

Democratic Party of Evanston Endorsement Policy

As called for in Article VI of the DPOE Bylaws, the Political Committee recommended the following policy, which was adopted by the DPOE Board on November 16, 2017.

Offices to be Endorsed - When an Endorsement Meeting has been called for under provisions of the bylaws, the Board will decide for which offices there will be an endorsement vote among those offices with contested races. The Board also will decide if there are any uncontested races for which DPOE may endorse by acclamation at the Endorsement Meeting.

Candidate Information - DPOE supports members learning about candidates' views/positions on issues before they vote for endorsement and before they vote on Election Day. In order to allow maximum time at Endorsement Meetings for voting and tallying ballots, DPOE will sponsor, before the date of the meeting, candidate forums, debates or meet-and-greets and will strive to inform members of all such opportunities regardless of sponsoring organization. Also, for contested offices selected by the Board, DPOE will publish on its web site candidate responses to a standard set of questions. At Endorsement Meetings candidates may have the opportunity to very briefly speak.

Eligibility to Vote for Endorsement - Members who live within the geographic boundaries of School Districts 65 or 202 and are age 16 or older can vote at an Endorsement Meeting. The DPOE Board encourages the largest possible number of people to become members of DPOE and cast votes for endorsement. Persons can join on the day of the meeting according to the DPOE Membership Policy. DPOE presently does not have the capability (due to limits of financial and volunteer resources) to offer alternate voting opportunities for those who are unable to attend an endorsement meeting. DPOE will strive, within budgetary and calendar constraints, to hold endorsement meetings in large-capacity venues at varied locations across the community.

Benefits of Endorsement - Endorsed candidates may include mention of the DPOE endorsement on their own campaign literature. They also may use the DPOE office, as availability permits, to launch petition drives or to stage canvasses and phone banks. DPOE will encourage its members to volunteer for the campaigns of endorsed candidates. Candidate endorsements will be shown on the DPOE web site and Facebook page.