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Meet Your Candidates!

2025 MEET THE CANDIDATES

Q&A FORUM

Join us for a moderated panel featuring local candidates.
Questions are predetermined – there will be no public Q&A.

5:00pm Doors Open, Greet & Network
6:00pm Jackson Township Candidates Q&A
7:00pm Grove City City Council Candidates Q&A
8:30pm School Board Candidates Q&A

AN EVENT OF
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

OCT 23, 2025
Aladdin Shrine Center
1801 Gateway Circle
Grove City, OH 43123



SWCS COUNCIL OF PTA'S PRESENTS: MEET THE SWCS BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

WHEN: TUESDAY OCTOBER 14TH 630PM-830PM
WHERE: SWCA Event Center
SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION
VIA QR CODE



We have some fantastic opportunities coming up to meet our candidates! The SWCS Council of PTAs is hosting a moderated event specifically for the Board of Education candidates on Oct. 14. PTA and community members are invited to submit forum questions in advance. *Please note questions will be directed to all candidates, and will be screened for content that is: unclear, hostile or adversarial in nature, attempts to draw attention away from the candidates to the questioner, repetitive, or off-topic from the functions of a school board member or prospective school board member.*

To submit your question, scan the QR code, or visit <https://forms.gle/ZE4JY7h4LcV4kjzm6>

Grove City Chamber of Commerce is hosting one for all candidates on Oct. 23.

Showing up at these events helps to hold our leadership and prospective leaders and

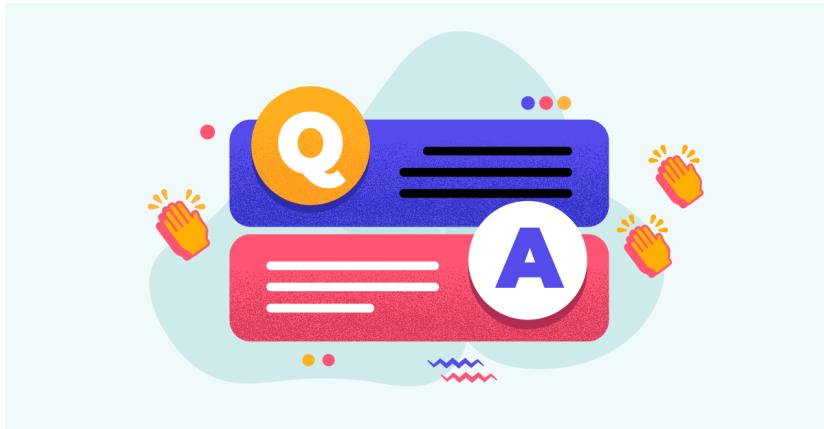
representative accountable. It shows that we are paying attention, and we are engaged. It also helps you as a voter to learn more about each candidate- their values, their priorities, and how they interact with the community. Please attend if you are able!

[Visit Our Website](#)

[Become a Member](#)

[Donate to the Cause](#)

Virtual Q&A!



Progress Grove City is hosting a virtual space [here](#), where our local candidates can introduce themselves and you can ask questions directly!

To keep this event constructive and respectful, please review the following:

Respect comes first. Be civil and courteous in your questions and comments. Disrespectful, hostile, or harassing behavior will not be tolerated.

Stay relevant. Please keep questions and comments related to the candidate's campaign, priorities, and role in our city.

Use the right thread. Each candidate will introduce themselves in a comment. Post your questions and discussion under that candidate's comment only—this helps keep the forum organized and easy to follow.

One question at a time. To give all community members a chance to engage, try to keep questions concise and ask one at a time rather than long lists.

Fact vs. opinion. Feel free to share your perspectives, but avoid spreading unverified information.

Remember that we're all human. Please keep in mind that everyone has lives outside of the internet, so there will be delays in answers and participation. This is meant to be an opportunity for engagement, not an obligation.

We want this space to be welcoming, informative, and fair to everyone. Thank you for helping make this a positive experience for candidates and community members alike!



It's important that we remember to stop and celebrate the victories when we have them. Here is some good news from across the nation:

- In a special election in Arizona, Adelita Grijalva had a decisive win and became the first Latina to represent Arizona in Congress. Her campaign emphasized environmental justice, immigrant rights, health care access, and accountability.
- For U.S. Representative Barbara Lee was elected mayor in Oakland, with her long record of leadership and advocacy for justice. This is an exciting win for progressive voices in local governments.
- The Indivisible network has seen incredible growth, with almost 2,000 active chapters engaging in local organizing, protests, electoral work, and facilitating important networking. We continue to see how meaningful grassroots energy is in all levels of government.

These victories are accomplishments in themselves, but also signal that change is possible, that progressive values resonate, and that our efforts add up to real impact.

Five Minute Activism

One of the most powerful tools we each carry into an election season is our own story. Facts and statistics matter, but it's often the personal experiences we share that stick with people and shift perspectives. When we talk about how local policies affect our families, our neighborhoods, or our daily lives, we bring issues down to a human level. That makes them harder to dismiss—and easier for others to connect with.

In just a few minutes, you can take a small but meaningful step: tell your story. Post on social media about why you care about a school levy, talk with a neighbor about how city decisions have shaped your community, or share with friends what values guide your vote. These conversations create ripples. They help build trust, spread awareness, and inspire action far beyond what one campaign ad could ever do.

So this week's five-minute activism challenge is simple: connect. Share one short story with someone in your circle about why local elections matter to you. Your voice may be the spark that motivates someone else to show up, speak out, and cast their vote.



Monthly Meeting Recap - September

Our September meeting was full of incredible speakers, and we so appreciate their time and energy.

Jamie Hinkle Shumaker, and Melissa Cropper spoke to us about unions and the importance of collective bargaining and action. Unions may not be full of Democrats, but are run in a very democratic fashion. They have to represent the entirety of their members. Much like Progress, they don't support just Democrats, but they weigh candidates that are best aligned with their values. Unions have to fairly treat and represent all of their workers, not just union members. There are differences between local and national branches of a union, since each locality may prioritize values in different orders, but they share the same values nationally. Unions have achieved remarkable things, like higher wages, better and safer working conditions, weekends, overtime pay, benefits, and ending child labor. Thank a union today!

Don Leonard spoke about his research on housing and ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units).

We learned 3 main things:

- supply not meeting demand when it comes to housing in Grove City. Prices are rising 50% faster than income is in our area.
- private equity is draining our housing market. Big corporations are buying up homes and

either renting them at very high prices, or holding them vacant while they wait on prices to rise. www.evictprivateequity.com/ is a great resource for learning more.

- regarding senior housing in Grove City, we currently have about the same as the national average when it comes to the "dependency ratio" - this is a demographic measure comparing the number of people considered to be "dependents" (typically children under 15 and the elderly over 64) to the number of people of "working-age" (usually 15-64). A higher dependency ratio indicates a greater burden on the working population to support the non-working segments of society, potentially leading to economic challenges. We want to maintain that balance and have starter homes keeping pace with retirement housing.

Christene Houk shared her perspective on our form of governing Since 2024, Grove City has been discussing the possibility of moving from a "strong mayor, admin assistant, council" way of governing to instead having a city manager. This has been a slow discussion and our current administration is not a fan of change. We have our 7 members of council who are voted in, the mayor who is voted in, and then all other seats are "at the pleasure", meaning these administrators and department heads are appointed by the mayor, at his pleasure, and can be fired by the mayor on any day. There is no need or expectation for openings to be posted or for hiring to be dependent on qualifications or experience. Under the current form of governing, many positions, outcomes, and plans are all tied to one single elected official, the mayor. This greatly limits us in Grove City.

A city manger, on the other hand, would be hired by city council. They would be the head of operations of the city. HR would post, interview, and hire every other position instead of a mayor unilaterally appointing all of them. Contracts for a city manager typically include a clause that allows for termination. This could be put on the ballot two ways: council can pass legislation before county deadlines, or citizens can petition to have the city manager's termination added to the ballot and be put up for a vote.





Next Up...





Come one, come all! bring your favorite family recipe or whatever new concoction you create to share with the group. Games and fun provided for all ages.

Please RSVP [here](#) and sign up here to tell us what you're bringing! Can't wait to see you there!!

We will have power for crock pots...so don't worry about that!
Sign up to bring something [here](#).

Join Our Partners In Action

If you're eager to make a significant impact in your community, consider taking action now. It's time to address the issues that matter to you and express your concerns about leadership. Our friends with Indivisible Central Ohio are planning in person visit's to Senator Moreno's office. Please consider joining them to share your thoughts and help drive meaningful change! You can find the sign up sheet at [this link](#).

Thanks everyone!!



ProgressGroveCity.com



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