

**Student Mock Election
Ends November 7**

2023
#FutureVoter

ALTERNATE VOTERS' PAMPHLET

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Washington State Elections



WASHINGTON
Secretary of State
Elections Division

Color your cover!



Welcome to your 2023 Student Mock Election Voters' Pamphlet!

The Student Mock Election is a nonpartisan event that helps teach you about the elections process and how to become an informed voter. You'll vote on races, measures, and issues that may be important to you.

In a real election, your ballot will include items based on where you live. From national, statewide, and local positions to tax levies, initiatives, and referenda, selecting elected officials and voting on critical issues are decisions that impact your daily life and therefore require an informed decision.

We designed this Student Mock Election Voters' Pamphlet to provide you with information on the items included on your ballot. This includes explanations of each issue, the impact each would have, and arguments for and against just like the actual Voters' Pamphlets mailed statewide.

Please take time to read through this Voters' Pamphlet to learn about the issues being decided this year. If you discuss your opinion with other students, remember to be respectful of their choices. Then fill out your Student Mock Election ballot and return it as instructed to have your vote counted.

Voting is one of the greatest ways to make a difference in your community. To participate in real elections, adult Washington citizens must be registered to vote, which can be done online at **VoteWA.gov**, by mail, or in person. Voter registrations completed online or mailed must be received by Oct. 30. After that, they have until 8 p.m. on Nov. 7, Election Day, to register, vote, and return a ballot in person at a county elections office or voting center.

If you are at least 16 years old, you can sign up as a Future Voter and be automatically registered to vote when you qualify. Tell your friends that you've signed up by using #FutureVoter and tag the Office of the Secretary of State!

Thank you for your time and participation in this introduction to the political process. As an informed voter, you'll soon be able to make an impact in your community and our state by voting in every election!

Sincerely,

Steve Hobbs
Secretary of State



@secstatewa



@WASecretaryofState
@WashingtonStateElections



@secstatewa

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How do I know if something is true?

When reviewing online or printed information, think about:

- Who made this, and who is it for?
- Why did they make it?
- When was this made?
- What makes it believable?
- How might other people read this message?
- Ask the experts — consult a fact-checking site or ask an official source. Get trusted info from your county auditor or elections office.



Qualifications

To vote, you must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, a resident of Washington, and not currently serving a sentence of total confinement in prison.



If you're 16 or 17 years old, you can sign up as a Future Voter and be automatically registered to vote when you qualify.

How do I register to vote?

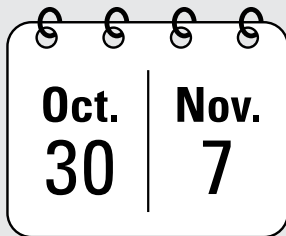
Online: Register at **VoteWA.gov**

By mail: Request a paper form be mailed to you or print your own at **sos.wa.gov/elections**

No internet access? Call 1 (800) 448-4881.

In person: Visit a county elections office (listed at the end of this pamphlet).

Registration deadlines



By mail or online: Your application must be received no later than October 30.

In person: Visit a local voting center no later than 8 p.m. on November 7.

Check your registration info at **VoteWA.gov**.

Moved? Update your voting address

Contact a county elections office to request a ballot at your new address.



By October 30: Have your application received by mail or updated online.

Or

By November 7: Visit a local voting center in person.

What if I'm not 18 yet?



If you are 16 or 17, become a Future Voter!

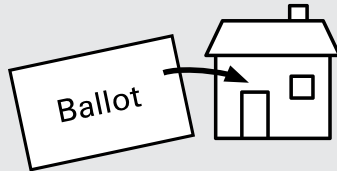
**# Future
Voter**

Sign up online at **VoteWA.gov** with your Washington state driver's license, permit, or ID. Or you can fill out a paper registration form using the last four digits of your Social Security number and mail it in. You'll be automatically registered to vote when you qualify. If you will be 18 by the November Election, you can vote in the Primary Election.

Every January on Temperance and Good Citizenship Day, high school students 16 and older have the opportunity to complete a voter registration form in class.

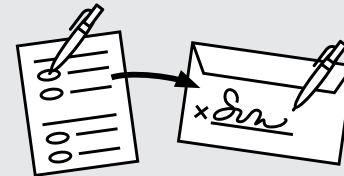
1

If you're registered to vote, there is no need to request a ballot. Your ballot will be mailed by **October 20** to the address you provide on your voter registration. If you need a replacement ballot, contact a county elections office listed at the end of this pamphlet.



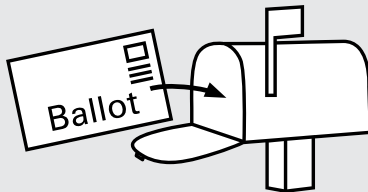
2

Vote your ballot and sign your return envelope. We need your signature to accept your ballot. You are not required to vote every race on your ballot. We encourage using this pamphlet to help you decide.

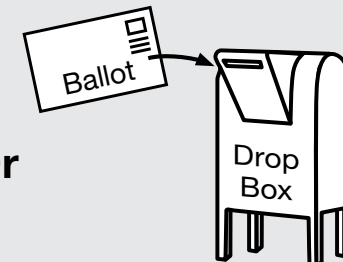


3

Return your ballot by mail, no stamp needed. If mailed, your ballot must be postmarked by **November 7**. Don't let a late postmark disqualify your ballot. The USPS recommends that you mail a week before Election Day.



Or



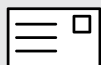
Or, return your ballot to an official ballot drop box. Drop boxes are open until 8 p.m. on **November 7**. Find drop box locations at **VoteWA.gov**.



If you cannot personally return your ballot, let only people you trust deliver it for you.

4

Check the status of your ballot on **VoteWA.gov** to see if it has been received by your county elections office.



Election staff will contact you before your ballot is processed if:

- Your signature is missing
- Your signature doesn't match your voter registration record

View election results online

After 8 p.m. on election night, tallied results from each county are posted at **results.vote.wa.gov**.

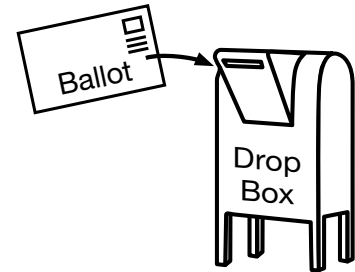
Results are updated as counties report and unofficial until certification.

How is my ballot counted?

1

Your county receives your ballot

Deposit your ballot in an official drop box by 8 p.m. on November 7, Election Day, or return your ballot by mail — postage paid — but make sure it's postmarked by Election Day! Don't let a late postmark disqualify your ballot. The USPS recommends that you mail it back at least one week before Election Day.



Election staff will contact you before your ballot is processed if:

- Your signature is missing
- Your signature doesn't match your voter registration record

2

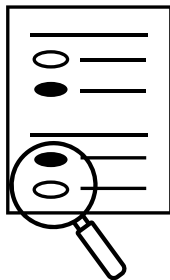
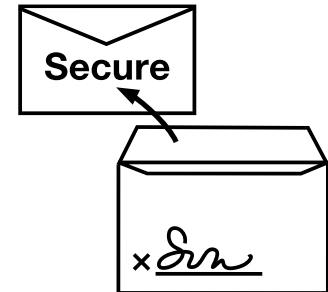
Your signature is verified

Your signature is important and we need it to accept your ballot. The signature on your return envelope is compared to the signature on your voter registration record. If the signature matches, your ballot is accepted and you are credited for voting to ensure **only one** ballot is counted for you.

3

Envelopes and sleeves are separated

The return envelope is opened and the security envelope or sleeve containing your ballot is removed. They are separated to ensure the secrecy of your vote.



4

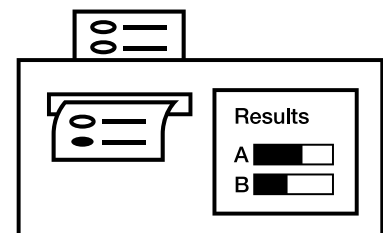
Your ballot is reviewed and scanned

The security envelope or sleeve is opened and election staff review your ballot to verify that it can be successfully scanned. Each voting system is certified and tested before every election.

5

Your ballot is counted

After 8 p.m. on Election Day all scanned ballots are tallied. Ballots will be scanned and tallied over the next several days until all the votes are counted. Every county conducts a post-election audit.



Oct. 2, 2023 — Start of Student Mock Election

Oct. 30, 2023 — Deadline for online or mailed voter registrations or updates to be received.

Oct. 31, 2023 — USPS recommends mailing voted ballot back at least one week before Election Day.

Nov. 6, 2023 — Election Hero Day

Nov. 7, 2023 — **Election Day**

- Register or update information and vote in person at a voting center by 8 p.m.
- Mailed ballot must be postmarked by today, check mail collection times.
- Official ballot drop boxes are open until 8 p.m.



Jan. 16, 2024 —
Temperance and Good Citizenship Day

Feb. 13, 2024 —
Special Election, only in some counties.

March 12, 2024 — Presidential Primary Election*

April 23, 2024 — Special Election, only in some counties.

Aug. 6, 2024 — Primary Election*

Nov. 5, 2024 — General Election

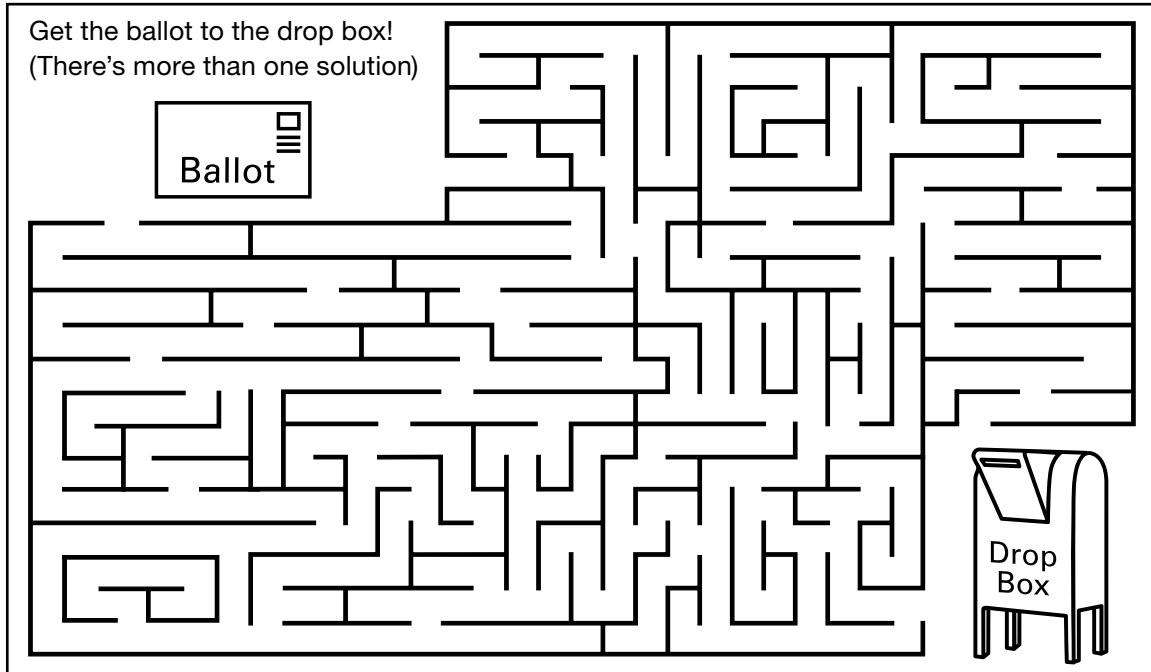


*A 17-year-old who will be 18 by the November General Election can vote in the Primary.

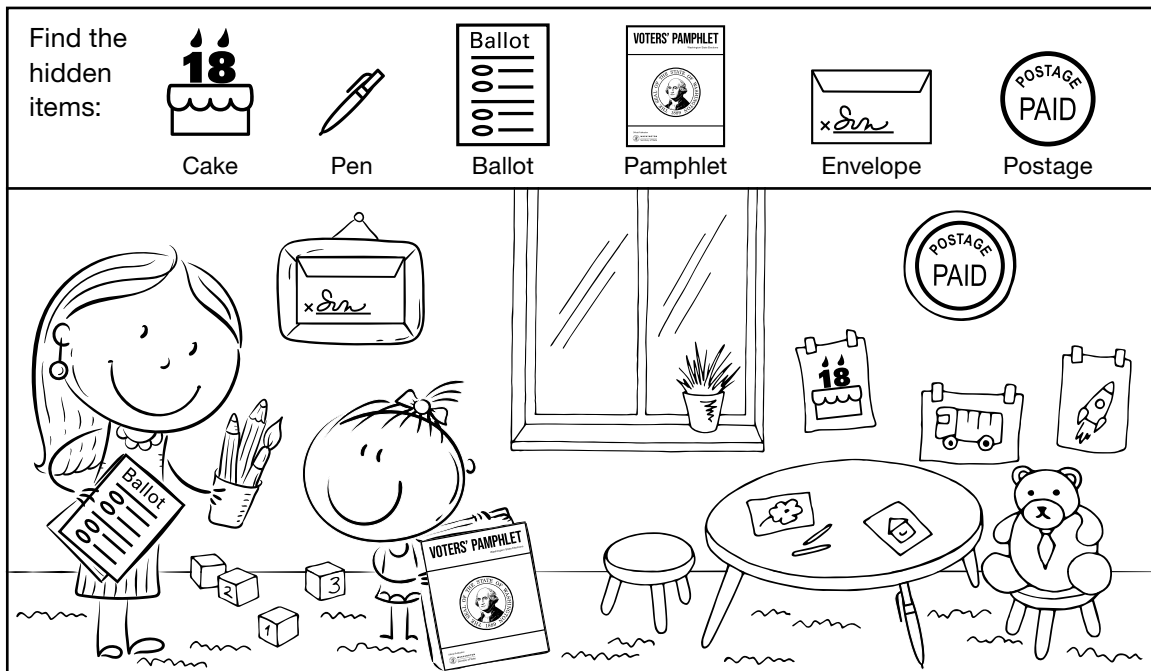
Voting is fun!

Do the two activities below, then fill in the bubble that corresponds to your favorite one.
It's never too early to learn about voting!

1



2



Which one is your favorite? Fill in the bubble!

1



2



What does this mean?

Certification Day

The date when election results are finalized by state or county officials.

Logic and Accuracy Test

A test completed before each election to ensure the accuracy of voting equipment.

Nonpartisan Office

An elected position in which candidates do not state a political party preference and candidates for the office are not officially associated with a political group. Office appears on the ballot as “Nonpartisan.”

Partisan Office

An elected position in which candidates may state their preferred political party. A candidate may also choose “States No Party Preference”. Their preference is printed on the ballot.

Postmark

A postmark indicates the location and date the Postal Service accepted custody of a ballot. Ballots must be postmarked by Election Day to be accepted. Placing your ballot in a mailbox on Election Day does not guarantee a postmark of the same day.

Post-election Audit

A test completed before the certification of results to ensure the security and accuracy of the voting system. Counties perform a post-election audit each election.

Term Type

How much of a term a candidate will be serving for an office. It is split into regular, unexpired, and short-and-full.

Voter Registration Database

The official list of registered voters maintained in every state to conduct safe and secure elections. Our database in Washington is known as VoteWA.

Voting Center

A county-run facility where you can receive voting assistance from trained elections staff. Some services include registering or updating voter information, requesting and returning a ballot, or finding a disability accessible voting unit.

Voting System

Ballot counting equipment that must be tested by an independent testing authority and certified by the state of Washington before it can be used.

Initiatives and referenda are used by the people to create state laws

Initiative

Any registered voter may propose an initiative to create a new state law or change an existing law.

Initiatives to the People are proposed laws submitted directly to voters.

Initiatives to the Legislature are proposed laws submitted to the Legislature.

Before an **Initiative to the People** or an **Initiative to the Legislature** can appear on the ballot, the sponsor must collect...



324,516
registered voters'
signatures

8% of all votes in the last Governor's race

Referendum

Referendum Bills are proposed laws the Legislature has referred to voters.

Referendum Measures are laws recently passed by the Legislature that voters have petitioned be referred to the ballot.

Any registered voter may petition that a law proposed by the Legislature be referred to voters before taking effect.

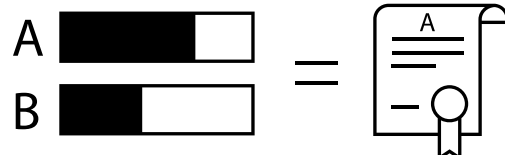
Before a **Referendum Measure** can appear on the ballot, the sponsor must collect...



162,258
registered voters'
signatures

4% of all votes in the last Governor's race

Initiatives and referenda
become law with
more than 50%
of the vote



Referendum Measure No.

8683

Final Votes Cast by the State

Yeas, 50; Nays, 46; Absent, 1; Excused, 1

The state has passed Bill 2665, which would ban the use of printed textbooks in classrooms. The bill would require schools to provide students with textbooks and/or excerpts in digital format, along with the means by which students may access the documents, at no additional cost to caregivers.

Should this bill be:

- ☐ Approved — you favor the bill passed by the state
☐ Rejected — you do not favor the bill passed by the state

Argument For:

With increasing online schooling, the need for physical printed textbooks no longer exists. The costs both financially and to our environment are growing exponentially and unnecessarily. Textbook content changes require the purchasing of updates; physical books get damaged, vandalized, fall apart, or go missing; and they are not accessible for those with certain disabilities. And don't forget the processing and distribution requirements: deforestation, paper production, printing, assembling, packaging, and shipping all negatively impact our environment.

E-books and textbooks can be adapted to screen readers and easily searched. There's simply no need to keep throwing our limited resources towards printed textbooks when digital licenses are available.

Rebuttal of Argument Against:

According to one study, college students believed that they comprehended text not only faster but more intensely with digital platforms. Students have been learning through interaction with devices such as phones, tablets, and computers since infancy, with little indication of significant health impacts. Do what's right for our kids and the environment, and approve this bill.

Written by:

TechOnly Classroom Initiative, Save the Paper Collective

Argument Against:

There are many reasons why there will always be a need for printed materials including textbooks, even in an online learning environment. Studies have shown that readers of all ages are better able to comprehend and retain information gleaned from printed text. Also, attention spans are increased and distractions reduced when students are required to hold and engage with a book. Not to mention eye strain caused by extensive screen exposure.

Many publishers charge excessive amounts for digital licenses and require annual renewals, this cancels out any potential savings from moving to digital format. Our students deserve the best tools available for optimal learning. There's no school like old school, reject this bill.

Rebuttal of Argument For:

In the study mentioned by the opposition, while the students claimed to have better understood the digitally-provided material, they actually scored lower in comprehension of what was read. But yes, they did get through the reading faster than in printed format. And a sampling of college students in no way exemplifies the results of all children.

Written by:

Textbook Printers, Inc; Academic Studies Group; Parents for Learning Options



The Office of the Secretary of State is not responsible for the content of statements or arguments

Initiative Measure No.

7492

Initiative Measure No. 7492 concerns the legitimacy of pineapple as a suitable pizza topping. This measure would prohibit the ability of Washingtonians to purchase pizzas with pineapple as a topping option, whether freshly baked, take and bake, or frozen. The measure would also prohibit the acquisition of pineapple, whether fresh, canned, or in any other form for the sole purpose of including it atop a pizza, even in a homemade setting.

Should this measure be enacted into law?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

Argument For:

Pineapple has many reasonable uses, but on pizza is not one of them. The extra juice and sourness make an otherwise perfect pizza both soggy and unappetizing. You may think fresh fruit is better, but it's like in the gelatin instructions, fresh pineapple will ruin it. There is no way in which pineapple on pizza makes sense or is acceptable. This is why we want to prohibit the purchase of the obnoxious fruit on both store bought pies and for putting on pizzas at home. While it may be seen as an extreme move, we feel that it is in the best interest of all Washingtonians that we put a stop to this nonsense as soon as we can. Everyone should be able to eat pizza without fear of biting into a piece of pineapple. Vote Yes on I-7492!

Rebuttal of Argument Against:

It is not opinion but fact. The only acceptable fruit on a pizza is tomato.

Written by:

Pineapple Protestors

Argument Against:

Everyone is entitled to an opinion, but we can agree to disagree on this matter. Not everyone likes anchovies, mushrooms, or olives, yet there is no controversy surrounding their inclusion atop pizza. Simply put, no one is forcing anyone to eat pizza with pineapple on it, so do not frown upon or shame those who wish to. Pizza and the preference of toppings is one area in which we should all be allowed to choose for ourselves without persecution or restriction. Keep the pineapple peace and vote No on I-7492.

Rebuttal of Argument For:

To say we cannot purchase a pizza with pineapple is one thing, but to say we cannot buy pineapple to put on pizza in our own homes is going too far. There is no way this measure can be enforced without violating our rights to privacy and freedom. Banning pineapple on pizza or from being purchased for homemade pizza is unWashingtonian and you must vote against this initiative.

Written by:

Pineapple Pizza People



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School District 321, Proposition 2023

The Board of Directors adopted a resolution concerning educational funding. This proposition authorizes the District to levy the excess taxes on all taxable property within the District, to maintain and support the District's educational programs and operations, which are not funded or not fully funded by the State.

Should this proposition be approved?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Two-Year Projection

Collection Years	Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2024	\$1.50	\$6,250,000
2025	\$1.50	\$6,700,000

School District 321, Proposition 2023

Passage of Proposition 2023 allows School District 321 to collect \$6,250,000 in property taxes in 2024 and \$6,700,000 in 2025. If authorized by voters, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value may be \$1.50 (2024 collection) and \$1.50 (2025 collection). The exact levy rate shall be determined at the time of the levy.

Statement For:

Funding schools is important to any community's vitality, especially ours right now. This levy will minimize further cuts in staff and critical programs for students.

Particular needs for funding include technology like student laptops; jobs such as teachers, counselors, food service, and staff beyond state-funded positions; school services like special education and advanced learning; and student opportunities including athletics, music, drama, and extracurricular activities.

Effective education requires constant adaptation and utilization of different resources that cannot be had without a cost. Please continue supporting our kids, our community, and our future.

Rebuttal of Statement Against:

Teachers and students need technology and software subscriptions beyond what state funding provides. The current budget is significantly reduced from last year's and relies on the use of savings. We will need local levy funds to make up the difference. Vote Yes!

Statement For and Rebuttal prepared by:

Support School District 321, Public interest for schools

Statement Against:

Over the past few decades, the concept of traditional schooling has changed dramatically. Parents and caregivers have become at-home teachers since schools are not providing the same learning experience as before.

Basic education is fully funded by state taxes with local levies paying for sports, extracurriculars, and things required for in-person education.

Many families are under extreme financial stress and the school district should share our burden. Families need the extra financial support right now and should not be forced to pay for services that cannot be provided.

Rebuttal of Statement For:

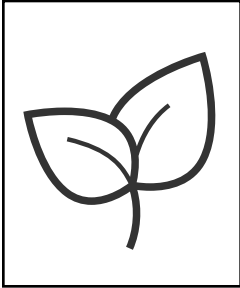
With school lessons and interactions increasingly going online, there is no need to fund additional activities. The reduced cost of maintaining buildings, fewer support staff, and students means less funding is necessary. Parents need to keep their tax dollars to choose education alternatives for their children. Vote no.

Statement Against and Rebuttal prepared by:

Committee on Schools Overspending, Random Citizen, Disgruntled Neighbor



The Office of the Secretary of State is not responsible for the content of statements or arguments



Spring

(Prefers Peapod Party)

Contact Information

970 Springtime Dr, Spokane, WA, 99201
123-487-7464
SpectacularSpring@voteforme.com

Elected Experience

Environmental Kickstarter Union President

Other Professional Experience

Baby Animal Support Coordinator

Education

Sprouted Greens Community College, Spring Equinox Academy

Community Service

New Growth Signifier, Green Thumb Mentor and Counselor

Statement

I am known throughout the nation as the harbinger of life, renewal, and daylight savings time. After long wintry days of darkness and cold, I signal warmer months and potential growth. Some may try to discourage you from supporting my selection as Best Season because of excess pollen or April showers, but let me assure you that it is only as much as is required to maintain our state's luscious greenery and agricultural ventures.

Due to my annual efforts, Washingtonians enjoy glorious flowers, including our iconic Pacific Rhododendron, and a booming harvest of everything from apples to wheat. My mild temperatures keep snow reserves intact for reduced summer drought and ensure wildlife such as all the newborn animals are able to comfortably thrive.

Everyone looks forward to my arrival and knows they can depend on me to work in their favor.

I hope you will *spring into action* and vote me Best Season.



Fall

(Prefers Pumpkin Party)

Contact Information

325 Autumnal St, Cosmopolis, WA 98537
123-288-6625
FabulousFall@voteforme.com

Elected Experience

Fallen Leaf Consortium Vice President, Corn Maze Council Treasurer

Other Professional Experience

Cider House Production Manager, Haystack Jump Instructor

Education

Samara High School

Community Service

Pumpkin Pie Food Bank Assistant Director

Statement

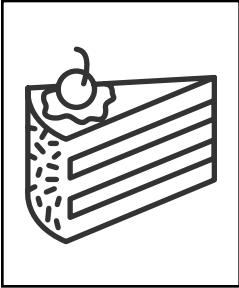
You have undoubtedly benefitted from my hard work to provide amazing benefits to all Washingtonians. From the beginning of academic school years and bountiful harvests to falling leaves and cooling temperatures, everyone has reason to call me their favorite time of year.

I have a great history of providing a gentle transition into Winter, giving subtle hints like changing colors of trees and the sun setting earlier. Rather than quick shifting and unpredictable weather, I offer a steady program of mist and slight warmth that allows for you to go about your day with little planning for outdoor conditions required.

And don't forget the food offerings; with everything reaching its prime under my care, I bring fields of pumpkins and corn, orchards of apples, and countless other agricultural products to you and our state's economy. Please continue to support me and vote Fall for Best Season.



Candidate statements are printed exactly as submitted. The Office of the Secretary of State does not make corrections of any kind or verify statements for truth or fact.



Cake

(Nonpartisan)

Contact Information

1948 Frosted Lane, Leavenworth, WA 98826
123-328-2253
CakelsKing@voteforme.com

Elected Experience

Celebratory Baked Good Commissioner, International Icing Council Board Member

Other Professional Experience

Special Occasion Song Coordinator, National Cake Sculpture and Competition Judge

Education

Cakeon Bleu Culinary Academy

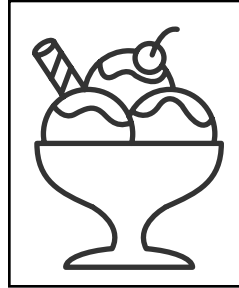
Community Service

Birthday Brigade Captain, Washington State Cake Walk Director, Frosting Fan Club Organizer

Statement

In all likelihood I am among if not the first dessert you have ever tried in your life. Whether a single-tiered smasher, sculpted masterpiece, or cupcake, my perfect combination of crumbly sweetness and aerated frosting has made for many an icing mustache and memorable occasion. Everyone takes my photo before even thinking of consuming me, and not a day goes by without my being decorated with sparkling candles and serenaded with song.

There are many forms in which I am presented around the world, and I am highly adaptable to various dietary restrictions and preferences. From pound or angel food to cheese or fruit, my versatility and universal appeal mean I am the ultimate dessert option for both every day and important life events. No other dessert is used to make wishes upon or display special messages, and I will always make others happy. That is why you should vote Cake for best dessert.



Ice Cream

(Nonpartisan)

Contact Information

1744 Bladen Ave, Annapolis, WA, 98366
123-423-2630
IceCreamIsCool@voteforme.com

Elected Experience

Frozen Dessert Council President; Most Likely To Be Paired With Pie, 1951-Present

Other Professional Experience

No Information submitted

Education

Coning University, Propylene Glycol Technical Institute

Community Service

Scoops for Youth Mentor, Ice Cream Social Event Coordinator, Nonpareils International Outreach Volunteer

Statement

I am the ultimate candidate for best dessert. From traditional dairy to today's lactose free alternatives, everyone enjoys my offerings the most. While many cultures have their own variations, the basic idea remains the same.

For centuries my versatility and adaptability have brought joy and cooling refreshment to millions. Whether homemade and simple like the classic vanilla or chocolate, or artisanal and innovative like roasted sweet corn or rosemary chili lime, I serve as a delicious outlet for boundless creativity and positive memories.

Enjoyed throughout the world and notoriously known for partnering with and enhancing other culinary treats, I will continue to be an amazing dessert option for all Washingtonians. *I Scream, You Scream, We All Vote For Ice Cream!*



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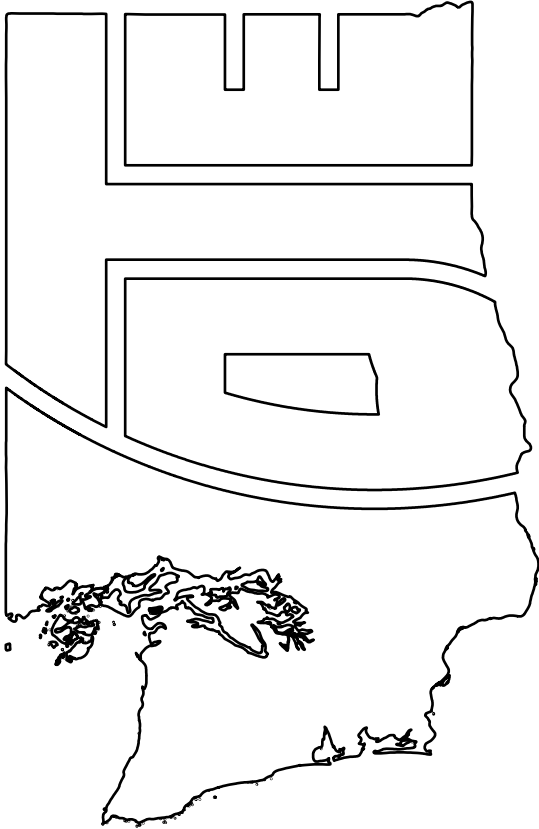
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Ends November '7**

2023
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Washington State Elections



Color your cover!

**Student Mock
ELECTION
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#FutureVoter

Educational Customer

MOCK ELECTION