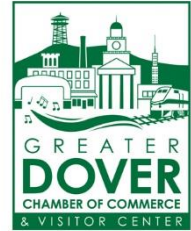


Dover Listens

How can we make Dover a great place...



DoverListens.org



How can we make Dover a great place to live, learn, work, and play?



Community Conversations with Candidates for Local Office

Tuesday October 20th Mayor and City Council

Tuesday October 27th School Board

McConnell Hall Cafeteria

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Everyone Welcome!

Remember to VOTE on November 3rd!

Polling places are located in each City ward and will be open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Ward 1: St. Mary Church Hall, Chestnut Street

Ward 2: First Parish Church Hall, Central Avenue

Ward 3: Langdon Place, Middle Road

Ward 4: Elks Lodge, 282 Durham Road

Ward 5: St. John's Methodist Church, Cataract Avenue

Ward 6: Riverside Rest Home, County Farm Road

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Detailed Outline

5:30 PM

Registration and refreshments

- Please sign in and find your discussion group for the first conversation
- Informal Networking

6:00

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Molly Hodgson, Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce

The goals of the Local Candidate community conversation are to:

1. Provide an opportunity for voters **to identify and discuss their priorities;**
2. Gather input from Dover residents and **give candidates an opportunity to listen to voters.**
3. Create an opportunity for **voters to hear from candidates.**

Overview and Group Agreements

Michele Holt-Shannon, Dover Listens

- **About the process: This conversation is...**
 - Designed to focus on what is important to *you*.
 - About a constructive focus and a respectful conversation.
 - Respectful of your time. We will keep time and respect yours by ending on time.
- **Group agreements for a productive conversation...**
 - Share “air time”
 - If you disagree, consider asking a question rather than arguing to prove your point
 - It’s OK to disagree, but don’t personalize it. Stick to the issue, not the person who is disagreeing with you
 - Speak up if the process doesn’t seem fair
 - Speak for yourself, not for others and not for an entire group (use “I” statements)
 - Personal stories stay in the group unless we all agree we can share them outside of the group
 - We all share responsibility for making the group productive
 - Be respectful and use respectful language
 - Respect the facilitator’s role
 - Listen first...

To formal and informal media:

We are delighted to have this event covered by the press, local bloggers, and others who wish to record community affairs. We want to balance your interests with our participants’ ability to express themselves in a safe environment, share an incomplete thought, or convey a personal story as a part of this process. We respectfully request that all representatives of the media (formal and informal) please ask permission to tape, photograph, identify, or quote an individual participant directly. Attendees who wish to film may do so from our designated film area. Filming may not be done of or by participants from within the small discussion group. This is so we can promote an open exchange of ideas. We are happy to work with media who want to film and photograph large group activities. Thank you!

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6:10

Small Group Discussion: Introductions

- Your small group has an impartial facilitator whose role is to:
 - Help with the process and keeping time
 - Serve as a reminder of our agreements to be fair and respectful
 - Make sure everyone gets a chance to participate, and
 - Record key information on flip charts

- Reminder: Your group will need someone to briefly **report out** to the large group.

- **Introductions:** Please share your...
 - Name
 - How long you have lived in Dover
 - One or two “hats” you wear in the community (business owner, parent with kids in schools, active in community organization/church, student, etc.)
 - One thing you like about living in Dover

After briefly introducing themselves, the candidates are invited to **listen and observe** during this part of the evening. The priority during this portion is to hear from Dover residents who are not running for office.

6:20

Your Priority Concerns

On November 3rd we will elect our next mayor, city council, and school board representatives. Last Tuesday the priority issues mentioned by voters included: *Fiscal responsibility, education, thoughtful planning that allows for diversity and affordability, respect and civility, community services and infrastructure (roads, plowing, traffic, and parking) and Social services.*

- **First, brainstorm the most important issues regarding Education in Dover:** What should be the critical issues and priorities for our next School Board representatives?

- Next, share your thoughts on...
 - **What in your view is going well in Dover Schools?**
 - **What do you hope will improve?**

- **Consider the attached Charter Questions:**
 - Question One: School Board
 - Question Two: Legal Counsel (likely not have time to cover this one in small groups)

- Finally, make a short list of the **top 3 or 4 items** that your group would like to share with the large group and with the candidates. We won't have time for a full summary from each group, but we want to hear your top 3-4 topics or concerns.

6:50

Reporting Out

Each group will be asked to provide a VERY BRIEF summary of their most important concerns or priorities. If you are asked to speak for your group, please be brief and share what has been compiled *by your group*, including common ground and divergent views. (You will have two minutes – thank you!)

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***After report outs, candidates are asked to join Don Briand in the front of the room for a moderated panel and Q and A. ***

7:00 **Candidate Remarks and Q and A**
Don Briand, News and Public Affairs Director, Town Square Media

8:00 PM **Closing and thank you...**
Rick Dexter, Dover Listens

- Dover Listens meets on the third Thursday of each month and we welcome your participation. Get in touch with us at www.DoverListens.org
- **Casual opportunity to talk with candidates**

Thank you for participating!

Candidates for Mayor:

Jeffrey Brissette
Karen Weston

Candidates for City Council:

John O'Connor, Ward 1
Dennis Ciotti, Ward 2
Deborah K. Thibodeaux, Ward 3
Joseph Nicolella, Jr., Ward 4
Matthew J. Smoth, Ward 4
Dennis Shanahan, Ward 5
Norman Allie, Ward 5
Jason Gagnon, Ward 6
Robert Carrier, At Large
Sarah Greenshields, At Large

Candidates for School Board:

Betsey Andrews Parker
Keith Holt
Matthew Lahr
Carolyn Mebert
Kathleen Morrison
Michelle Muffett-Lipinski
Amanda Russell
Shenanne Tucker

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