

**Student Mock Election
Ends November 4**

2025
#FutureVoter

ALTERNATE VOTERS' PAMPHLET

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Washington State Elections



WASHINGTON
Secretary of State
Elections Division

Color your cover!



Welcome to your 2025 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 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 created 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 you can decide on. 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. 27. After that, they have until 8 p.m. on Nov. 4, 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,

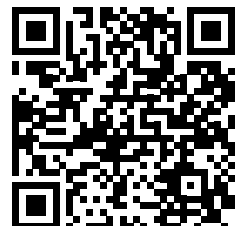
Steve Hobbs
Secretary of State

Is your school participating?

Scan to see if your school is listed on the statewide Student Mock Election Dashboard!

If not, ask your teacher to sign up!

<https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/k12map>



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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, ID, or the last four digits of your Social Security number. You'll be automatically registered to vote when you qualify.

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.

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 27.

In person: Visit a

local voting center no later than 8 p.m. on November 4.

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

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 for a felony.



What if I'm not 18 yet?

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

Sign up with your Washington state driver's license, permit, ID, or the last four digits of your Social Security number. You'll be automatically registered to vote when you qualify.

Future Voter

Past felony conviction?

Get registered to vote.

Washington now restores voting rights to citizens with felony convictions immediately upon release from prison.

You must **re-register** to vote to receive a ballot.



Moved? Update your voting address

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

By October 27: Have your application received by mail or updated online.

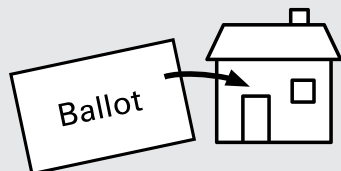
Or

By November 4: Visit a local voting center in person.



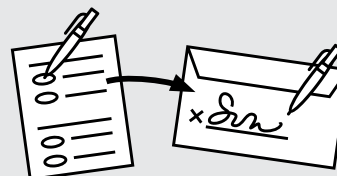
1

If you're registered to vote, there is no need to request a ballot. Your ballot will be mailed by **October 17** to the address you provided on your voter registration. If you need a replacement ballot, contact a county elections office listed at the end of this pamphlet.



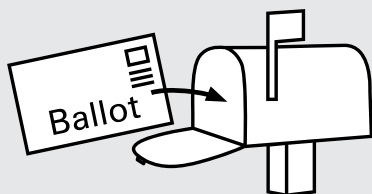
2

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.

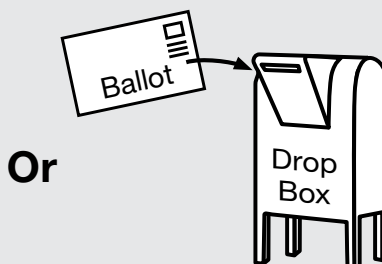


3

Return your ballot by mail, no stamp needed. If mailed, your ballot must be postmarked by **November 4**. Don't let a late postmark disqualify your ballot. The USPS recommends that you mail a week before Election Day.



Or, return your ballot to an official ballot drop box. Drop boxes are open until 8 p.m. on **November 4**. Find drop box locations at **VoteWA.gov**.



Or



If you cannot personally return your ballot, only let 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**.

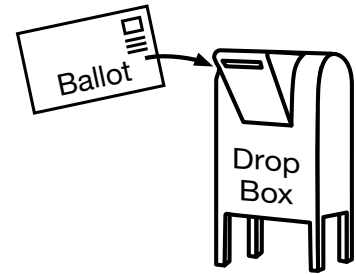
Results are updated as counties report and are unofficial until certification.

How is my ballot counted?

1

Your county receives your ballot

Deposit your ballot in an official drop box by 8 p.m. on 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

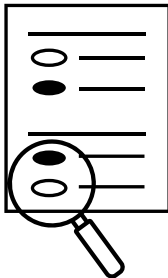
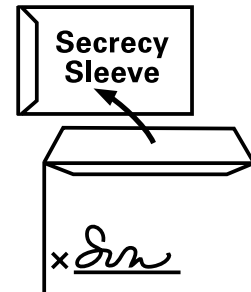
Your signature is verified

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 secrecy sleeve containing your ballot is removed. They are separated to ensure the secrecy of your vote.



4

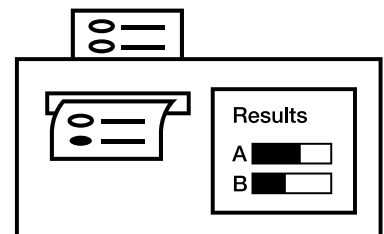
Your ballot is reviewed and scanned

The ballot is removed from the secrecy sleeve and election staff verify that it can be successfully scanned. Each voting system is certified and tested before every election.

5

Your ballot is counted

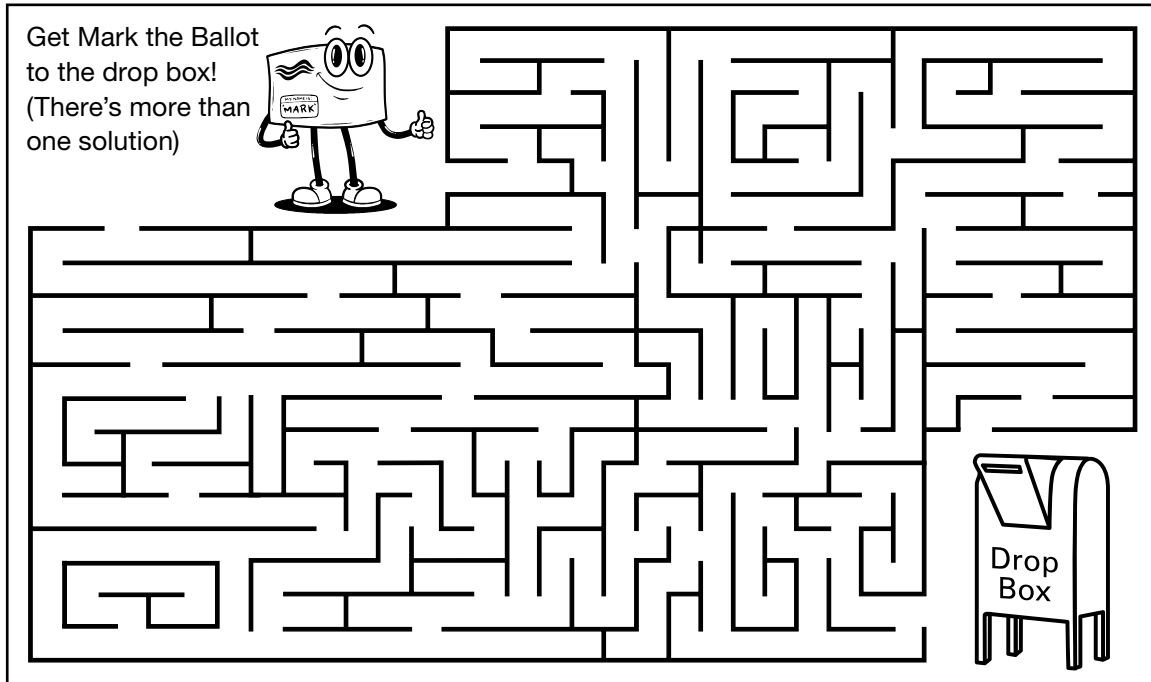
After 8 p.m. on Election Day all scanned ballots are tallied. Ballots will be scanned and tallied over the next several days until all the votes are counted. Every county conducts a post-election audit.



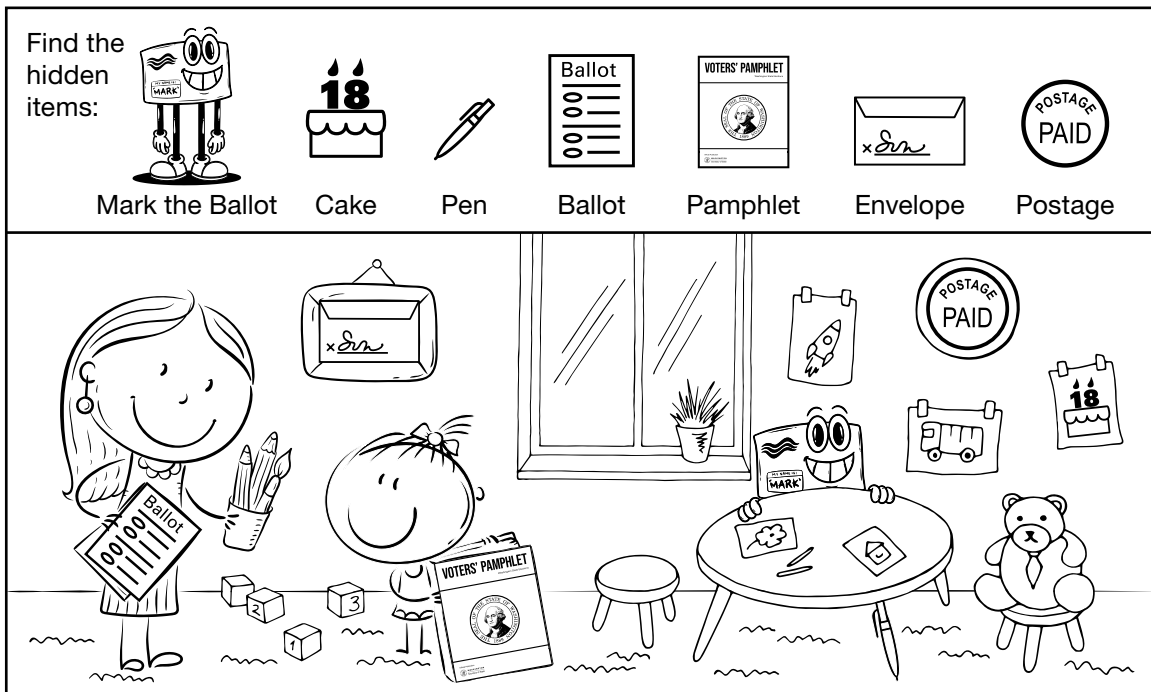
Voting is fun!

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 an 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...



308,911
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 to be referred to the ballot.

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

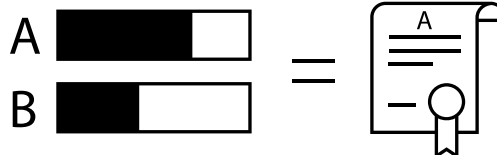
Before a **Referendum Measure** can appear on the ballot, the sponsor must collect...



154,455
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.



Initiative Measure No.

2201

Initiative measure No. 2201 concerns cell phones being restricted in classrooms.

This measure mandates that all personal cell phones be silenced and stored away during instructional time, with exceptions only for medically necessary devices or approved educational purposes. This measure also sets out guidelines for a log of student performance by teachers and schools after the law becomes effective to guide future improvement and capture the effectiveness of cell phone restriction.

Should this measure be enacted into law?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

Argument For:

If one were to do an internet search for what harmful effects cellphones have on students, one would see an abundant list including: sleep disorder, anxiety, concentration and learning issues, eyesight problems, and distraction. These are just a few issues that may cause an otherwise fresh and ready-to-learn student from reaching their greatest potential.

Too often is entertainment being mistaken with education, cyberbullying replacing civil discourse. The intent of this change could not be clearer: removing cell phones from classrooms is a benefit to all. Vote to give students a break from the screen. Vote for I-2201.

Rebuttal of Argument Against:

Students already have a hard time contending with so many other things that could lead to distraction in school, whether it is an issue at home or just the fact that the world is changing in leaps and bounds. We can remove one of those distractions with this bill.

Written by:

The Council for Phone Freedom

Argument Against:

The traditional way of thinking can be right *sometimes*, but we've moved into a new age where cell phones are basically an extension of us, and not allowing them in the classroom might be harmful. If the intention of school is to learn, then students should be able to use whatever tool is necessary to help complete assignments. Learning how to use that tool can be as beneficial as the contents of the class itself if students are going to use it even after they graduate.

In addition to the benefit of looking up helpful information, cell phones can also be used for scheduling important deadlines and contacting someone in case of an emergency.

Don't hurt the students. *Vote against I-2201.*

Rebuttal of Argument For:

Cell phones are an effective tool that replaces nearly all of the school gear that was required in previous generations — even the textbooks! They're also not only needed, but necessary for the way the world is changing, and taking them away hurts students chances at being successful in life.

Written by:

OpenCells, LLC; Tools for Success, Inc.



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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Referendum Measure No.

8683

Final Votes Cast by
the State

Yeas, 49; Nays, 47; 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



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Sasquatch

(Nonpartisan)

Elected Experience

Consistently voted blurriest cryptid worldwide

Other Professional Experience

Reigning hide-and-seek champion; Appearances in many movies, shows, and books; Brand ambassador for countless parks and outdoors companies

Education

Forest fire prevention certificate

Community Service

WA Cryptid Advisory Committee

Statement

I may be tall, but I've kept a low profile for a long time. No more. It's time for me to step up. Washington's Cryptids are under increasing threat, and someone must give voice for our community.

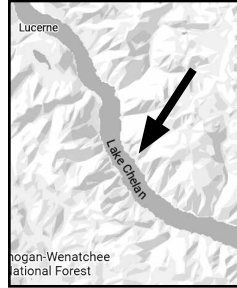
Look, I want the same thing as everyone else: a safe, affordable treehouse; quality food that won't break the riverbank; and schools that go beyond mere survival skills---our next generation deserves to thrive!

My opponent seems totally unwilling to step outside of their comfort zone, choosing instead to stay in the safety of the water.

Washington deserves a Cryptid Ambassador that can get things done. There are some big shoes to fill for this position, and, fortunately, I have very big feet. Vote Sasquatch 2024!

Contact Information

No information submitted.



Lake Chelan Dragon

(Nonpartisan)

Elected Experience

Former President, Lake Beach Tourism Board

Other Professional Experience

Longtime scuba instructor and water safety advocate

Education

Swim instructor certification, including CPR training

Community Service

Volunteer lifeguard

Statement

I'm running to be the next State Cryptid Ambassador because the needs of the aquatic Cryptid community have gone ignored for far too long. We are underwater, both literally and figuratively.

Unlike our terrestrial counterparts, we are not able to hide so easily, and we deserve the same safety and security that they take for granted.

Just ask yourself if we can afford to elect one more politician who refuses to be clear on what they stand for. I don't care that my opponent is blurry; I care that their positions are too.

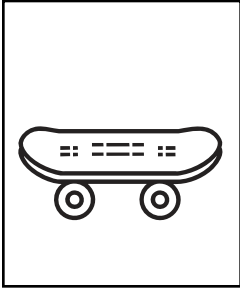
My dedication to the entire Cryptid community runs as deep as the lake I call home. Make a splash in 2024. Vote Lake Chelan Dragon!

Contact Information

No information submitted.



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Ollie

(Prefers Four Wheel Party)

Elected Experience

Board member of the Halfpipe Council

Other Professional Experience

Expert rail-grinder and kickflip artist

Education

Old-school cool since the 1940's

Community Service

Supporter of community parks worldwide

Statement

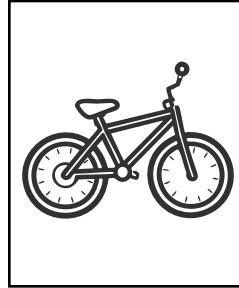
I am rolling into this election with a passion for making our city a haven for skaters and dreamers alike. Skateboarding isn't just a sport—it's a way of life that embodies freedom, creativity, and can-do attitude. I will lead by ensuring that skateparks are a community centerpiece, ensuring they're safe, inclusive, and inspiring to all.

I envision a city where skateboarding is celebrated and a part of our daily lives. By improving skate-friendly public spaces and understanding between skaters and other residents, we can create a more dynamic and connected community. Let's work together to build a city where every skate is a joy, every park is a canvas, and every rider feels valued.

Contact Information

123- 933-0078

tricksandtrucks@voteforme.com



Wheelie

(Prefers Two Wheel Party)

Elected Experience

Recumbent Councilmember of Spoke-ane

Other Professional Experience

Leader of the French peloton

Education

Graduate and now teacher at Training Wheels Academy

Community Service

Mountain climbing instructor

Statement

For years, I have been supporting urban mobility for families everywhere. I support safety, and am the reason that you see new bike lanes in many big cities. I want to bring this safety feature to each town, no matter how small. Unlike skateboards, bicycles have a long tradition of getting us further in life at a fraction of the energy. I champion a vision for our city that values all modes of transportation equally, and have the history and experience to do it.

While skateboards have their place, let's not forget the versatility of cycling—whether it's for commuting, recreation, or fitness. A motorized skateboard is a recipe for disaster, whereas a motorized bicycle just means you reach your destination faster. Vote smart. Vote *Wheelie* smart.

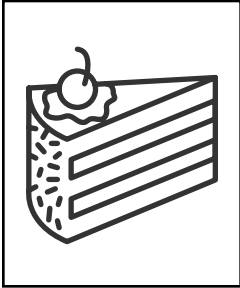
Contact Information

123-733-2767

Wheeliesmart@voteforme.com



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Cake

(Nonpartisan)

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

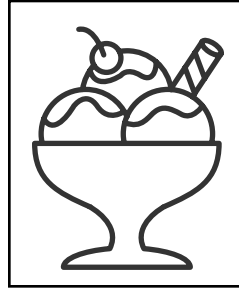
Statement

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.

Contact Information

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



Ice Cream

(Nonpartisan)

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!*

Contact Information

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



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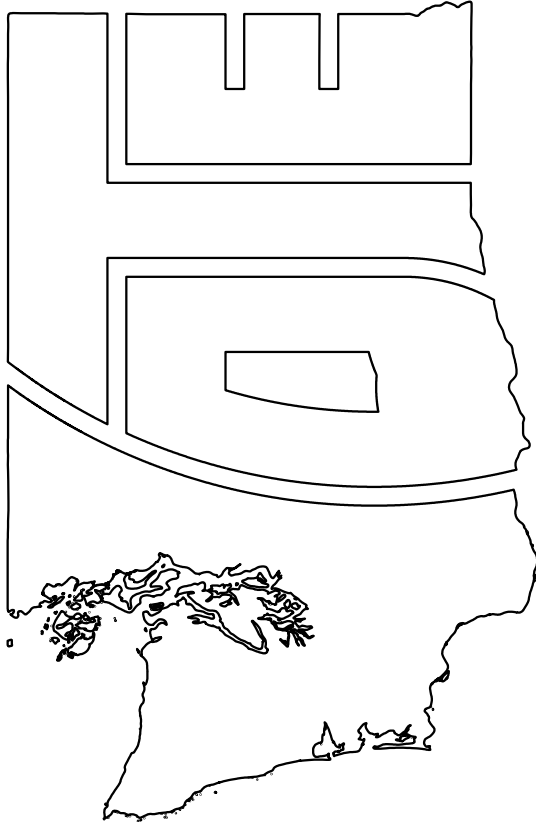
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Washington State Elections



Color your cover!

**Student Mock
ELECTION
2025**

#FutureVoter

Educational Customer

MOCK ELECTION