The League of Women Voters

Voters’ Guide

Primary Presidential Election Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Presented by the Leagues of Women Voters of Kent, the Mid-Shore (Caroline, Dorchester and Talbot) and Queen Anne’s counties.
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This Voters’ Guide is published by the League of Women Voters Education Fund and covers Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne’s, and Talbot counties’ candidates. The League has a long tradition of publishing the verbatim responses of candidates to questions important to voters. Questionnaires have been sent to each candidate who has filed with the State Board of Elections. The candidates’ profiles and answers in this Guide appear in their own words. The League offers this Voters’ Guide to assist citizens in their decision-making process as they prepare for participation in the 2016 Presidential elections.

The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. This Guide is for the benefit of individual voters and should not be marked by others for organizations or individual voters. Material from the Guide may not be reproduced in whole or in part without permission of the League of Women Voters.

The League assumes no liability for errors or omissions. The candidates’ answers in the Guide appear as submitted. Only candidates whose names are on the ballot are included in this guide.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization whose membership is open to all citizens, women and men, of voting age. Its mission is to encourage the informed participation of voters in the democratic process. The League promotes political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in their government.

The League of Women Voters is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement. Learn more at www.lwv.org and www.VOTE411.org.

The League thanks all candidates who submitted answers to our questions.

Primary Election Date is Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Registration Deadlines

  In person: Tuesday, April 5, 2016
  or at early voting sites, April 14-21
  By mail: Tuesday, April 5, 2016
  Online: April 5, 2016

Important Voting Information

There are three ways to vote this year in the primary elections:
  • At the early voting locations for each county, listed below
  • At your local polling place on April 26, from 7 am to 8 pm
  • By absentee ballot

Early Voting

Early voting is from 10:00 until 8:00 pm Thursday,
  April 14, through Thursday, April 21.

Caroline County: Caroline County Health & Public Services Building, 1st Floor, Room 112, 403 S. Seventh Street, Denton, MD 21629.

Dorchester County: Dorchester County Office Building, lobby, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, MD 21613.

Kent County: Kent County Public Library, 408 High Street, Chestertown, MD 21620.

Queen Anne’s County: Community Services, Krammer Center, 104 Powell Street, Centreville, MD 21617 or Kent Island Fire Dept., 1610 Main Street, Chester, MD 21619

Talbot County: Easton Fire Hall, 315 Aurora Park Drive, Easton, MD 21601.

Contact your local office of the State Board of Elections for other information about registering to vote, polling locations, change of address, and any other questions you may have about the voting process.

Caroline County Board of Elections
  Health and Public Services Building
  403 S. Seventh Street, Suite 247 Denton MD 21629-1335
  Allison Murphy, Election Director
  410-479-8145
  Fax: 410-479-5736
  www.carolinemdelections.org
  Email Address: election@carolinemd.org

Dorchester County Board of Elections
  County Office Building
  501 Court Lane, Room 105
  P.O. Box 414
  Cambridge MD 21613
  Gwenolyn Dales, Election Director
  410-228-2560, Fax: 410-228-0635
  www.dorcomdelections.org
  Email Address: Gwenolyn.dales@maryland.gov

Kent County Board of Elections
  135 Dixon Drive
  Chestertown, MD 21620
  Cheemoandia Blake, Election Director
  410-770-0038, Fax: 410-778-0265
  www.kentcountyelections.org
  Email Address: elections@kentgov.org

Queen Anne’s County Board of Elections
  132 North Commerce Street
  County Annex Building
  P.O. Box 274
  Centreville, MD 21617
  Brittani Thomas, Election Director
  410-758-0832, Fax: 410-758-1119
  www.qacelections.com
  Email Address: brittani.thomas@maryland.gov

Talbot County Board of Elections
  215 Bay Street
  P.O. Box 353, Easton MD 21601
  Patricia Mitchell, Election Director
  410-770-8089, Fax: 410-770-8078
  www.talbotcountymd.gov/index.php?page=Election_Board
  Email Address: patti.mitchell@maryland.gov

LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all citizens, both women and men at least 18 years of age. As a member of one of the local Leagues of Women Voters, you will automatically become a member of the League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters of Maryland. You will receive publications and other benefits from both of these organizations. Please contact your local League (listed below) to become a member.

YOUR LOCAL LEAGUE

League of Women Voters of Kent County
  P.O. Box 374, Chestertown, MD 21620
  410-810-1883
  www.lwvmmd.org
  Email: pres@kent.lwvmd.org
  Like us on Facebook

League of Women Voters of the Mid-Shore
  P.O. Box 1724, Easton, MD 21601
  www.lwvmmd.org
  Email: pres@midshore.lwvmmd.org
  Like us on Facebook

League of Women Voters of Queen Anne’s County
  P.O. Box 341, Centreville, MD 21617
  www.lwvmmd.org
  Email: LWVQAC@gmail.com
  Like us on Facebook

* This is the web address of the League of Women Voters of Maryland. Once there, go to “Find a League,” then select the League in which you are interested from the drop-down list.
President of the United States

Ground Rules for Presidential Candidates

- All qualified presidential candidates were invited to provide biographical information and responses to five specific questions. Candidates qualified if they met the following criteria: 1. The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for her/his Party’s nomination for President; and 2. The candidate must meet the President Election Campaign Fund Act’s minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the FEC website.

- Responses were limited to 400 characters and were truncated thereafter.

- If a candidate did not respond by the date of publication, “Candidate has not responded.” is printed.

About the Office of President

Salary: $400,000 per year

Term: Four years. Limit of two terms.

How Elected: Every four years, political parties nominate candidates to run for President of the United States in a general election that is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Although all parties use conventions to nominate their candidates, in most states the Democratic and Republican parties also run state-wide primary elections or caucuses. The results of the primary influence how the delegates to their respective party’s convention will cast ballots for candidates for President. The degree to which the primary influences the votes of delegates at conventions varies from state to state.

Duties: The President is the head of state of the United States of America and is the Chief Executive Officer and the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are described in the Constitution and federal law. Subject to Senate approval, the President appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices and federal judges. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress.

REPUBLICANS

Jeb Bush

Campaign Website: http://www.jeb2016.com

Ben Carson

Campaign Website: http://www.bencarson.com

Chris Christie

Campaign Website: http://www.chrischristie.com

Ted Cruz

Campaign Website: http://www.ted cruz.org

Campaign Address: Cruz for President PO Box 23576 Houston, TX 77255

Campaign Website: http://www.ted cruz.org

Donald Trump

Biographical Info

Occupation: Businessman

Campaign Website: http://www.donald trump.com/

Campaign Email: info@donaldtrump.com

Campaign Phone: (646) 736-1779

Campaign Address: Donald J. Trump for President, Inc 725 Fifth Ave New York, NY 10022

Questions:

Q: How do you propose to address the most important issues facing America?

A: I think the most important issues facing this country are economic recovery, immigration and national security. I have proposed an excellent pro-growth tax policy, have taken the strongest stance on immigration reform and have addressed how we will recapitalize our military to maintain the readiness necessary to achieve and protect our national interests. A strong economy must be first.

Q: In building a vibrant U.S. economy, would you emphasize helping companies expand and earn more or addressing income inequality?

A: Good economic policy will help both companies grow and invest in America, and improve wages and living standards for all Americans. A smart trade policy, a competitive tax policy, and a national-interest immigration policy, will all boost the quality of life for Americans and make the country stronger and more prosperous.

Q: Please explain why you support or oppose using more U.S. military power to resolve the situation in the Middle East.

A: The Middle East really presents three sets of issues. The Muslim Brotherhood is making great headway in the African littoral, we have the issues with Syria and Iraq and we have the challenges offered by Iran. Each of these requires different solution sets. Military power should only be used to achieve our national interests, and until such time as we have a better economy, we are limited.

Q: What measures do you support to protect Americans from domestic acts of terrorism?

A: In a Trump Administration, we will keep Americans safe while safeguarding their Constitutional rights. This would mean that I would insist that all federal agencies cooperate with state and local law enforcers to make sure that we have the broadest network possible working on collecting, and acting upon, intelligence that will suppress any attempts at domestic terrorism.

Mike Huckabee

Biographical Info

Occupation: Entrepreneur

Campaign Website: http://www.mikehuckabee.com

Campaign Email: info@mikehuckabee.com

Campaign Phone: (404) 885-1342

Campaign Address: Mike Huckabee for President PO Box 5256 New York, NY 10185

Questions:

Q: How do you propose to address the most important challenges facing our country?

A: I have laid out four fights to face our greatest challenges: we must create an economy that raises pay and creates good jobs, ensuring those at the top pay their fair share. We have to support families by expanding access to health care and other vital services. We must maintain our leadership for global peace and security. Finally, we must stop the flow of secret money that corrupts our politics.

Q: In building a vibrant U.S. economy, would you emphasize helping companies expand and earn more or addressing income inequality?

A: The deck is stacked against ordinary Americans. That is why I have laid out plans to raise the minimum wage and to close unfair tax loopholes that benefit companies that shift jobs overseas, I will make investments that create jobs, including in infrastructure, research, and education. I’ll fight for equal pay, paid leave, and lower taxes for working Americans—asking those at the top to pay more.

Q: Please explain why you support or oppose using more U.S. military power to resolve the situation in the Middle East.

A: Like President Obama, I do not believe that we should again have U.S. troops in combat in the Middle East. If we have learned anything from 15 years of war, it is that we must move away from an endless cycle of human sacrifice, and move from using unilateral military action, and toward diplomacy. War must always be the last resort. As Pres., I will defend this nation, its people, and America’s strategic interests, but I will call on the experts to decide the best strategies, and more.

Q: What measures do you support to protect Americans from domestic acts of terrorism?

A: We have to shut down ISIS recruitment in the U.S. and stop foreign terrorists from coming here. We must disrupt
United States Senator

Duties: U.S. Senators make laws along with the House of Representatives, ratify treaties, and conduct investigations on issues of national importance. The Senate confirms Presidential appointments.

Elected: In 2016, Maryland voters will elect one Senator. Voters elect two Senators from each State who serve six years. About one-third of the 100 members of the Senate are elected every two years. Senators must be at least 30 years old, have been citizens of the United States at least 9 years and be residents of the state they want to represent.

Term: 6 years
Base Salary: $174,000

Questions
1. QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of a Senator?
2. ECONOMY: What economic policies would you support to assist low and middle income citizens?
3. FOREIGN POLICY: What are the most important foreign policy issues and how would you address them?
4. IMMIGRATION: What changes, if any, would you support in immigration policy?
5. ENVIRONMENT: What is the most pressing environmental problem and what measures would you support to address it?
6. INEQUALITY: What policies would you support to address increasing concern about economic, racial, and social inequality?
7. TAX REFORM: What changes, if any, would you support in federal tax policy?
8. OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

Republicans

Questions
1. QUALIFICATIONS: My experience includes being a son, husband, father, grandson, Catholic, coach, union worker, state worker, business owner, volunteer and a lifetime Maryland resident. All of these have given me the skills, compassion, understanding, and insight necessary to address the needs of the people I will represent.
2. ECONOMY: I would abolish the affordable care act. It is keeping employers from giving workers a forty hour work week. I would oppose the H1B Visa that is using cheap high tech labor to replace American jobs. The student visas should have a defined exit strategy upon their graduating to return home.
3. FOREIGN POLICY: Our first step is to have a new commander and chief who would enforce a strong foreign policy. We need to stand united and defend our allies. It is important that we rejoin the Trans Pacific Partnership. I am proud to invest in America for the promise. We must defeat ISIS.
4. IMMIGRATION: We have immigration laws on the books that are enforced. We must identify and verify who is entering our country with a competent screening process. We must control our borders. If you are not here legally you are breaking the law.
5. ENVIRONMENT: I am a lifetime Maryland resident and have seen the Chesapeake Bay go from being polluted to one of the cleanest. We need common sense regulations to protect our resources. This needs to be done by the states not the EPA in Washington. Let the free market determine the best energy sources. Stop allowing Washington to pick winners and losers.
6. INEQUALITY: We need to strengthen social safety nets and equal opportunity, treating each other as equals and with respect.
7. TAX REFORM: I would simplify the tax code to support a 10% flat tax across the board. I would keep the mortgage deduction, increase the education deduction, reduce the size of the IRS and abolish the Affordable Care Act.
8. OTHER PRIORITIES: My other priorities are term limits for congress and senate; stop the special interest group’s money from going to politicians. Ensure our President, Congress and run for office but I am tired of the same people being recycled and elected. I work in IT, customer service and patience have been honed to consider all sides of an issue.

Questions
1. QUALIFICATIONS: I bring five years of prior U.S. Senate experience to the post. I also have armed forces, diplomatic, intelligence, and law enforcement experience. I firmly believe that you need to be in the race in order to win. I would support either a flat, fair, or sales tax Stay At Home Parenting Tax credit. Utility Bills and car payments would be tax deductible. I strongly believe in the importance of the military and the role it plays in the world.
2. ECONOMY: I have a deep understanding of the economy and how to make it work. I understand that the Executive and Legislative branches accountable to a balanced budget, wise spending bills Marylander’s are forced to live with. Their taxes shouldn’t fund the Federal Government? Smarter spending and defeating the fraud.
3. FOREIGN POLICY: Terrorism and Trade As a Veteran, Citizen, Father, Husband, Brother, Son, Uncle, Neighbor and Friend, I support the strongest national defense achievable. I do not support any military action without clearly defined goals, and no intent for decisive victory. If we are not going to win, why are we there in the first place? Trade agreements need to be more equitable to bring back American businesses.
4. IMMIGRATION: I support legal Immigration, and I support having better control of our borders. First, we address border security, then those here illegally. We bring them out of hiding, assist and embrace those who want to be Americans while weeding out those nefarious individuals that are destructive and harmful to Maryland and America.
5. ENVIRONMENT: Energy and the environment are pressing environmental problem is ineffectiveness of its U.S. congressional delegation. The Boy and the people are hurt by our U.S. Senate. Their actions like storm water repairs in Baltimore, the Conowingo Dam cleanout, and Chesapeake/ Delawaret Canal dredging language. Unemployment for farmers as Maryland’s congressional delegation slumbers. No more.
6. INEQUALITY: The most effective antidote to economic and social inequality is upward mobility for all Marylanders and the hope of a dignified job, a home, and a future. The Maryland General Assembly could have taken a step toward that goal at the beginning of its 2016 session, but instead chose marijuana. Not a word was heard about this from Maryland’s Capitol Hill delegation. That’s unacceptable.
8. OTHER PRIORITIES: My highest priority is that the Maryland Senate be focused on growing the economy to prosperity to Maryland. Our state has the human capital and the geographic position to accomplish this. But our U.S. Senate has not been listening and we will not support the cuts in Social Security, Medicare, the health care bill, and the federal funding for Amtrak.

Questions
1. QUALIFICATIONS: As a business owner, Johns Hopkins graduate, past volunteer, I have no other qualifications other than the experience I have advised various organizations on how to maximize transportation efficiency. I have fought for the rights of small businesses. I run a business on Overguard over their use of a computer and its repeat orders. I run a small business’s name and phone number, and I own. I’ve also served as a Political Liaison-Aid for the Finnish Foreign committee delegation.
2. ECONOMY: I believe that we need more apprenticeship programs that allow businesses to hire employees at lower wages and develop them into skilled workers worthy of higher market wages after a specific period of time. Employer-sponsored apprentices would gain access to valuable on-the-job training, “earn while they learn” and avoid costly vocational training schools.
3. FOREIGN POLICY: ISIS and Iran are the most important foreign policy issues. There are four players involved in the Syrian crisis: The United States, Russia, Arab Sunni governments, including Syria, and the Shiite majority governments of Iraq and Iran, who all have a different agenda and ultimate vision of the future for the Middle East region. We need to stop the flow of money to terrorists and protect ourselves.
4. IMMIGRATION: I have developed an immigration reform plan that will raise billions of dollars annually, resources that can be used to pay down the debt, make infra-
structure improvements and improve border security. I am proposing an immigrant pay-to-work program, whereby all 11 million illegal immigrant workers in the U.S. could be required to purchase an annual tempo-
right to work for $1000.00.
5. ENVIRONMENT: Protecting our na-
tion’s natural resources is in the top priority. I also believe that we should reevaluate our focus on the Middle East and instead priori-
tize securing our borders and protecting our all-
ies. We should be prepared to make them comply, for our war with Islamic terrorists. We must be prepared to make them comply, for our war with Islamic terrorists. We must

5. ENVIRONMENT: For Maryland, we need to do better in protecting the Bay. As your Senator, I will ensure that we are not sitting by our flat-lining economy. Since we have a virtual pay-to-play system that the system against working families. As a result, I will fight to lower taxes and to overhaul the tax code to simplify personal income and business taxes.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: The citizens of MD care about are the people of Flint, MI. People living in the US without clean drinking water. We need to work together to provide the best opportunities for the people who need them the most, especially our young people who are currently trying to survive everyday life.

7. TAX REFORM: What government can do to help this process is to stop raising income taxes. We need to find ways to reward businesses to provide as many incentives as possible to succeed. We need to build partnerships with the business community to put an end to our flat-lining economy. I trust the people of Maryland to get our education system right.

7. TAX REFORM: The 74,000 pages of the tax code are unreadable. Those who can afford legal teams can discover the myriad of loopholes and write-offs, meaning we have a virtual pay-to-play system that the system against working families. As a result, I will fight to lower taxes and to overhaul the tax code to simplify personal income and business taxes.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: People in our state are living paycheck to paycheck because they’re stuck in a nightmare. That’s why criminal justice reform is close to my heart. I had the honor of leading on this is- sue with Governor Ehrlich—long before it became politically popular to do—and with our nation’s last Democratic Attorney General. As your Senator, I will work aggressively to end the epidemic of drugs.

Mark McNicholas
Campaign Website: http://www.mark-
4md.com/
1. QUALIFICATIONS: At some point being a leader may have meant you were the one with the loudest voice or biggest muscle, but today being a leader means building the best relationships. I have built relationships in the business world and look forward to building relationships in Wash-
ington to make Maryland a better place to live, work and do business.
2. ECONOMY: I would reduce govern-
mental regulations and taxes. When these are reduced businesses are able to secure our bor-
ders, ports and coastlines. Having troops stationed abroad is necessary to our safety at home. Being an isolationist is not a suc-
cessful foreign policy.
4. IMMIGRATION: It certainly does not sit well with me that in many American businesses we have citizens working and paying income taxes while someone doing the same job is not paying income taxes. The best solution is a gradual approach that would also make sense to the American government is the only way we can make sure that immigrants are screened and vetted so we know who is coming into our country; keep our military and intelligence commu-
nity strong while protecting civil liberties; and stop illegal border crossings.
8. OTHER PRIORITIES: Our economy is so far out of control it will take time to straighten out. We have more America’s out of work than ever before. We need to work to get out of the way of small & emerging businesses that will directly create job op-
opportunities that, in turn, create more in-

Mark McNicholas
Campaign Website: http://www.mark-
4md.com/
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opportunities that, in turn, create more in-

Richard Shawver
Campaign Website: http://www.richard-
senatorfoxus senate.org
1. QUALIFICATIONS: I have 30 years in the military, 8 years in the US Marine’s, 22 years in the US Air Force. I worked at Hecht Co for 38 years as project manager for the National Guard Armory. I studied constitutional law at SAP and at the Institute on the Constitution. Also I ran for US Senate in 2010 against Senator Mikulski.
2. ECONOMY: Our foreign pol-
icy should be working with the League of Nations. Sanctions and not trading with the North Korea and Iran, for example. I was in the military, 8 years in the US Marine’s, 22 years in the US Air Force. I worked at Hecht Co for 38 years as project manager for the National Guard Armory. I studied constitutional law at SAP and at the Institute on the Constitution. Also I ran for US Senate in 2010 against Senator Mikulski.
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4. IMMIGRATION: The immigration policy has to stop immediately. To many people are allowed into this county and are not kept track of. Immigrants are to enter our country by being under a sponsor or a having a job so they will not be a burden on our system. I was in the military, 8 years in the US Marine’s, 22 years in the US Air Force. I worked at Hecht Co for 38 years as project manager for the National Guard Armory. I studied constitutional law at SAP and at the Institute on the Constitution. Also I ran for US Senate in 2010 against Senator Mikulski.
5. ENVIRONMENT: Our environment is a serious matter. Our country has worked hard on this problem to water and air pollu-
tion. I was in the military, 8 years in the US Marine’s, 22 years in the US Air Force. I worked at Hecht Co for 38 years as project manager for the National Guard Armory. I studied constitutional law at SAP and at the Institute on the Constitution. Also I ran for US Senate in 2010 against Senator Mikulski.
6. INEQUALITY: Economic disparity comes from a serious lack of opportunity available for several regions of our state. Some people over the government must provide the most critical issue. Our biggest problem is what comes to us from neighboring states. We can regulate our farms, our urban run-off, trash, and septic systems, but if thejump coming out of PA keeps polluting the bay, all of our efforts won’t make any difference.
owed from the people that owe them. It is not always owed by the American citizens. The Constitution said the American citizen does not owe a direct tax.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: To make certain we have clean water, to return to a gold and silver standard with coin money, regulate the value of the dollar in the form of gold and silver coins, and fix the standard of weights and measures.

Kathy Szeliga
Campaign Website: http://kathyfordmey-land.com
No response received by deadline.

Dave Wallace
Campaign Website: http://www.dawe- lacle.us

1. QUALIFICATIONS: As a successful businessman, I brought prosperity to my em- ployees and quality products to my custom- ers, which also allowed me to give back to our community and nation. I work closely with Congress and national policy makers, supporting effective economic and foreign policy anses and regulation. Here is where I come here and abroad from Obama’s policies. You can trust I will fight for the establishment for you.

2. ECONOMY: The best way to help the poor, I will work for a system allowing having a job—a not a welfare check and the accompanying loss of self respect. The best way to bring jobs to everyone is sound eco- nomic reforms which bring back to life our cities and economy. Tax cuts and dereg- ulation will un-strangle business so they can create new jobs.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: President Ron- ald Reagan brought peace to a troubled world, and ended the bloody Soviet empire. Not by being nice and disarming our coun- try, but by rebuilding our defense. Peace through strength works. Obama’s weak- ness brought terrible civil wars and dictator- ships to the Middle East, while encouraging tyrannies like China, Russia, Iran and North Korea to take advantage of our weakness.

4. IMMIGRATION: As your Senator, I will introduce legislation to build the full 2,000 mile border fence and end ‘magnet’ benefits to those who encourage illegal immigration. I will make sure we that make other countries spend as much from us we buy from them than period, we can’t do the wilds fighting for than they must do fair share of fighting, period, don’t let our wo

5. ENVIRONMENT: The cleanest na- tions in the world are the most free. China, Russia and other Socialist ‘paradise’ are among the most polluted places on earth. The United States invented environmental protection, and nobody protects their own environment better than American private owners. The joke in Bernie Sanders’ beloved Soviet Union was “when everyone owns it, nobody owns it.” Ownership equals care.

6. INEQUALITY: We need a better mental health issue and pro- grams to stop the killing of our own people. get hold of the se issues and deal with them by helping more jobs for the poor, we make sure we that make other countries spend as much from us we buy from them than period, we can’t do the wilds fighting for than they must do fair share of fighting, period, don’t let our wo

7. TAX REFORM: We need a reform bill for private Wells and our pub- lic water systems!! We need new communi- ties under construction to have 2/4” sewer lines one for water and the other for waste water. The top 3% of the country that can use the methane can be used to generate elec- tricity and pumped back as gas heat and fuel

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: I am deeply Concerned with the homeless/drug inflict- And mental illness!! I want to bring federal money to states to help the poor and the homeless. Last but foremost the fight of cancer to treat us and our families more humanly then cur- rently DONATE TO CANCER NOT MY OR GAN. nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits nonprofits 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Campaign Website: In the process of creating.

1. QUALIFICATIONS: For over 45 years while working for the government, I lived under laws and budgets Congress legislated that made it difficult. I have been qualified to proficiently handle the duties of a Senator. With all the education and experience each Senator has had, they still are unable to clearly explain the billions of dollars in debt. 
2. ECONOMY: Fair wages or, for a better word, living wages, living affordable housing and a real universal health care act will help minimize debt to lighten the burden of the lower and middle class citizens.
3. FOREIGN POLICY: The Middle East, Afghanistan, Africa, Ukraine, Russia, China, and Korea are matters most important to which the U.S. must deal. Mending fences with Israel and Saudi Arabia and dealing with the ISIS crises are equally important.
4. IMMIGRATION: The U.S. loses over $18,250,000,000 in various taxes a year due to 15+ million illegal immigrants in this country. This is a growing problem. An understanding immigration program that will allow these people into the fabric of the U.S. going back to the time they came here is my proposal.
5. ENVIRONMENT: Global warming happens twice as fast in the Artic as anywhere else in the world. In order to combat this, a major environmental impact study is in order. This plan to redirect flooding waters across the U.S. to those extremely dry areas preventing the huge forest fires as they are.
6. INEQUALITY: I have mixed relatives within my extended family I am reminded that no one side is more innocent or essential than the other. I believe people are aware of this in their hearts. We need a strategy of sensitivity so that since sensitivity with each other is all we have.
7. TAX REFORM: IRS is the only organization that collects money to keep the government working. Each tax report is an activity with each other is all we have. 
8. OTHER PRIORITIES: Other priorities are security, jobs, health, safety, women’s issues, education and peace. Information constituting members of all current legislation being considered for passage, and initiating a system for constituents to be able to reply back either positively or negatively are the other priorities from this U.S. Senator’s office.

Charles U. Smith

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I served the state of Maryland for thirty five years / advisor to four Governors as Adjutant General Maryland National Guard and to Warfield Hodge,retired, before ordered back to active duty regular Army. Register with the state medical board.
2. ECONOMY: A fair wage above minimum for every one.
3. FOREIGN POLICY: it sure will not be like they are addressing foreign now.
4. IMMIGRATION: That every one should be here legally
5. ENVIRONMENT: the Chesapeake bay
6. INEQUALITY: enforce the laws fairly in the present not like they did in the past.
7. TAX REFORM: tax every one fairly.
8. OTHER PRIORITIES: most important is veterans rights to me.
United States
House of Representatives

U.S. Representative District 1

Duties: Representatives make laws along with the Senate, conduct investigations of important matters, and conduct investigations on issues of national importance. Laws that impose taxes always begin in the House of Representatives. Representatives must determine whether a public official should be tried, if accused of a crime.

How Elected: Each of the 435 Representatives is elected to a two-year term, serving a specific district. Each State has at least one Representative, but the total number is based on the population in the most recent census. Representatives must be at least 25 years old, have been citizens of the United States for at least 7 years and be residents of the state they want to represent.

Term: Two years

Base Salary: $174,000

Questions
1. QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of a representative?
2. ECONOMY: What economic policies would you support to assist low and middle income citizens?
3. IMMIGRATION: What are the most important foreign policy issues and how would you address them?
4. TAX REFORM: What changes, if any, would you support in immigration policy?
5. ENVIRONMENT: What is the most pressing environmental problem and what measure would you support to address it?
6. FOREIGN POLICY: What policies would you support to address increasing concern about economic, racial, and social inequality?
7. TAX REFORM: What changes, if any, would you support in federal tax policy?
8. OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

REPUBLICANS

Republicans may vote for no more than 1.

Jonathan Marvin Goff, Jr.

Campaign Website: http://www.jonogoff-congressional.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I represented the First Congressional District for 3 terms, and I have over 30 years of experience in government service.

2. FOREIGN POLICY: What policies would you support to address increasing concern about economic, racial, and social inequality?

Questions
1. QUALIFICATIONS: I've represented the First Congressional District for 3 terms, and I have over 30 years of experience in government service.
2. FOREIGN POLICY: What policies would you support to address increasing concern about economic, racial, and social inequality?

Campaign Website: http://www.andyharris.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I've represented the First Congressional District for 3 terms, and I have over 30 years of experience in government service.

2. FOREIGN POLICY: What policies would you support to address increasing concern about economic, racial, and social inequality?
add to the character of America. But first and foremost we are a nation of laws, and those who come to this country should expect to follow the laws. We expect the same from the migrants and temporary workers on visas, but we must enforce those laws. The consequ- ence of not enforcing our immigration laws is that we can not properly vet individuals coming to our nation. Outdated policies and sedentary inflow. Reversing these problems will take time and require collaboration between all stakeholders and bordering states.

5. ENVIRONMENT: The biggest en- vironmental issue in District 1 is keeping the Chesapeake Bay clean. There is a fine balance between not over-regulating the farmers/poultry industry operations and the need to clean up this historic environment from human and animal waste. I do not believe the “flush tax” or the Stormwater fee (“rain tax”) is the solution. Federally, we need to address this is- sue simultaneously.

6. INEQUALITY: I have not created a policy to specifically address inequality as part of my political platform. I believe in equality for everyone regardless of sex, race, religion, etc… I do not support legisla- tion (Acts, bills, etc…) that favor a particu- lar segment of society. This creates a disad- vantage for the remainder of the citizens not permitted to receive the benefits afforded to others.

7. TAX REFORM: I support a “Fair Flat” tax for personal income and business (cor- porate) taxes. Reducing tax burden will entice businesses to operate in the U.S. and not move their operations to foreign coun- tries (save our jobs and tax base). Eliminate the death tax. Reduce federal taxes — allow States to adjust their taxes as needed for their individual States.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: * Protect our waterways. Our state which impliments a nationwide “Open Carry” or “Concealed Weapon” policy for our legal gun owners. * Support our Veterans & Military. * Revamp the welfare system (get able-bodied recipients to work). * Continue to look into more thorough response to each topic for any reader who would like additional infor- mation. “Thank You.”

Michael D. Smigiel, Sr.
Campaign Website: http://www.smigiel- forcongress.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I served as an active duty U.S. Marine then attended com- community college and received my AA. I later went on to attend a Maryland University and received my BA in Political Science. I spent 12 years in the Maryland House of Delegates. I served as the minority Parlia- mentarian, Vice Chair of the Eastern Shore Caucus and Cecil County Delegate. I spent ten years on the Judiciary Committee.

2. ECONOMY: I would reduce big gov- ernment burdens on private enterprise. I would reduce taxes, institute a flat tax, pro- mote capitalism, open markets and expand deregulation. Eliminate corporate and individual income tax and business (corporate) tax (“tithing”). Control federal spending (Cease and desist with the ACA). Create a more tax neutral economy/service economy. Farming then manu- facturing has changed to our new economy. Working people and the new economy need to reflect the new economy tax loopholes and the revenue to pay for expanded healthcare and education.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: I will focus on other priorities to the people of our region, which is vital to the Eastern Shore and Maryland. We will expand healthcare in rural areas. Andy Harris wants to take insurance away from thousands of residents who were newly covered by the ACA. As mayor of Salisbury, I have seen how heroin abuse devastates families and communities. We must cut the cost of scourge and make treat- ment available.

Joe Werner
Campaign Website: http://www.jowiefern- erus.org

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I believe the most important qualifications are good judgement and common sense and a moral core. I have all of these to offer. I really do care about America and Maryland and what is best for all the people not just spe- cial money interest. I have a law degree and exp. working with the legislative clinic. I have a varied background in business. Working together we can build a better future.

2. ECONOMY: Better trade practice , fair trade helping keep jobs in America. Making sure minimum wage keeps up with the cost of living. We can fix the trade tunnel toll was .25 today min.wage should be $17 an hour. Things where good when the wage was high. Also we would less de- pendency on food stamps. Also need for food stamps if wages where high- er. more people making a living wage-less gov.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: International terrorism , Trade agreements with the de- veloping world , defense policy with regard to china and Russia. Our trade with China has been very one sided and our companies are helping china build a strong military. We need to rebuild our trade agreements , understand we have a great purpose and to keep a strong defense. We should use trade to help our friends and not our enemies.

4. IMMIGRATION: We need compre- hensive Immigration reform. Set a higher number of visa’s for the best and the bright- est. Help the brightest and the best get a future. We are accepting many illegals and we cannot turn our backs on our heritage. We can have a compas- sionate system that supports hard-working, productive families while still securing our borders.

5. ENVIRONMENT: The environment and the economy do not need to be compet- ing issues. Green technology and innova- tion will lead to more jobs. Local farmers are working with the state and scientists to solve the problem of manure runoff. There are technological advances, like anaerobic digesters and biogas systems that can turn farm waste into electricity. We need to combat this scourge and make treat- ment available.

6. INEQUALITY: I will fight for equal pay for equal work. LGBT Americans do not deserve second class treatment. I will push for equal pay for all workers. We need a strong defense. We should use trade to help our friends and not our enemies.

7. TAX REFORM: I support tax reform that enables economic growth for the working- and middle class. Those who have been economically successful have been able to do so partly through the benefits they reap from taxpayer-funded projects and servic- es. Corporations and the 1% should have to pay their fair share. We need to close cor- porate tax loopholes and the revenue to pay for expanded healthcare and education.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: I will focus on other priorities to the people of our region, which is vital to the Eastern Shore and Maryland. We will expand healthcare in rural areas. Andy Harris wants to take insurance away from thousands of residents who were newly covered by the ACA. As mayor of Salisbury, I have seen how heroin abuse devastates families and communities. We must cut the cost of scourge and make treat- ment available.
The new information economy and automat-
ed work force will drive more money away from wage earners and workers. We need a rethinking and working on the old system.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: We are stuck going after new problems and a modern economy with the same old ideas. We have entered a new world and need to rethink how we do things. With a shrinking middle class we are losing respect for each other. We need more civility and respect.

Convention Delegates

Convention Delegates, District 1

A presidential contender’s name appears in parentheses only if he or she has approved the convention delegate.

Republican Convention Delegates

Duties: Convention delegates elected in the primary are the people who officially elect their party’s Presidential candidate at the national conventions. Presidential nominees are not elected directly by the voters in the primary. Rather, voters in each state choose delegates to represent them at the national conventions.

How Elected: The Republican ballot lists candidates for delegates to the Republican National Convention and the Presidential candidate each one supports. Republican voters in each Maryland congressional district will elect 3 delegates and 3 alternates.

The Spring 2016 State Republican Convention will select 11 at-large delegates. Those delegates will go to the Republican National Convention, which will be held July 18 – July 21, 2016 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Republicans may vote for no more than 3.

Matthew F. Adams
Carl Anderton, Jr.
Richard L. Andrews
Steven James Arentz (Cruz)
Mary Jane Arentz, Sr.
Sharon Beam
Helen Anita Bennett (Carson)
Jessica Blake
Maui W. Boda
Denise Anne Bode (Bush)
Julie D. Brewington (Cruz)
Bob Cassilly
Jan Marie Christensen
Judy C. Dutton (Rubio)
Eugene S. Craig III
Barry Donadio (Bush)
James T. J. Dresher (Christie)
Ann Dupee (Bush)
Mike Euler
Donald C. Frazier
Jeff Ghrist (Cruz)
Travis Gled
Wendy Joanne Grubbs (Bush)
Glenn levi Bramble
Jeanie Haddaway-Riccio (Christie)
Bill Harris
Grant Helvey (Trump)
Wendy L. Hershey (Christie)
Robert “Bobby” Holmes III
Luke Kaczmarek
Susan Karsner (Carson)
Lynn Ann Lang (Carson)
Bonnie N. Luna
Michael Marchi (Trump)
David Marks (Rubio)

Democratic Convention Delegates

Duties: Convention delegates elected in the primary are the people who officially elect their party’s Presidential candidate at the national conventions. Presidential nominees are not elected directly by the voters in the primary. Rather, voters in each state choose delegates to represent them at the national conventions.

How Elected: The Democratic ballot lists candidates for delegates to the Democratic National Convention and the Presidential candidate each one supports. Maryland will send 126 delegates to the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, PA, July 25 – July 28, 2016. Democratic voters in the congressional districts will elect 64 delegates. Party rules determine the number of delegates to be elected from each district. The remaining 62 are chosen by the Maryland Democratic Party and consist of 31 appointed party leaders, 23 elected officials, and 8 alternate delegates.

Democrats may vote for no more than 3.

Democratic Convention Delegates, Male

Democrats may vote for no more than 3.

Daniel Bland (Sanders)
Connor Callahan (Sanders)
Mike Counce (Uncommitted)
Ernie Grecco (Clinton)
Michael L. Pullen (Sanders)
Donald Sydnor (Clinton)
Tushan Weerasooriya (Uncommitted)
William L. Welsh (Clinton)

Democratic Convention Delegates, Female

Democrats may vote for no more than 3.

Cheryl Everman (Clinton)
Lesley Israel (Clinton)
Amanda L. Jackson (Sanders)
Deborah A. Nissley (Sanders)
Kelly Straub (Sanders)
Betty Weller (Clinton)

Dorchester, Kent Boards of Education

Democratic Convention

Duties: The Board of Education is responsible for the supervision of the public schools, including the selection of a Superintendent, approval of the annual budget, and establishing general policies governing the school system.

How Elected: Board members are elected from districts, with staggered terms.

Questions

1. QUALIFICATIONS: What in your background, either in education or experience, makes you a strong candidate for this office?

2. FACILITIES: Regarding aging schools, when and how should the school address the issues with these facilities?

3. WORKING WELL: What is working well in the Dorchester County School system?

4. SUGGESTIONS: What suggestions do you have for improving the education system?

CANDIDATES

Voters may vote for no more than 1.

Glenn Leivi Bramble

1. QUALIFICATIONS: Currently serving 2nd term on Dorchester Co. Board of Education as Vice-Fres. Attended several state/national educational conferences. Owner of CSA Contr. for 45 years Served 2 terms on Dorchester Co. Council as Fes. Vice-Fres. Served 6 years on Cambridge Planning & Zoning *Served 1 term on Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission *Current member & past president of Cambridge Lions Club

2. FACILITIES: Our School Facilities Engineer prepares our Capital Improvement Plan which is updated each year. All schools are visited periodically, and maintenance and repairs are documented and prioritized; including recommended school replacement in the future. The Board’s responsibility is to acquire the necessary funding from the state and county as part of the budget process.

3. WORKING WELL: The current Board is working well with the Superintendenst and staff in looking for ways to keep costs at a minimum while providing a quality education for our students. The ever increasing mandates from the federal and state requires the BOE to work closely to utilize the unrestricted funds available. Maintaining competitive salaries for teachers and support staff has been one of our objectives.

4. SUGGESTIONS: Smaller classrooms, more teachers, adequate & environment friendly facilities, increase security & maximizing the discipline that’s governed by the State. Reviewing all the programs ensuring they’re effective in promoting our students for a better education.Capitalize and even more on our School of Career & Techology Center. Finding added ways of parent involvement. these are just a few of my priorities.

Jodi A Cavanaugh Jews

No response received by deadline.

Robert G Kirkley

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I have had 18 years of education past high school including four years of college, three years of seminary, two years at Johns Hopkins University and nine years at College Park where I served as a graduate assistant and taught logic. Governor Schaefer appointed me to the St. Mary’s County Board Of Edu-
cation for ten years and I was the state pres-ident of Maryland Association of Boards of Education.

2. FACILITIES: Our students deserve first class facilities to expedite their edu-
cation. The teachers need facilities conducive to doing their best work. Money must be reallocated to provide education that will help students achieve their potential. Much money is wasted throughout the country that could be more wisely used to educate our students. They are the future of America.

3. WORKING WELL: The teachers and administrators have high standards but unfortunately they are not free to do their best work because of some regulations that thwart their abilities.

4. SUGGESTIONS: Students must be challenged to excel. Our more gifted stu-
dents are being held back by unwise regu-
lations and they are bored by the system. My grand daughter was so bored that she graduated in 11 years and went on to col-
lege. Education will not work effectively unless the student is challenged to excel and strive for realistic goals. More students are bored by the schools than are challenged.

Dorchester County Board of Education, District 5

Duties: The Board of Education is responsible for the supervision of the public schools, including the selection of a Superin-
tendent, approval of the annual budget, and establishing general policies governing the school system.

How Elected: Board members are elected from districts, with staggered terms.

Term: 4 years, no term limit

Questions

1. QUALIFICATIONS: What in your background, either in education or experi-
ence, makes you a strong candidate for this office?

2. FACILITIES: Regarding aging schools, when and how should the school board address the issues with these facilities?

3. WORKING WELL: What is working well in the Dorchester County School sys-

4. SUGGESTIONS: What suggestions do you have for improving the education system?

League of Women Voters Primary 2016 Voters’ Guide
1. QUALIFICATIONS: Of out college, I taught English and Mathematics at a very small rural school in Oklahoma. I taught the fundamentals of using a PC at the local Vocational Technical School. I spent the next 25 years working in the IT industry, becoming the first executive in the corporation. My strong leadership skills, management abilities, and broad experience make me a strong candidate.

2. FACILITIES: The school campus is closely associated with individuals maintaining the facilities and with the community, evaluating both the physical plant and educational needs should be ongoing. We must assess future needs, both physical and market driven, and develop a vision that will provide a roadmap for continuous assessment, adjustment, and upgrade/ replacement. Waiting until it is unsafe or unsustainable is not acceptable.

3. WORKING WELL: Our ability to attract and retain a highly qualified teaching staff continues to be key to educational success throughout the County. Increased graduation rates for most cohort populations and attainment of reading metrics for a school system are positive achievements. The decision to finally build a new North Dorchester High School is a positive step.

4. SUGGESTIONS: First and foremost is ensuring that every student feels safe and welcome. Second is focusing on teaching children how to learn and how to love to learn, which seems to have been forgotten in a technology world. Finally, increasing the use of technology to expand learning opportunities and provide "virtual" learning assistance when extra help is needed.

Laura Hill Layton

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I taught English in Dorchester County schools for over 33 years. I taught every grade from 6 through 12. I have a Bachelor's Degree from Towson University and a Master'sDegree in Education from Salisbury University. My experience in the classroom from the years of 1971 to 2008 gives me a wonderful understanding of students and staff. Both of our children and now grandchildren attended DCPS in the ND area.

2. FACILITIES: The first priority of the Board of Education should be the safety and health of staff and students. When conditions at a school (such as exist at NDHS) put the safety of students at risk, the Board of Education has a responsibility to make a change. When the cost of modifying or renovating an existing building is prohibitive, then a new facility must be constructed which will remedy the issues.

3. WORKING WELL: The teachers of DCPS are dedicated to the well-being (emotional, intellectual, and physically) of our students. They are truly a superior group of professionals. There are more opportunities for advanced students than ever before in our system, while students who need extra help are given this attention throughout the school day. A greater percentage of students than ever before are graduating.

4. SUGGESTIONS: The Board of Education must strive to bring respect and civility back to the classroom and our school campuses. Students, teachers and staff MUST feel safe in the learning environment, and they MUST feel that the Board of Education will protect them. Neither students, staff, nor students college and ready college can be made through increasing the role of DCTC and dual enrollment with Chesapeake College.

Voncia Molok

No response received by deadline.

Kent County Board of Education

Duties: Establishes and oversees the educational policies for the public school system of the county; decides when and where schools should be built or consolidated; establishes annual budgets for the school system; requires the Chief Executive Officer (superintendent) to implement public school policies and programs.

Term: 4 years; no term limits.

How Elected: Members are elected by all voters in the county.

Salary: $2,000 per year

Questions

1. BIOGRAPHY: Please write a brief biography, emphasizing educational level, prior work experience and current position.

2. BUDGET: What items in the current budget need to be increased or decreased, and why?

3. STUDENT NEEDS: How should our schools address the needs of students who are going to college as well as those of who are not?

Candidates

Voters may vote for no more than 2.

Steven G. Atkinson

1. BIOGRAPHY: I was born and educated in Kent County. While I did leave, I have been back for over 15 years. I may not have a lot of formal education, but I have been a life long learner. For years I worked in the technology field, during a period that it changed the greatest. I have worked with parents of special needs kids. Served on boards in the community, including PTA. I see things as a small business.

2. BUDGET: Budgets are forever in a state of flux. With recent decisions the budget needs to be increased. For example, the budget is not taking into account the increased costs of energy, insurance, and transportation. The budget needs to be increased to support competitive salaries, healthy schools and grounds, and a first-rate comprehensive education for all students. This process should be transparent, and include all citizens.

3. ADDRESSING STUDENT NEEDS: To suggest that there should be different treatment for students to choose between those who are not opposed to those who are not is offensive to our education system. Our education system should give every student the best educational chance possible, regardless of whether their aspirations are to attend college or not. Education and information should be all inclusive, and if I am elected that will be my goal.

Ellsworth L. Tolleiver

1. BIOGRAPHY: I am a retired Music Educator from the Cape Henlopen School District in Lewes, DE. I serve as Pastor of Boardly Chapel AME Church in Pocomoke, MD. I serve as a member of the Board of Trustees with the Kent County Public Library System and as a member of the Local Management Board for Family and Community Partnerships. My educational experience is varied, and allow me to exercise prudence.

2. BUDGET: I would seek to add additional funding to provide alternative school options for those students who would benefit from an alternative setting. This would include developing after hours scheduling, Saturday school and other alternative opportunities for learning, addressing variety in student learning styles. Increased attention to arts and music would be essential to student academic development.

Joe Goetz

1. BIOGRAPHY: Joe Goetz is a Sales Manager with Twinings of London and holds a Bachelors of Science degree from Delaware Valley University. With 19 years of experience in corporate leadership roles, Joe serves as the PTSA President at KCHS, KY Youth Softball League President and served humbly in Church as Vestry Member and Senior Warden. Joe’s wife is a Teacher and has two children in the school system.

2. BUDGET: After careful consideration, the budget should be increased to reintroduce After School and Late Bus programs. These programs positively impact children by extending the learning day as well as supporting working families. In terms of budget decreases; reevaluating administrative costs of schools with open space and closing the Board office will help reduce operating expenses over time.

3. ADDRESSING STUDENT NEEDS: For College bound students, we should increase AP Course offerings, maintain college credit courses at Washington College and Chesapeake College and strengthen SAT prep training. For Non-College bound students, our high school should increase industry certifications through Career and Technology Education pathways. We also need to strongly promote Military careers as options for our students.

John Queen

1. BIOGRAPHY: I grew up the oldest of 3 siblings in a single parent home in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area. I have a diverse and wide range of work experiences with youth of all ages. I am the President and Co-Founder of Bay-side H.O.Y.A.S., Inc. (Helping Our Youth Achieve Success).

2. BUDGET: I would like to see what the county budget indicates after the Kent County Commissioners awards the school system $1.6 million before commenting on this subject. However, over all the budget needs to be increased to support competitive salaries, healthy schools and grounds, and a first-rate comprehensive education for all students. This process should be transparent, and include all citizens.

3. ADDRESSING STUDENT NEEDS: To suggest that there should be different treatment for students is offensive. The county Board of Education will protect them.

Questions

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3. ADDRESSING STUDENT NEEDS: I advocate the need for improved school climate as the method to improve student achievement, maintaining the best atmosphere possible where the teacher’s ability to teach and the students opportunity to learn are not hindered. I advocate for AP courses as well as those who seek vocational experiences. I would advocate for financial literacy programs that would benefit all students.

A. Brian Williams

1. BIOGRAPHY: I’m a 1982 graduate of Kent County High School. After graduation, I partnered with my father on our family dairy farm (5th generation). 11 years ago, we sold our cows and now produce grain, straw & hay. Last year we expanded to include a hydroponics operation, Red Acres Hydroponics. I have been active with youth sports. I have been elected to the school board twice and am seeking a third term.

2. BUDGET: I am in favor of increasing budget items that will ultimately increase and benefit student achievement such as: technology, intervention/enrichment programs, teacher training and time for teachers to collaborate. Transportation is an area where we may be able to become more efficient by putting our schools on a two tier year round schedule instead of the current three tier model.

3. ADDRESSING STUDENT NEEDS: Helping students to become college & career ready begins in elementary and we see the product at graduation. KCHS should continue/expand dual enrollment opportunities at Chesapeake and Washington Colleges, continue/increase our AP course offerings, and expose students to college. Those going directly into the workforce will need skills/certifications that ARE offered in our CTE programs.
Party Primaries in Maryland

Party primaries in Maryland are “closed” primaries. You must be a member of a political party to participate in that party’s primary, though all voters may vote for non-partisan offices such as the Board of Education. You may change your party affiliation up until the close of voter registration on April 5 by completing a voter registration form and submitting it to your Board of Elections. You may also change your party affiliation online if you have a Maryland driver’s license or identification card from the Motor Vehicle Administration. If you have not previously registered to vote, you may register during early voting (April 14-21) at an early voting center in your county and choose a party at that time. For those already registered, you may correct your address or other information during early voting, but you cannot change your party registration at that time.

In Maryland, only the Republican and Democratic candidates appear on official ballots published by the Board of Elections. This year, however, the Green Party of Maryland will be conducting a primary to select its nominees for offices at the state and local level. All voters who are listed as Green Party members with their Board of Elections may participate.

The ballots for the Green Party primary will be published on April 2. All candidates seeking the Green Party nomination within a voting district (congressional district, city, or city council district) will be on the ballot in that district, whether the race for an office is contested or not. Voters may also choose “None of the above,” but no write-in candidates are allowed.

Green Party primary ballots will be sent to party members only upon request, which must be submitted before midnight on Sunday, April 17. The request should be sent to baltimoregreens@gmail.com or to Baltimore Green Party, P.O. Box 22857, Baltimore, MD 21233. Montgomery County residents may also submit their requests to mocogreens@gmail.com or Montgomery County Green Party at P.O. Box 217, Kensington, MD 20895. Ballots must be received by the Party no later than 5 PM, Saturday, April 30. Green Party voters in Baltimore may vote in person from 9 am to 6 pm on Sunday, May 1. For additional information, visit the Green Party website for Maryland, http://www.mdgreens.org or the City of Baltimore, http://www.baltimoregp.org, or call the Baltimore Green Party at (410) 402-5083.

Your donation is important

Help the League of Women Voters to keep government power in the hands of the people by assisting citizens to become educated, active, and engaged in public policy decisions. If you believe that this is important and want us to continue to provide candidate forums and debates, Voters’ Guides, and the website VOTE411.org, please make a tax-deductible contribution to the League of Women Voters Education Fund. We depend on your donations for our work. The Eastern Shore Leagues will be grateful for your check made out to “Education Fund” and sent to The League of Women Voters of Kent County, P.O. Box 374, Chestertown, MD 21620. Thank you.