

Political Script for Caucus Members

STEP #1: Look up your ward and division for both your home and your school:

<https://www.pavoterservices.state.pa.us/Pages/PollingPlaceInfo.aspx>

And your ward leader: <http://www.seventy.org/tools/ward-leaders-committeepeople/democratic-party>

STEP #2: Fill out your intro script for your questions:

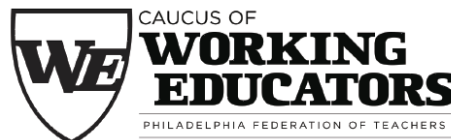
Hi my name is _____ and I am a member of the Caucus of Working Educators, a rank-and-file caucus within the PFT. I am a registered voter in the _____ Ward, _____ Division. My Ward leader is _____. **If you are an educator:** I also teach at _____, which is in the _____ Ward, _____ Division.

STEP #3: Ask away!

- Did you attend public school? Do you have any children? Did/Do they attend Philadelphia public, parochial, or charter schools? *(Follow up with a why or why not question.)*
- Lack of funding from Harrisburg is a perpetual issue for the district. As the mayor/councilperson, however, you have the power to raise revenues from within Philadelphia itself. How would you go about this? *(Follow up with questions about the 10 year tax abatement, PILOT payments from universities, raising the Use and Occupancy tax, Comcast tax breaks, etc.)*
- As you are most likely aware, many teachers – especially younger ones – haven't been given their contractual step raises for nearly 3 years now. How would you help solve the contract impasse between the PFT and the District? How would you help to retain talented teachers within the district? *(Follow up with a personal example of how much you have already sacrificed out of your salary.)*
- The mayor has the ability to appoint members to the SRC. Do you have any specific individuals in mind who you would like to see selected for such an important position? *(This question would inadvertently gauge if the candidate is aware of the local control issue while also seeing if they personally know any public education advocates within the city.)*
- City council recently passed a resolution unanimously asking for the SRC to examine its use of standardized tests. What role do you believe standardized tests have in measuring the growth of a student? In measuring the effectiveness of a teacher? *(This question should be able to tell you how familiar a candidate is with the Opt Out movement. If they aren't familiar with it, follow up!)*

Flip this page over for a calendar of upcoming candidate forums in Philadelphia!

Candidate Forums Calendar & Primary Election Timeline



Sign up on www.workingeducators.org to attend a forum. We'll send a reminder!

Tuesday, 3/3 - [PennFuture Next Great City's Mayoral Candidates Forum](#)

6 PM // Pennsylvania Convention Center, 1101 Arch Street

Saturday, 3/7 - Working Families Candidate Forum

10 AM - 2 PM // Arch St. United Methodist Church, 55 N. Broad Street

Tuesday, 3/10 - Philly ADA Mayoral Forum

7 - 9 PM // The Friend's Center (1515 Cherry St. - MLK Room)

March 10 *Last day to circulate and file nomination petitions*

March 11 *First day to circulate and file nomination papers*

Wednesday, 3/18 - PFT District City Council Candidates (Members only)

4:15 PM // Sheet Metal Workers' Union Hall, 1301 South Columbus Blvd

Wednesday, 3/18 - Food Policy Mayoral Forum

7 PM // Free Library Skyline Room, 1901 Vine St.

Monday, 3/23 - PFT City Council At-Large Candidates Forum (Members Only)

4:15 PM // Sheet Metal Workers' Union Hall, 1301 South Columbus Blvd

Tuesday, 3/24 - Mayoral Candidates Education Forum (Questions sent in advance)

6:30 PM // G.W. Childs School, 1599 Wharton St.

March 25 *Last day for withdrawal by candidates who filed nomination petitions*

Monday, 3/30 - In Conversation with Philadelphia: Al Dia News Mayoral Forum

5 - 8 PM // 30 S. 15th St., 15th Floor

Wednesday, 4/1 - [PACDC Mayoral Forum for Equitable Development](#)

5:30 PM // Temple University's SERC - 12th & Berks

Monday, 4/20 - Philly Tech Week Mayoral Forum

6 PM // Free Library of Philadelphia, 1901 Vine St.

Wednesday, 4/22 - Northern Liberties Mayoral Forum

7 PM // 841 N. American St.

April 20 *Last day for voters to REGISTER before the primary*

May 19 **MUNICIPAL PRIMARY!**