educational facilities to provide experiences and resources in the latest technology and skills, and involving our community in how we directly support each student as a whole child. As a Board member, it means I continue to advocate for fair school funding and seek alternative resources. Doing this means student outcomes will improve. When our students achieve, our community prospers.

Question 2: This long-term vision of radical transformation means investment at every level. While we continue to fight for fair and adequate school funding, it does mean that having the support of our tax paying community is necessary. I am, however, very committed to working to find alternative resources and funding through new partnerships with sister government, business, faith, higher-education, and non-profit, as well as charitable foundation work. This radical transformation is an investment in the entire community, as CCS is responsible for developing Columbus children for the future.

SARAH INGLES**Email:**

sarah@sarahforcolumbus.com

Website: sarahforcolumbus.com

Education: J.D. with Honors from Capital University Law School; B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University

Occupation: Union Attorney

Qualifications for Office: I am a first-time candidate but a long-time public education advocate, policy expert, union attorney, and have led a successful non-profit organization for the last four years as its Board President. I am bi-lingual in English and Spanish, deeply committed to the Columbus community and our children's education, and I have a skillset that is necessary to lead our district to success.

Question 1: If I had the power to change one thing about my school district it would be to provide

full transparency and community outreach about the opportunities that currently exist in the district, as well as the plans and outlook for the future. One thing I consistently hear when I'm out in the community is that folks feel disconnected to our district. I want to facilitate that connection and help share the positive aspects that attending a school within CCS provides for our children in this community. I also want to be very clear about the obstacles urban district face because of decisions made by Republicans in the state legislature, and I will not only advocate at the state level, but ask our community for support for our district and kids.

Question 2: Advocating for more and fair funding from the state level is key to the future of urban districts. Also important is fighting off attacks at the state legislature on curriculum, district advocacy, and reallocation of funding away from public districts and toward charter schools and private schools. I think too, we need to do a better job as a district about educating our community about how schools are funded and what will work best for our community. We need community engagement at all levels to create allies in the fight for fully funded and equitably funded schools. I see this in the conversations around this upcoming levy, which is vital for the financial health of the district, and at all levels of community engagement and outreach.

TINA PIERCE

Email: tinapierce4ccs@gmail.com
Website:

www.tinapierceforccs.com/
Education: PhD in Political Science with Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in College and University Teaching, The Ohio State University, August 2009

Occupation: Chief of Strategy and Belonging

Qualifications for Office: I am skilled in school board leadership with 4 years of experience as a member of the Columbus Board of Education and the Ohio School Board Association Board of Trustees. Since 2021, I have served as the Central Region President for the Ohio School Board Association.

Question 1: If I could change one thing about our district, it would be establishing an Academic Excellence Committee to monitor student achievement throughout the district against the objectives established through our Strategic Plan: The Power of One, Portrait of a Graduate, and Goals and Guardrails. The Academic Excellence Committee will play a vital role in ensuring that all students are academically successful such that they are proficient at reading and math at their grade level. Furthermore, the committee will provide a clear vision to help students achieve proficiency, a plan to remediate when they are not, and strategies to ensure that all adults understand our vision and are working together to help students succeed.

Question 2: The Academic Excellence Committee will support student achievement by spending across key objectives aligned with

the instructional core: engaged students, effective teaching, and quality content. Fiscal responsibility is crucial for any public facing organization as we are asked to do more with less. It is our duty to be fiscally responsible by utilizing the resources we have more effectively for direct service to students. The primary goal of improving student achievement is budget neutral or nearly so, it requires new approaches to an existing challenge. It requires a commitment to utilizing program evaluation tools and techniques and continuous feedback loop from our partners to maximize the efficiency of our instructional core.

BRANDON SIMMONS

Candidate did not respond.

RHONDA STOVALL WEST

(write in candidate)

Dublin City School District
(vote for no more than 2)

DARBIE EVERHART

Candidate did not respond.

KEARNEY LYKINS

Email: kearney@lykinsfordublinschools.com

Website: lykinsfordublinschools.com/
Education: MA, Communication, University of Memphis and BS Education, Training and Workforce Dvpt, Southern Illinois University

Occupation: IT Consultant

Qualifications for Office: I have worked my entire adult life in the training, education, and workforce development profession. As a 23-year Navy veteran, serving our country is very important to me, and I'm not done serving. The best way for me to continue serving our country and our community is to help our school district stay strong, so our children can become the leaders of tomorrow.

Question 1: No education endeavor is more important than learning to read. Unfortunately, the Number 1 area in need of improvement in our school district is how we teach reading to elementary students. The State of Ohio rates our overall reading achievement as just average, 3 out of 5 stars. I will prioritize the faithful implementation of Science of Reading programs and eliminate ineffective methods that have held us back for nearly 20 years. As the parent of a dyslexic child, I know that we know how to fix this, and I am committed to ensuring we do it right.

Question 2: Fiscal responsibility is best achieved through transparency. I will push for our district to make the district's general ledger a public-facing document, available for anyone to view 24/7. This sort of transparency will allow the community to better engage with the management of school expenses, and encourage creative problem solving from the community.

AMY MESSICK

Email: amymessick4schoolboard@gmail.com

Website: amymessick4dublinschools.com

Education: BS of Education Kent State University; MS in Education and Allied Professions The University of Dayton

Occupation: Teacher

Qualifications for Office: Secondary Social Studies Teacher (Government) for 23 years; Masters in Educational Leadership; Parent of Dublin City Schools students.

Question 1: There is not one area that I feel needs to be completely changed as Dublin City Schools are already an excellent district, but there are certainly areas in which we can improve. Providing numerous pathways for success in terms of non-traditional post secondary options, such as apprenticeships and other career path options, are programs that should be increased. This will allow all students to find a path to success. We must also support and education for student's mental health. When students are anxious or depressed, learning for that child becomes difficult, providing life-long coping skills, education on mental health, maintaining an inclusive/caring environment, and having resources and support staff for when crises do arise is critical.

Question 2: Being fiscally responsible means making sure that the policies and programs that are being funded are achieving their intended goals. Student success is always the top priority of any school district, so making sure that whatever policies are implemented are having a positive impact on student success. To fund my primary goals, I believe we must look at programs that might not be achieving their intended goals, or have surpassed their goal and are no longer necessary, and re-direct funds into programs that will have a greater impact on student success, student wellness, and their college/career readiness.

DIVA SONY

Email: Divafordublin@gmail.com

Website: Divasony.com

Education:

Occupation: **Qualifications for Office:**

Question 1: One of the most salient problems affecting students today is mental health issues. With one out of every five adolescents experiencing a mental health problem during their schooling years, it's evident that students are facing a mental health crisis. While Dublin City Schools has implemented many measures in relation to suicide awareness, we should be helping students before they get to that point and promote prevention. One way to do that is by revising the health curriculum to include coping skills and stress management techniques. Additionally, training teachers to lead groups would allow for schools to help more students at once as group therapy has been shown to be very effective in helping students with mental health issues.

Question 2: In terms of curriculum changes, money should not be an issue. While working towards creating a more comprehensive, prevention focused health curriculum will certainly take time and effort, money should not be a factor in making that change. The only

cost associated with this change would be put towards trainings. Luckily, Dublin City Schools is partnered with Syntero, a nonprofit focused on supporting communities through behavioral health and social services, so the school district could work closely with Syntero to design and implement those trainings.

HEATHER TUBBS COOLEY

Email: htc4dcs@gmail.com

Website: htc4dublinschoolboard.com

Education: PhD (2010), Nursing, University of Pennsylvania

Occupation: Professor & Scientist
Qualifications for Office: I'm a tenured professor who teaches research methodology to undergraduates, graduate students, and post-graduate learners. I'm a researcher who studies pediatric healthcare quality, outcomes, and value; this work is funded by the National Institutes of Health and other federal funding agencies. I am a Registered Nurse (20 years) specializing in pediatrics.

Question 1: would like to see our district use data and peer-reviewed, high quality evidence more systematically in decision-making and for process improvement. The district currently tracks distal student outcomes such as early literacy proficiency based on test scores. I will promote the use of process metrics to understand the degree of educator implementation of phonics-based curriculum. This is an earlier and modifiable indicator of practices in the district that directly impact student proficiency. Transparently using data to identify gaps in instructional and administrative practices will help the district more rapidly close educational gaps and improve academic outcomes.

Question 2: My primary goal falls within the scope of existing roles and the resources already exist to support it. I will work with the superintendent on realignment of analytic priorities.

CHRIS VALENTINE

Candidate did not respond.

Gahanna-Jefferson City School District Board Member
(vote for no more than 2)

BERYL BROWN PICCOLANTONIO

Email: BerylBP@gmail.com

Website: www.VoteForBeryl.com

Education: JD, OSU Moritz College of Law; Academic Promise Award, Dean's Award for Excellence BA, Ohio Dominican University; Psychology, magna cum laude with honors, OSU John Glenn Public Leadership Academy

Occupation: attorney

Qualifications for Office: Board president eight years. OSBA legislative liaison, OSBA Federal Legislative Advocacy Group member, OSBA Legislative Platform committee member, 3 year term Eastland-Fairfield school board. Experienced attorney - expertise in employment law, public records, dispute resolution, and labor relations.

Question 1: I would ensure that we have an adequate and stable source of money to fund our schools. Simultaneously, I would

make certain that the source was one understood and supported by the residents of Ohio. The current reliance on local property taxes as the major funding source of our budget means that there are factors beyond the district's control that cause fluctuation in revenue. Long-term planning is difficult when there are unknown and uncontrolled components in the funding formula. Additionally, the current funding model does not account for inflation and requires that voters regularly pass levies to maintain funding. If funding was adequate and stable, community members would have more direct and clear control over GJPS quality.

Question 2: My change would not cost the district anything and, if progress was made, would actually save us money.

JOHN DOOLEY

Email: J.rdooley@yahoo.com

Website: www.johndooley.org/

Education: Bachelor's Degree

Occupation: Licensed Barber
Qualifications for Office: Father, Long time Gahanna resident, Community Volunteer

Question 1: I'd like to focus on bridging the gap between all the stakeholders in the Gahanna-Jefferson school district. That includes teachers, parents, children, and citizens. Not just transparency for the education system, but a true mutual understanding about how the public education institutions operate, and what they are generally doing day by day.

Question 2: I will make sure the funding this district receives from the citizens of Gahanna are spent in a more responsible and equitable manner, not on political escapades.

CYNTHIA LAMPKINS

Email: Cynthialampkins614@gmail.com

Website:

www.cynthialampkins.com/

Education: Career Academy

Occupation: Payroll Analyst
Qualifications for Office: Advisory board for Crown Preparatory Academy, LifeWise Director, Community volunteer, and Foster Parent

Question 1: To reverse the direction of decline in the school district's educational outcomes. Improving the school's graduating proficiency in math and reading year over year will directly improve the lives of students.

Question 2: I will make sure the funding this district receives from the citizens of Gahanna are spent in a more responsible and equitable manner, not on political escapades.

DAPHNE MOEHRING

Email: daphneforgahanna-schoolboard@gmail.com

Website: VoteForDaphne.com

Education: BA in Business

Management from Capital University
Occupation: Retired banker and insurance agent

Qualifications for Office: I believe that I am qualified for the office by bringing professional experience in financial management, managerial

experience, and leadership training. I am also very committed to community service having volunteered in the schools for over 14 years, served as PTO president, and on the education foundation gala committee.

Question 1: If I had the power to change one thing about our school district it would be to personally communicate to every resident in our district the incredible work being done by our teachers, administrators, staff to develop students of integrity and knowledge. We have a very high graduation rate and that will continue to improve with a new program for at-risk students. Our district has a strong special education program that is embedded with typical learners so that the special ed students have role models and the typical learners have the opportunity to learn empathy, teamwork, and grace. Our teachers help plan and engage in beneficial professional learning each and every year - truly committed to their profession and student success.

Question 2: In 2016, the board adopted fiscal principles that are followed to this day when considering expenses of the general fund. Each expense is looked at for its benefit to our students, viewed as a multi-year investment, and scrutinized regularly. Our Phase II Master Facilities Projects as approved by voters in Nov 2020 are about 40% completed. Prior to going to the ballot, we commissioned an enrollment study to verify that we had a need and to answer the need for the next 50 years if all goes as projected. The continuing permanent improvement levy funds routine capital needs along with future projects that are evaluated based on safety first, student needs, then responsible upkeep, and finally, wants. Fiscal prudence is a priority.

Grandview Heights City School District
(vote for no more than 2)
Uncontested Race

EMILY GEPHART

Candidate did not respond.

KEVIN GUSE

Candidate did not respond.

Groveport-Madison Local School District
(vote for no more than 2)

LARRY CAREY

Email: l.carey85@gmail.com

Website:

Education: BA

Occupation: Teacher

Qualifications for Office: Former member of the Educator Standard Board, Step Up to Quality Committee, Bold Beginnings Committee, Alumni of See Educators Run and my experience as an educator.

Question 1: If I had the power to change one thing about Groveport Madison School District it would be the precieved culture and climate. As a memeber of the Groveport Parents page I have spoken too and read many complaints about how the schools feels unsafe. My goal

would to assist administration with putting systems and structures in place to help change this narrative. First by approving funding for a PBIS team that includes our families. Next by approving Professional Development for staff to attend how to help solve problems before they arise and how to follow the approve flowchart created by the building team. The impact to changing culture and climate in our schools will raise attendance data, behavior data, and ultimately academic data.

Question 2: I would like to meet with administration and educators to see what we have in place currently (Completion of a Needs Assessments). I would see if there was money already allotted to this cause. We (The Team) would figure out a way to help guide and improve current practices. Also, I plan to be advocating for my district at the State and federal level with school funding.

BENJAMIN JOOF

Candidate did not respond.

JOHN KERSHNER

Candidate did not respond.

KATHLEEN WALSH

Candidate did not respond.

Hamilton Local School District (vote for no more than 2) Uncontested Race

WALLY OBERT

Candidate did not respond.

MARIA VARNEY

(write in candidate)

Hilliard City School District (vote for no more than 2)

KELLY ARNOLD

Email: electkellyarnold@gmail.com

Website: kellyarnoldforhilliard-schools.com

Education: The Ohio State University - Majors: Political Science (Public Administration & Policy Analysis) and Japanese Studies

Occupation: Volunteer: Zoning Chair / Commissioner, Far West Side Area Commission

Qualifications for Office: I have been an active volunteer, advocate, and leader within our school district for 20 years. My work has included classroom support, PTO treasurer including serving as the InterSchool PTO (ISPTO) treasurer for 6 years, and participation in many district committees including Finance, Facilities, Portrait of a Learner and others. My Commission work includes studying area growth and planning.

Question 1: If I could change one thing, it would be to reduce the harms from the manufactured outrage cycles that have increasingly overwhelmed our community in recent years. It has taken a toll on our students, teachers, and families. One notable example is the attack on students' rights to free inquiry in the form of proposed library book bans and segregation of books. Families have the right to direct what library

books their child might read, but are not afforded the right to trample the liberties of other students and families. We can mitigate infringements on other's rights through minor policy modifications to reduce abuses of the book challenge processes. Policy must be consistent with our basic commitments education and nondiscrimination.

Question 2: This particular goal to protect rights and freedoms would actually save our district resources. Currently 49 books have been challenged within Hilliard Schools with a threatened 1,000 more. The review committee must read each book in its entirety as works should be "taken as a whole" in addition to preparing their evaluation and critique. This takes considerable time - time more appropriately spent actually educating students. Having personally read all 49 books, totally nearly 140 hours of reading time, we can see the considerable costs associated with lost productivity for each staff member, nearly a full work month, in just one step of the process alone. Revisions would save on these considerable costs.

KATE LEMASTER

Candidate did not respond.

NADIA LONG

Email: electnadialong@gmail.com

Website:

Education: The Ohio State University, BS Animal Science

Occupation: Quality and Food Safety Manager

Qualifications for Office: Proudly have served 2 terms on HCSD Board of Education.

Question 1: Serving the community for 8 years on the Board of Education, I have seen much progress with career tech opportunities for students. If I had the power to change one thing, it would be to immediately open many of these opportunities to students in grades 7 - 10 so they see the opportunities early, have time to explore and achieve as much as possible during middle school and high school years. This change in opportunities would ensure every student is Ready for Tomorrow.

Question 2: Being fiscal responsibility is part of being a board member. We are required to make sound and responsible decisions with taxpayers funds. I would ensure my goals line up with district goals and work efficiently to ensure funds are utilized providing the best opportunities to students.

BRIAN PERRY

Email: friendsforperry@usa.com

Website:

www.perryforschoolboard.com

Education: Juris Doctorate from Capital University Law School, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Capital University, Honors Diploma from Hilliard Darby High School

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: I am a lifelong HCSD resident who graduated with honors from Hilliard Darby High School. Now I am an attorney, which gives me a crucial skillset when it comes to drafting policy and

interpreting the Ohio Revised Code. As a board member, I have served in several leadership roles including Vice President of the Board and Chair of the Policy Committee.

Question 1: Our district has been distracted from academic success by partisan division and misinformation. If I could change one thing, it would be to refocus our community on our common goal of educating every student, without exception. This refocusing will positively impact our district by ensuring all voices are heard, not just the loudest ones, allowing school policy to properly reflect the needs of our community. When we put aside the noise, we will be able to focus on the things that actually matter: creating a culture of community and academic success, fiscal responsibility, and keeping our schools safe.

Question 2: The Hilliard City School District has made sound financial decisions. With the renegotiated certified employee contract in 2021, plus administrative consolidation, we have been able to save taxpayers over \$1.7 million dollars annually. We have also worked with various municipalities and political subdivisions to bring in more commercial development, reducing the burden on residential taxpayers.

New Albany- Plain Local School District (vote for no more than 2)

ALEX BILCHAX

Candidate did not respond.

JENNIFER FULLER

Email: voteforjenandjoe@gmail.com

Website: www.voteforjenandjoe.com

Education: BS, Biomedical Engineering, The Johns Hopkins University / MS, Nursing, The Ohio State University

Occupation: Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Qualifications for Office: I have served on a variety of non-profit boards in the community, including as treasurer. From my engineering training and experience, I evaluate data and systems to improve efficiency. From my work as a neonatal nurse practitioner, I understand the importance of clear communication and teamwork. As the mom of four kids in the district, I have been actively involved with the school system.

Question 1: would like to improve transparent communication and engagement with the community. It is important to prioritize the needs of all children in the district in order to ensure the growth and success of all students, which will in turn make the district even stronger.

Question 2: A key component of fiscal responsibility is transparency. It is important to ensure that our budget and use of resources aligns with the district's statement of purpose, values statement, and continuous improvement plan to move the district forward. Communicating these decisions does not increase costs, but does require time and effort on behalf of the board.

PAUL NAUMOFF

Candidate did not respond.

JOE QUIGLEY

Email: jqquigley65@gmail.com

Website:

www.voteforjenandjoe.com

Education: B.A. in English College of William & Mary 1986, M.A. in Ethics University of Chicago 1988, J.D. College of William & Mary 1993

Occupation: Attorney

Qualifications for Office: Practicing Attorney for 30 years, former school teacher, volunteer parent

Question 1: would want there to be a greater emphasis on student success both academically and personally. I believe that the impact would be an improvement in student engagement and academic success. While the educators and staff have worked hard to build a stronger culture of inclusivity and belonging, I believe the Board has undermined those efforts with their policy decisions that stand in stark contrast to the efforts of the teachers and staff. Aligning the Board better with the goals of teachers and staff should lead to better educational and personal outcomes for the students.

Question 2: believe that any goals that I have, including the goals set forth above are easily achievable under the current budget as they won't cost more money, but rather only require a shift in the Board's focus. Additionally, while there is a need to be fiscally responsible, that cannot be the only goal of the Board. Teachers and staff are there to educate children and prepare them to be successful after graduation. That, I believe should be the primary goal and budget decisions should be made with that focus, not the opposite.

New Albany-Plain Local School District - Unexpired Term Ending 12/31/25 (vote for no more than 1)

WAYNE POLL

Candidate did not respond.

MICHAEL VERLINGO

Candidate did not respond.

MARK WILSON

Candidate did not respond.

Reynoldsburg City School District Board Member (vote for no more than 2) Uncontested Race

JENI QUESENBERRY

Email: Jeniquesenberry@gmail.com

Website:

Education: Masters degree policy and Leadership

Occupation: Retired school teacher, administrator, former school board member

Qualifications for Office: Educational experience

Question 1: We have several "needs" in the district many of which are nation wide issues such as maintaining staff, libraries in all schools, safety, and more. But immediately, the need for communication from the district to the community in a timely manner is a necessary change.

Question 2: We definitely need to pass a levy - in order to add incentives to maintain staff, improve safety and safe buildings for our students, drivers for our transportation etc. However we have the technology already in place to improve communication, all that's needed is the time and willingness to use that technology.

NEAL WHITMAN

Email: nealwhitmanboe@gmail.com

Website: www.face-

book.com/NealWhitman
ReynoldsburgSchoolBoard

Education: BA, University of Texas

at Austin; PhD, Ohio State University

Occupation: educator

Qualifications for Office: 20+ years living in Reynoldsburg SD; elected twice to school board; 2 sons who attended RCSD schools pre-K to graduation

Question 1: Our district needs to conscientiously maintain a climate of respect. I first ran for the Board after our 2014 strike, when I saw alarming numbers of teachers leaving. But in the past 2 years, turnover numbers have far exceeded the numbers from 2014. After almost 8 years on the Board, I have seen how easily progress is erased when key employees leave, and as Board members come and go—not through bad intentions, but ignorance and inattention. And yet, some bad habits persist, or return after lying dormant, outlasting multiple boards and superintendents. I will insist on documenting operating procedures and norms that must be preserved in order for our district leadership to exit the cycle of rebuilding trust and then carelessly destroying it.

Question 2: The Reynoldsburg SD is now deficit spending, and needs to ask its community for new operating and infrastructure money. Voters approved our last levy in 2010. For more than a decade after, RCSD stayed off the ballot for infrastructure funds by nursing leftover funds from coming in under budget in its last round of building; and for operating funds by taking advantage of a quirk in state funding that allowed open enrollment to bring in several mills' worth of money. But the leftover funds have run out, and the Fair School Funding Act fixed the OE quirk. Our voters need to know exactly what we need the operating and infrastructure funds for, so RCSD needs to present a transparent accounting of what the new funding would bring to our schools.

Southwestern City School District Board Member (vote for no more than 2)

ANTHONY CALDWELL

Email: anthonyacaldwell@gmail.com

Website: students-first.net

Education: Youngstown State University, East Liverpool High School

Occupation: Director of Government Affairs, Ohio Nurses Association

Qualifications for Office: Mr. Caldwell has led our school

district by putting the needs of students first and by being fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars. In fact, property tax rates have not increased for our schools since 2009.

Question 1: In my opinion, one of the most impactful changes I would consider for the school district would be to implement comprehensive support programs for students' mental health and well-being. The potential impact of such programs could be immense. By prioritizing students' mental health, we could create a more conducive learning environment, leading to improved academic performance, reduced instances of behavioral issues, and increased overall well-being among students. This approach aligns with my belief in putting the needs of students first and providing a high-quality, holistic education for all students.

Question 2: Funding important initiatives within the school district while maintaining fiscal responsibility is indeed a challenging task. One approach could involve seeking grants and partnerships with local businesses, community organizations, and government agencies. These external sources of funding can supplement the district's budget and support specific programs or projects. Additionally, exploring cost-saving measures and optimizing existing resources is crucial. This might involve conducting efficiency audits, streamlining administrative processes, and making strategic budget allocations. It's important to prioritize funding for initiatives that directly align with the district's primary goals, such as providing high-quality education.

DENISE D'ANGELO

Email: parentsvoice2023@gmail.com

Website: www.liskanydangeloswcd.com

Education: GCHS Class of '01 graduate, AAS Degree

Occupation: Stay at Home Mom/ Family Business Owner/ Licensed Massage Therapist

Qualifications for Office: Mom, active community member, active member in OLPH Church, PTA advocate, volunteer coach, education aware

Question 1: I'd promote a balanced use of technology in the classroom, moving away from reliance on Chromebooks. This change would create a better learning environment. Improved Focus: Excessive screen time leads to digital fatigue and shorter attention spans. Less Chromebook use helps students focus during in-person lessons. Enhanced Social Skills: Face-to-face interactions with peers and teachers are crucial for communication, empathy, and teamwork. Physical Well-being: Excessive screen time can harm physical health. Reducing it promotes well-being. Critical Thinking: Hands on learning fosters creativity and problem solving. In summary, balanced tech use improves focus, social skills, physical health, and critical thinking.

Question 2: We will explore different avenues for funding our primary goals: Budget Reallocation: Evaluate the current budget to identify areas

where funds can be reallocated more efficiently to support our district goals. Public-Private Partnerships: Collaborate with local businesses and organizations to establish partnerships that can provide resources and expertise that can help our work-based students.

JULIE LISKANY

Email: parentsvoice2023@gmail.com
Website: liskanydangeloswscd.com
Education: Associates Degree in Retail Management
Occupation: Retail Merchandiser
Qualifications for Office: Community member/Tax payer for 25 years

Question 1: I would love to change the school culture at the elementary level. Creating an inclusive environment where all students are championed and challenged to be their very best selves is where academic excellence begins. Developing civic minded students who want to learn, read, write and create great works is where leaders are born. Giving our youth opportunities for independence as well as showing empathy toward others is how we begin to change lives. Our district has a 20 percent rate of students with a disability. I am excited to run for School Board with goals of more inclusive environments for these students, as well as more training opportunities for the teachers and staff in this area.

Question 2: As a School Board it is our responsibility to the community and our students to be fiscally responsible. We will do this by reviewing and evaluating the efficacy of programs currently in place. Deciding what works for our students and teachers and then making sound decisions. As a Board we should be ready to think outside the box, be open to new ideas and programs, and work on goals that make sense for our district.

LEE SCHREINER

Email: eelgifted@yahoo.com
Website: www.students-first.net
Education: BA Urbana College (Education) MA The Ohio State University (Education)
Occupation: Educator
Qualifications for Office: Teacher/Educator (38 yrs.) The South-Western City School District/ Coach (10 yrs.) SWCSD Board of Education (10 yrs.) Past President/V.P. Past OEA/NEA Ohio Director/2020 Ohio School Board Association President/ Board of Trustees(10 yrs.Supervisor of Student Teachers 9The Ohio State University).

Question 1: If I could "change" one thing in our (or any district) it would simply be to be able to recruit and hire necessary intervention specialists, counselors and social workers to be able to address our students social, emotional and academic difficulties from the time they entered school. There are simply not enough available and coming out of "pandemic times" the need was and continues to be immense.

Question 2: Our district has been and continues to be in the black because of our boards' and administrations' fiscal responsibility. We

consistently revisit our 5 year plan to assure that we are meeting the needs of the present and addressing the needs of the future. Our district property tax rates have remained stable since 2009 and our dedication to financial prudence has meant no new taxes while continuing to provide a quality education for all.

Upper Arlington City School Board (vote for no more than 2)

GLEN DUGGER

Candidate did not respond.

RUTH EDMONDS

Candidate did not respond.

JENNY MCKENNA

Candidate did not respond.

SUMIA MOHAMED

Email: sumiaforschoolboard@gmail.com
Website: www.sumiaforschoolboard.com
Education:
Occupation:
Qualifications for Office:
Question 1: The children of Upper Arlington are my primary focus, and effective leadership is essential for setting the tone for how the system of teaching and learning is carried out within our district. Board Members must lead by defining the mission, vision, and core values for Upper Arlington Schools. Currently, I am hearing from community members that they do not feel that our School Board is functioning like a strong team, or clearly communicating positions on important issues. I believe all events are an opportunity to teach and to learn For long-term improvement, School Board Members must communicate a commitment to educational equity, meeting the needs of all our children, teachers, and school staff.

Question 2: As a Board Member, we are responsible for managing our district budget. Given the tax pressure residents feel, and that 83% of the district's funding comes from local property taxes, it's important to be fiscally responsible. Being clear in our School District values helps us set necessary priorities that can be reflected in the annual budget before approval. Our guidance, critiques, and thoughtful engagement in that process early on are vital to creating the best budget possible. Maintaining our standing as the top district in the state at both directing money to supporting students in the classroom, and having the least amount of funding toward non-classroom expenses, will be a priority of mine on the School Board.

LIZ GEORGE STUMP

Email: info@lizgeorgestump.com
Website: lizgeorgestump.com
Education: Bachelor's English and Music from The Ohio State University; Masters in Business Administration from The Ohio State University
Occupation: Department Manager
Qualifications for Office: I have earned a Masters in Business

Administration from The Ohio State University after earning my undergraduate degree in English and Music. With two decades of experience in corporate financial services, I have developed skills in process, project, and operations management. At Discover Financial Services, I direct a variety of customer service teams to achieve strategic goals collaboratively.

Question 1: Our community is afraid that the district will be pressured into banning books - this is the most common question I get asked. I will advocate for our district to make a clear statement of our shared values: we will protect the rights of students to have access to information beyond and support educators' freedom to present information from a broad range of perspectives. Additionally, the district should utilize policy and process to protect the educators from efforts to remove books from our schools. This will give students, teachers, families, and the broader community the confidence to focus on learning and growing and not the distraction of censorship attempts.

Question 2: My goals are building a culture of understanding and respect while addressing inequities of experience within the district, fostering operational excellence to support students, teachers, and families, and anticipating the future and adapting to changing trends nationally and worldwide. Fortunately, our school district has plenty of resources in place to achieve these goals, limiting the need for additional funding. Additionally, operational improvements can create efficiencies for funding to be re-allocated. I will also advocate for protecting public school funding at a state level, while working with local organizations to ensure the strong partnership to provide additional grant money above and beyond continues to support our schools.

LORI O. TRENT

Candidate did not respond.

Westerville City School Board (vote for no more than 2)

JENNIFER AULTMAN

Email: aultmanforschools@gmail.com
Website: www.aultmanforschools.net
Education: BA University of Virginia, MA University of Virginia (Anthropology)
Occupation: Non-profit leadership
Qualifications for Office: I have an incumbent who has been serving on the Westerville Board of Education since 2020. I have engaged with our school district for nearly 15 years through founding a local education nonprofit, serving on district committees, engaging with parent organizations, and regularly attending Board starting in 2011.
Question 1: The one thing I would change if I could is I would eliminate the strict school bell schedule and make it a place where teachers have more opportunity to structure the day according to students' needs. Students would have the opportunity to learn more by doing, engaging with each other and the world in

ways that build both practical and intellectual skill and knowledge. This would require completely rethinking how we structure the school schedule, and would require us to allow teachers more time to collaborate. Ultimately, it would mean changing how state standards, course requirements, and testing are structured.
Question 2: Making sure that every child receives an well-rounded education and gains the life skills they need to succeed is our primary goal. We fund this every day, and as educational needs change we have to constantly reassess what courses we need to staff, what student support roles we need to staff, and how to make the very best use of the community's resources to fund the largest and most important portion of our budget--the people. When making new investments in staff, we should work to that these new positions tie to initiatives prioritized by the community according to a strategic plan.

DIANE JONES

Candidate did not respond.

LOUISE VALENTINE

Email: lvforoh@gmail.com
Website: www.valentineforohio.com
Education: Bachelor of Science degree from The Ohio State University in Human Ecology; Master of Science degree from The Ohio State University with a focus on consumer science
Occupation: Executive Director of nonprofit
Qualifications for Office: Resident of the district for more than 10 years, volunteer with kids' elementary school PTA, vested interest in the success of the district with twin 11 year olds attending
Question 1: One thing I would very much like to change in our district would be for our students to each have access to their own laptop or tablet device for school. Right now we do not have a 1-to-1 ratio of devices to students. In our hyper technological world where everything is online and knowing how to use basic programs and conduct internet searches is a must, our students should all have a device that is not shared and doesn't have to be given back at the end of a school day. Having access to these devices all year would help reduce missed assignments because of lack of access at home, would provide students with optional educational programs that they could explore anytime, and potentially lead to better learning and achievement outcomes.
Question 2: The school district is partially funded by the State of Ohio, and partially funded by the taxes our property owners pay within the district. This is the same for every district in the state. These sources will continue to be the primary methods by which we fund the district. It is important to be very efficient with the resources we have, but also will need to consistently reevaluate when and if a levy is necessary to continue to provide a high quality education or to fund necessary improvements. There are also grants out there that are available for specific projects or programs that I would like to

investigate should I be elected.

Whitehall City School Board (vote for no more than 2)

MIKE ADKINS

Candidate did not respond.

LORENA LACEY

Candidate did not respond.

JEFFREY LEES

Candidate did not respond.

Worthington City School Board (vote for no more than 2)

LEAH BREAKEY

Email: Breakeyforboard@gmail.com
Website: Breakeyforboard.com
Education: 2 years college-BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY
Occupation: Insurance agent-operating and managing a State Farm agency in Whitehall Ohio
Qualifications for Office: I am a long time resident of Worthington, 20 years in the district. Our oldest 2 daughters are proud graduates of TWHS. Our youngest just started her freshman year. Those years have given me good insight into the community and district.
Question 1: I would shift focus away from anything that detracts from the goal of academic excellence. Ensure that there are policies in place to support those students and schools that are lagging behind academically and also support for those who are excelling academically so that both are set up for a bright future. Worthington's reputation as a leader in education must extend to every student in every building.
Question 2: Worthington is blessed with a large operating budget surplus, but money alone can't solve the academic performance issues in some of our buildings. Addressing the academic needs of an economically diverse population is a hard problem but one I intend to make a priority. If additional funding is needed, we can ask the state for a performance audit to identify potential savings.

AMBER EPLING

Email: FriendsOfAmberEpling@gmail.com
Website: www.amberepling.com
Education: M.A., B.S.J.
Occupation: Director of Communications
Qualifications for Office: I am endorsed by the local teachers union. My daughters have attended elementary through high school here and I have been active in PTA leadership and volunteering for the last 10 years. I assisted with the campaign to pass the recent levies and currently serve on the Treasurer's Advisory Committee. I have extensive experience working in government, higher education and strategic communications.
Question 1: Increase our competitiveness in the region. People moving into Central Ohio for Intel and other job opportunities will be evaluating school districts, trying to determine where to land and raise their families. We already benefit from geographic location, but we must better brand ourselves as a

destination school district that is inclusive and welcoming to all. If successful, the potential impact would be: increase our income tax base; attract new businesses who want to be part of a thriving community, bringing in more commercial tax revenue and reducing the property tax burden on homeowners; improve the diversity of our students; and recruit and retain the most qualified teachers and staff, enhancing the educational experience for all.
Question 2: First, economic development is incredibly important. Our school district is over-reliant on personal property taxes and needs to increase our commercial property tax revenue. We must do a better job of breaking down silos and getting our school board members talking to the other elected officials and community leaders of the municipalities within the district about our mutual goals of economic development and affordable housing. We have some of the highest property taxes in Central Ohio and we are going to continue to see people priced out of our community unless we work together to solve this issue. I think the district could also pull in significant funds through fundraising drives, alumni outreach and naming rights on the new buildings.

ERIK FARLEY

Email: erik@farleyforworthington-schools.com
Website: farleyforworthington-schools.com
Education: Shawnee Mission South HS, Overland Park, KS - 1974; University of Kansas, BS Chemistry - 1978; Cornell University, MS Organic Chemistry - 1981; Cornell University, PhD Physical Organic Chem - 1984
Occupation: I am a retired scientist and computer programmer from Chemical Abstracts Service, a division of the American Chemical Society, located in Columbus, where I worked for 31 years.
Qualifications for Office: District resident and taxpayer for 22 years; Father of graduate of Worthington Estates Elementary, Thomas Worthington HS, and OSU; Experienced in public home schooling (Ohio Virtual Academy); Frequent visitor / speaker at Worthington School Board meetings; Understands increasingly technological issues facing the district; Supported by many current and former school board members and teachers
Question 1: My overarching goal and immediate focus is to expand academic excellence to include our lowest-performing elementary schools. Restoring safety and increasing academic focus in the high schools, and getting finances in order, are also high priorities, but equitable academic excellence in elementary education is paramount. To achieve these goals, targeted assistance of all kinds will be necessary. Interventions could include partnering with existing early childhood education centers, particularly in the Northeast quadrant. Exploration of ESL for students and even parents is required. Extracurricular reading programs must expand beyond Project More and Ready For Reading. We must

leave no stone unturned in an effort to find solutions.

Question 2: Our school district does not have a funding problem, as evidenced by an operating budget surplus over \$120 million. That surplus will grow as revenues grow, as the last incremental levy is fully phased in. Revenues will even grow due to the recent reappraisal, thanks to inside millage.

STEPHANIE HARLESS

Email: stephanieharlessforworthington@gmail.com

Website: stephanieharlessforworthington.com

Education: BA, Creative Writing from Denison University and MA, Education from The Ohio State University

Occupation: Director of Product Release and Enablement

Qualifications for Office: I am a graduate of public schools with an MA in education. Professionally, I have worked a science textbook editor and as a Program Coordinator for a teacher training program focused on inquiry learning. I now work in the software industry where my responsibilities include change management, project management, meeting facilitation, yearly budgeting, and instructional design.

Question 1: Worthington Schools are comprised of families from across Central Ohio. I will advocate for a Community Engagement Committee that is responsible for liaising with community representatives such as council members and other leaders in all areas of our district. By building strong relationships among School Board members and these key stakeholders, we can ensure that we are all working in concert to represent the many needs of our community. This will allow Worthington Schools to anticipate growth and development, proactively plan to account for that growth, ensure that under-represented voices are considered when making student-centered decisions, and better align our schools with needs in areas like workforce development and emerging needs.

Question 2: One of my primary goals is to support mental health initiatives for students and school staff. Experts predict that there will be a teacher shortage in the coming years, and while mental health support is just one piece of the solution, it's an important one. We know that mental health support is one way to reduce turnover and to combat a shortage. Better mental health for students is linked to increased academic performance, increased student safety, and improved overall health. An investment in mental health initiatives may need some additional funding up front, but it will have the positive effect of stemming the need for a larger spend in the future. It's an investment in our students and those who we trust to nurture them every day.

STATE ISSUES

Ballot Issue 1

The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety Explanation:

- A "yes" vote** supports amending the Ohio Constitution to:
- establish a state constitutional right to "make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions," including decisions about abortion, contraception, fertility treatment, miscarriage care, and continuing pregnancy;
 - prohibit the state of Ohio from interfering with this constitutional right, except when the state demonstrates "that it is using the least restrictive means to advance the individual's health in accordance with widely accepted and evidence-based standards of care;"
 - allow the state to restrict abortion after fetal viability, defined as "the point in a pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician, the fetus has a significant likelihood of survival outside the uterus with reasonable measures;" and
 - prohibit the state of Ohio from banning abortion when, in the professional judgment of a physician, an abortion "is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health."

A "no" vote opposes amending the Ohio Constitution to establish the constitutional right to "make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions." This, then, allows the General Assembly to pass legislation banning or restricting abortion and other reproductive decisions.

Pros:

1. This amendment would restore the rights and protections for Ohioans that were eliminated by the U.S. Supreme Court's 2022 decision (Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization) in which the court held that the U.S. Constitution does not confer a right to abortion.
2. The amendment would restore rights and protections for Ohioans that were guaranteed in 1973 by a U.S. Supreme Court decision (Roe v. Wade) that held the right to privacy under the 14th Amendment protected abortion as a fundamental right at least up until the time of fetal viability.
3. The amendment would establish that the doctor-patient relationship in Ohio ensures that individuals are empowered to make their own reproductive health decisions without interference from the government.
4. The amendment would establish that every individual in Ohio has the right to make reproductive decisions including but not limited to decisions on contraception, fertility treatment continuing one's own pregnancy, miscarriage care, and abortion. This is important for underserved populations, especially those with limited resources.
5. The amendment does not address gender affirming care issues.
6. The amendment does not address or change any laws involving parental rights over minors.

Cons:

1. The amendment would prohibit the Ohio General Assembly from regulating reproductive health decisions, including abortion, contraception, fertility treatment, continuation of pregnancies, and miscarriage care.
2. While the amendment says it allows a health exception for abortions after

viability, it uses language that has been interpreted by the courts to include mental, financial, and social health—making it effectively impossible to enforce any protections for the fetus.

3. The amendment could only be changed by voters through a subsequent amendment. The policy on abortion should not be in the state constitution, but in state laws.
4. The amendment states that "every individual" has the right to carry out one's own reproductive decisions. This language could be interpreted by courts to mean that "every individual" includes minors, threatening parental consent laws on the medical care of minors.
5. The amendment states that reproductive decisions are "not limited to" contraception, fertility treatment, continuing one's own pregnancy, miscarriage care, and abortion. This "not limited" language could be interpreted to include gender affirming care.
6. The State of Ohio, through the elected members of the General Assembly, should be able to enact laws that attempt to protect fetal life as much as possible.

Ballot Issue #2

An Act to Control and Regulate Adult Use Cannabis

This is an Act (law) which could be amended or repealed by the General Assembly and is NOT an amendment to the Ohio Constitution.

Explanation:

If approved by voters, the initiated statute, titled An Act to Control and Regulate Adult Use Cannabis (the "Act"), would legalize and regulate the cultivation, manufacturing, and sale of marijuana in Ohio for adults who are at least 21 years old. Pursuant to the Act, Ohio residents would be permitted to cultivate up to six marijuana plants at their primary residence, with a maximum of twelve plants per residence where two or more persons who are at least 21 reside, and marijuana sales would be subject to a 10% adult-use tax, in addition to the traditional sales tax.

The Act also establishes a Division of Cannabis Control ("DCC") within the Ohio Department of Commerce. The DCC would be responsible for overseeing the adult-use market with the authority to license, regulate, investigate, and penalize licensees and those required to be licensed under the Act. This centralization is meaningful because currently, under Ohio's Medical Marijuana Control Program, dispensaries are regulated by the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy while cultivators, processors, and testing laboratories are regulated by the Ohio Department of Commerce. The establishment of the DCC is expected to alleviate certain headaches resulting from the inter-agency regulatory overlap.

Another important impact of the An Act to Control and Regulate Adult Use Cannabis, and a result of adult-use legalization generally, is that the medical program's burdensome advertising restrictions are expected to be relieved significantly. As many Ohio licensees are aware, Ohio currently has very restrictive, burdensome, and, at times vague, advertising rules related to medical marijuana that significantly reduce the impact and effectiveness of marketing and advertising. With the legalization of adult-use marijuana, Ohioans can expect to see more creative and targeted advertising through more traditional outlets.

The Act also provides a significant boost to existing industry participants. Licensees who have either a certificate of operation or provisional license as of the effective date of the Act will be grandfathered into the adult-use program to expand into the recreational use area. Importantly, there will be an opportunity for new operators to enter the Ohio market through a cannabis social equity and jobs program. At the outset, the DCC is to issue 40 recreational cultivator licenses and 50 adult-use dispensary licenses "with a preference" to applicants who are participants under the cannabis social equity and jobs program.

Pros:

1. Decriminalizes cannabis, reduces incarcerations, and encourages sentencing reform.
2. Recreational cannabis is purported to have lower risks than alcohol. Cannabis will be regulated like alcohol (21 and up).
3. Unlike alcohol, cannabis has some health and medical benefits. Medical marijuana already is legal.
4. Would create jobs in cultivation and sales. Would establish a cannabis social equity and jobs program to help employ the social and economic disadvantaged.
5. Cannabis legalization would spur more research on health benefits and risk of usage.

Cons:

1. Cannabis is addictive and could lead to more serious drug use. Today's marijuana is much more potent than in the past.
2. Cannabis alters thinking and coordination, which could have dangerous consequences especially in relation to operating motor vehicles and job impairment.
3. Allowing home-grown cannabis will expose more youth to a psychoactive drug.
4. Legalization of recreational cannabis will require another state bureaucracy with increased government costs.
5. Legalization would require the Department of Mental Health and Addiction services to create a new program for cannabis addiction.

LOCAL ISSUES

BALLOT ISSUE #11

Issue 11, if approved will be an additional 7.7 mill property tax levy providing funds for Columbus City Schools (CCS).

League Explanation

The proposed levy would be an additional 7.7 mills. The cost of the levy will be \$269.50 for each \$100,000 of current property valuation levels. The Franklin County Auditor's office is reappraising property values in 2023. Under the estimated new reappraisal values, the levy will cost \$179.50 more per \$100,000 of valuation. The levy would not expire, and will provide \$60,492,000 annually for maintenance and \$38,612,000 for operations.

The most recent CCS Levy passed in 2016, and raised \$50 million for operations and \$4.4 million per year for building maintenance.

The Columbus City School District serves approximately 50,000 students in 112 schools.

Arguments Made in Support of Issue 11

- In order to compete in the 21st century, students need adequate staff and modernized, functioning facilities. Issue 11 will provide funding for general operations, expansion of Columbus City Schools staff, and remedy deferred maintenance issues across aging facilities.
- Serious cuts will be necessary if additional funding for the schools is not approved, which could include reduction of staff,

closure of schools and realignment of resources for the 2025-2026 school year.

- Investing in the Columbus City Schools not only provides the district with a stable source of funding, but it also maintains and improves home values, and it is a fair and effective way to reduce poverty in Columbus.

Arguments Made in Opposition of Issue 11

- Property taxes are a burden for people on fixed incomes. This levy would increase taxes for all property owners who live in the Columbus City School service area.
- Opposition has cited a lack of transparency by the Columbus City School Board about this levy.
- The tax levy request is for a "continuing period of time" which has no specified ending point. An ending point would allow voters to review and reconsider the levy.

BALLOT ISSUE #16

Issue 16, if approved will be an additional 1.5 mill property tax levy providing funds for Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML).

League Explanation

The proposed levy would be in addition to the current 2.8 mill property levy supporting CML. The cost of the additional levy will be \$53 for each \$100,000 of property valuation. In 2010, Franklin County voters approved a 2.8 mill continuing property tax levy. This levy stays in place and it doesn't expire. As property valuations increase, the voted millage is reduced in order to generate the same amount of tax revenue for CML as approved by voters in 2010. The 2010, 2.8 mill levy has a current effective rate of 2.18 mills. In 2024, the effective rate for the existing levy will be 1.61 mills. This levy currently collects \$55 million annually. The November issue is 1.5 mill new money that, because of the re-evaluation, will have an effective millage of 1.11 in 2024. This issue will collect approximately \$39 million annually. This means that with the combination of both issues, the effective millage for both is projected to be 2.72 mills - lower than the 2.8 voted millage from 2010. The levy will fund operating expenses for continued investments in materials, resources, technology, programs and facilities.

If approved, current financial projections forecast the additional levy would provide funding for at least 10 years, and the library would not seek additional funding for at least 10 years.

CML serves a population of over 920,000 individuals and has 23 locations. CML's collection contains over 2.5 million items, plus offers programs and community space for customers of all ages.

Arguments Made in Support of Issue 16

- The proposed levy would allow continued funding for an important community resource. CML is well known for signature services and programs like School Help, Reading Buddies, Summer Reading Challenge and Ready for Kindergarten. The library's Strategic Plan supports the vision of "a thriving community where wisdom prevails," which positions CML to respond to areas of urgent need: kids unprepared for kindergarten, third grade reading proficiency, high school graduation, college and career readiness and employment resources.


Arguments Made in Opposition to Issue 16

- Property taxes are a burden for people on fixed incomes. This levy would increase taxes for all property owners who live in the CML service area.
- The tax levy request is for a "continuing period of time" which has no specified ending point. An ending point would allow voters to review and reconsider the levy.

CERTIFIED QUESTIONS AND ISSUES FOR THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023, GENERAL ELECTION			
#	Subdivision	Purpose	Rate
#1	Constitutional Amendment	A Self-Executing Amendment Relating to Abortion and Other Reproductive Decisions	
#2	Initiated Statute	To Commercialize, Regulate, Legalize, and Tax the Adult Use of Cannabis	
#4	Hamilton Township – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal and Increase)	Fire Levy	Renew 7 mills and increase 1.5 mills (total 8.5 mills), \$238 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value, 5 years, commencing in 2023
#5A	Madison-A Local Option Particular Location	Weekday Sales (Beer, Wine and Mixed Beverages, & Spirituous Liquor) Rustic Rose Event Venue 5952 London Lancaster Rd, Groveport, OH 43125	
#5b	Madison-A Local Option Particular Location	Sunday Sales (Wine and Mixed Beverages, & Spirituous Liquor) Rustic Rose Event Venue 5952 London Lancaster Rd, Groveport, OH 43125	
#6	Perry Township – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)	Road Construction	1.5 mills, \$37 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value, 5 years, commencing in 2023
#7	Perry Township – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)	Road Construction	1.5 mills, \$37 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value, 5 years, commencing in 2024
#8	Sharon Township – Proposed Tax Levy (Additional) (Unincorporated and Riverlea)	Fire Levy	4.06 mills, \$142 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value, continuing period of time, commencing in 2023
#10	Canal Winchester Local School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Substitute)	Providing for the necessary requirements of the school district	10.2 mills, \$357 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value, 5 years, commencing in 2024
#11	Columbus City School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)	Operating expenses (3 mills) Permanent Improvements (4.7 mills)	7.7 mills, \$269.50 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value; continuing period of time; commencing 2023

CERTIFIED QUESTIONS AND ISSUES FOR THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023, GENERAL ELECTION			
#	Subdivision	Purpose	Rate
#12	Dublin City School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)	Bond – Facility construction	\$145,000,000; 1.99 mills; \$70 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value; 30 years
		Levy – Current operating expenses	7.9 mills; \$277 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value; continuing period of time; commencing 2023
#14	Groveport Madison Local School District – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)	Current operating expenses	6.68 mills, \$170 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value; continuing period of time; commencing 2024
	Madison-Plains Local School District – Proposed Bond Issue	Facilities construction	\$55,360,775; 7.5 mills; \$263 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value; 37 years
#16	Columbus Metropolitan Library – Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)	Current expenses	1.5 mills; \$53 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value; continuing period of time; commencing 2023
#18b	Columbus 01-C Local Option Particular Location	Sunday Sales (Wine and Mixed Beverages, & Spirituous Liquor) Moler & 4 th LLC 116 E Moler St, 1 st Floor S/W Unit, Columbus, OH 43206	
#19b	Columbus 18-F Local Option Particular Location	Sunday Sales (Wine and Mixed Beverages, & Spirituous Liquor) Rambling House 310-312 E Hudson St, Columbus, OH 43202	
#20b	Columbus 21-C Local Option Particular Location	Sunday Sales (Wine and Mixed Beverages, & Spirituous Liquor) Longhorn Steakhouse 5091 N High St, Columbus, OH 43214	
#21A	Columbus 85-D Local Option Particular Location	Weekday Sales (Beer, Wine and Mixed Beverages, & Spirituous Liquor) Mi Tradicion 3782 S Hamilton Rd, Columbus, OH 43125	
#21b	Columbus 85-D Local Option Particular Location	Sunday Sales (Wine and Mixed Beverages, & Spirituous Liquor) Mi Tradicion 3782 S Hamilton Rd, Columbus, OH 43125	
#22A	Columbus 85-E Local Option Particular Location	Weekday Sales (Beer, Wine and Mixed Beverages, & Spirituous Liquor) House City Chinese Restaurant	
#23	City of Grandview Heights – Proposed Electric Service Aggregation Program	To authorize all actions necessary to effectuate an opt-out Electricity Aggregation Program pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 4928.20	
#24	City of Whitehall – Proposed Charter Amendment	Section 41(a), Auditor Qualifications	
#25	City of Whitehall – Proposed Charter Amendment	Section 44, Auditor Plan of Succession	
#26	City of Whitehall – Proposed Charter Amendment	Section 60(a) Parks and Recreation Commission	
#27	City of Whitehall – Proposed Charter Amendment	Section 62(b) Expenditures brought before the Board of Control	
#28	City of Whitehall – Proposed Charter Amendment	Section 63(a) Mayor’s powers over expenditures and contracts	
	Village of Lithopolis Proposed Income Tax From Fairfield County	Police Department	0.5 per cent for 5 years, commencing January 1, 2024
#29	Village of Valleyview Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)	Current Expenses	5 mills, \$175 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value, 5 years, commencing in 2023





POWER THE VOTE

VOTER REGISTRATION

To be eligible to vote you must be...

- Registered to vote 30 days before an election.
- A U.S. citizen.
- 18+ years old (by the general election).
- Not currently incarcerated for a felony conviction.
- Not been declared incompetent for the purpose of voting or denied the right to vote by a court.

Confirm or update your registration, or register to vote at www.voteohio.gov

VOTER ID REQUIREMENTS

To vote early in-person or on Election Day you'll need one of the following photo ID types, which must be unexpired but does not require a current address:

- OH driver's license or BMV issued state ID.
- US military, Ohio National Guard, or US Dept of Veterans Affairs ID card.
- U.S. Passport Book/Card.

If your voter eligibility is questioned, you may vote a provisional ballot. You will receive follow-up instructions from a poll worker to have your vote counted.

EARLY VOTING





Begins at your county Board of Elections or Early Vote Center the day after the voter registration deadline. Find early voting schedule and location at voteohio.gov

VOTING BY MAIL

Send a completed absentee ballot application to your county Board of Elections (BOE). After receiving your vote by mail package, follow instructions carefully to cast your ballot. Return your voted ballot:

- in person to the BOE by 7:30 PM on Election Day, OR
- in the mail (must be postmarked no later than the day before Election Day AND received by the BOE no later than the 4th day after Election Day).

***You can use the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number as a form of ID when voting by mail.**

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VOTER RESOURCES

Did you know that elections and voting laws have changed in Ohio? Visit lwvohio.org to learn more.



ELECTION PROTECTION

866ourvote.org

This nonpartisan coalition provides a toll-free hotline for voting information and to report problems:

866-OUR-VOTE (English)

844-YALLA-US (Arabic)

888-Ve-Y-Vota (Spanish)

888-API-VOTE (Asian/Pacific Island languages)

VOTERIDERS

help@voteriders.org

866-ID2VOTE

VoteRiders assists voters with securing the ID they need to cast a ballot with service like:




- ✓ Covering the cost of required underlying documents.
- ✓ Arranging and paying for transportation to their local ID-issuing office.
- ✓ Providing free legal assistance with certain document issues.

VOTE 411 ELECTION INFORMATION FOR YOU

vote411.org

A "one-stop-shop" for nonpartisan election related information, including

- ✓ research candidates and issues.
- ✓ create a personal sample ballot.
- ✓ follow election dates and deadlines.
- ✓ and more...

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LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF METROPOLITAN COLUMBUS



VOTING IN PERSON

requires 1 of the these forms of Photo ID

**BMV ISSUED OHIO LICENSE OR ID
CARD (OLD ADDRESS
ACCEPTABLE)**

**U.S. MILITARY, U.S. DEPT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS, OR OHIO
NATIONAL GUARD CARD.**

U.S. PASSPORT BOOK/CARD



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of Metropolitan Columbus

Nonpartisan

Voter Services



Citizen Education

Advocacy

The League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.



Join the League of Women Voters

Name _____

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Home Phone _____ Email _____

\$ _____ Individual \$75 \$ _____ Household (2 at same address) \$125

\$ _____ Fixed Income \$40 \$ _____ Student \$15

\$ _____ Newsletter and Announcements Only \$20

\$ _____ Tax-Deductible Donation to the League of Women Voters

\$ _____ Total Enclosed

Make check payable to LWVMC and mail to 6500 Busch Blvd., Columbus, OH 43229, or make secure credit card payment online at www.lwvcols.org.



www.lwvcols.org