

Candidate Recommendation Exercise

Your group will be holding a candidate interview with the challenging scenario below. You will have 10 minutes to start your interview and get through as many questions as you can. Use your prep time to decide if there are any strategies the local made before the interview to have a smooth, transparent process. Make sure to share this “pre-interview work” that happened when you present. Your group should decide your agenda for interview, questions, and roles. Make sure more than your Chair is speaking. Extra points will be awarded for creativity.

Group 1: You are interviewing first-time candidate Dr. Chatty Cathy who is running for School Board for an open seat. She has her PhD in Public Policy and has 2 kids in the school system. She has a large personality and gets offended easily. It is tough to get a word in once she starts talking and she tends to gossip about other local elected officials. She has a well-financed campaign and the local Red, Wine, & Blue group has become her core group of volunteers. She is running against 5 other candidates and is seen as the leader in this race.

Group 2: You are interviewing a first-time candidate Big Momma Liber- tay that is running against a friendly incumbent for School Board that your local endorsed in the last election. Big Momma does not want your endorsement. She is openly hostile and is using the interview to create content for her blog. She has a local Moms for Liberty chapter that are her primary volunteers and has received donations from the 1776 PAC.

Group 3: You are interviewing the most progressive person in your very conservative school district. Bernita Saunders has run for school board 15 times and has never finished in the top 2. She is on the right side of all of your issues, but refuses to campaign or raise money. Your members love her because she always gives fiery speeches at the budget hearing advocating for higher wages. She has been endorsed in all 15 elections by the previous Local Presidents & GR Chairs because they felt they had to endorse in every election. She is married to your UniServ Director.