

LETTER: Vote for Dunne, Gibbons and Mascolo for Hanover board

TO THE EDITOR:

As a Hanover Township resident, I have strong concerns about the Board of Education race in this town.

On the one hand we have a slate of candidates who have done everything they can to answer only questions they want to answer from the public. They refused to participate in the HTEA (Hanover Township Education Association) survey on where they stand on specific issues that this town is struggling with. They said the questions were partisan, but a review of those questions

shows only two which might be considered biased.

For example, it would be helpful to know their answer to the question: "What do you think are the three most pressing education issues that the Hanover Township Board of Education must address and how would you go about addressing them?" This is their response: "[William McCabe, Christopher Mattessich, and Michelle Stricchiola] formally declined our invitation to participate in the 2023 HTEA Hanover Township Board of Education

Candidate's Questionnaire." Not very transparent.

Same excuse for the League of Women Voters (LWV) forum which participated in. The other slate said they didn't want to do it virtually. That is not the real reason. The real reason is that the Republican Party advised against any Republican leaning slate to avoid them, as has Senator (Anthony) Bucoco and other candidates. The LWV questions were taken directly from Hanover Township residents. Again, no transparency.

On the other hand, candidates Dunne, Gibbons and Mascolo participated in four open to the public Meet and Greets and forums, while the other slate had one, which is not recorded or posted anywhere for the public to hear. What are they hiding? It should also be noted that a supporter of the other slate came to a public Meet and Greet for Hanover Focus on Education to yell out questions and disrupt the proceedings. Maybe she walked away with some factual knowledge to impart to her candidates. But sadly, I doubt it.

So, there is a clear distinction here. Students Matter Most candidates obstruct and are not transparent. And Dunne, Gibbons and Mascolo who have put their beliefs & policies out there for all to see. Go to the candidates Facebook page and find the link to watch the LWV debate at https://www.youtube.com/live/xuaV978H-SOY?si=MneIPNC_2qr-9OldV.

Go to the HTEA link and read answers to important questions that the other slate refused to answer. <https://hteaonline.org/board-of-education-candidates-guide/>

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I don't care what edited and "professionally" written words they put on their website or Facebook page, if you can't hear it from their own mouths, I wouldn't believe them, and I certainly wouldn't vote for them.

Vote for Dunne, Gibbons and Mascolo, 4th, 5th & 6th on the ballot, for BOE (Board of Education) on Nov. 7, or early vote, and put some transparency & perspective back on the BOE.

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