
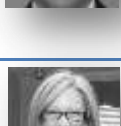
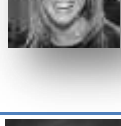













CANDIDATE	Violence Youth Voice Dropout Jobs	Homelessness Police Relations Substance Abuse Environment	Supports ordinance to ban tobacco product sales from health care facilities.	Supports same-day voter registration.	Supports a youth on School Committee with a vote.	Supports task force to create "Set-aside" employment program for low-income youth.	Would you eat a fish from the Merrimack River?
 GENEVIEVE DOYLE	JOB: "[I] support creating a commission to aid youth to find corporate jobs or whatever jobs that are out there and available for the youth of this city. We should have something streamlined much like the way UTEC helps you guys with employment as well."	SUBSTANCE ABUSE: "I definitely think we do have a substance abuse problem in this city. I think in part, the community policing will help with that, but more-so I think we need to have an honest discussion about drugs and how it does affect our youth. I think we need to implement a better rehabilitation system within this city."		X	X	X	
 RODNEY ELLIOTT	JOB: "I think the answer is easy, I think the answer is yes. You need more jobs; we created more jobs on the city side and the career center created some more jobs. I think the other thing we need to look at is how do you get to those jobs? We created more times, more bus schedules but maybe we need to look at lowering the driving age to 16 so you can get a car earlier to get a job, to make money to pay for things."	SUBSTANCE ABUSE: "I think we need to do a better job to get to youngsters before they are faced with the temptation of substance abuse. There is a tremendous problem in this state and nationally with opioid use for youngsters. I know that the state house delegation has been working on legislation and resources and I think we need to continue to address this."	X		X	X	
 ERIK GITSCHIER	JOB: "We need youth to have jobs and how we create them, so we need those stats and understand why we're not getting those jobs, and how do we get you to your jobs and back and maybe more public transportation to the areas where the jobs are. We need to get our youth working and get them into our community."	SUBSTANCE ABUSE: "We need to keep these detox centers in an area where we have public transportation so that the youth can get to it. We need to start listening to our youth and see how they're getting these drugs. We also need to define ways to obviously fund it, but when we keep it in an area that you can get to, I think that's the most important thing, and the funding and keeping it centrally located downtown is a good idea."	X	X	X	X	X
 STACIE HARGIS	DROPOUT: "4 year colleges aren't the answer for everybody, we need to really have all the options available that are going to meet the needs of people. I think it's really important for us to look at the root causes for why people want to drop out of school and prevent that from happening in the first place so putting more funding into secondary education is really important."	POLICE RELATIONS: "Communication is clearly very important. You can start interacting with your neighborhood, the rest of your community. Often the police will come [to neighborhood meetings] so you can start to build a relationship with them. But also I would definitely be interested in seeing some sort of youth summit happen, where we bring all the youth together, we hear from you, we communicate with the police department and other municipal officials."	X	X	X	X	X
 EDWARD KENNEDY	DROPOUT: "I think a 5 year program is probably a good idea for Lowell High School. Most of the funding for education comes from the Commonwealth, so it would really require the City Council to work with the [state legislative] delegation for additional funding and to work with the School Committee to develop alternative programs."	POLICE RELATIONS: "I think community policing is a good idea. I think communication is very important, I think that the more you can do to improve the relationship between the police department and youth, the better off everybody is. I would want to work to improve communication between the youth of Lowell and the Lowell Police Department."	X	X	X	X	
 JOHN LEAHY	DROPOUT: "We need to have a 5 year program in the high school. Maybe we do need another alternative school. We do have an alternative school in Lowell, and putting our minds together with the input of kids like yourselves we can do anything. We have to come up with the money."	POLICE RELATIONS: "Communication, that's the way we're going to do it. With the next police superintendent, communication. Have the police out on the beat, out in the neighborhood, out downtown; talk to everybody downtown. The community policing, that's the way to go. We're going to stop the profiling, I don't agree with that either."	X	X	X	X	X
 MARTIN LORREY	DROPOUT: "First question is "what's the alternative high school?" If it's to continue with the 4 year degree that could lead to a college education, yes I would support that. But I believe the issue goes even deeper: why is the individual dropping out? So I think that's another area you would have to look at before you would look at the alternative educations. Maybe we could address that first through funding or through extra help for the kids."	POLICE RELATIONS: "The first thing we really need to do is get back to something they had years ago, and that's community policing. Get the police involved with the youth, with the people [and] get them into the neighborhoods. I don't believe in profiling, but I think you need to break down the barriers between the police and the general public to take that first step forward. With the next chief, get somebody who is involved in community policing."	X	X	X	X	X
 WILLIAM MARTIN	YOUTH VOICE: "I think you don't need a guarantee, you just need to show up and be heard. When I was mayor, we had something called the Mayor's Joint Youth Commission. I'm willing to do something like that in the future. I think it worked well before and it can work well again."	ENVIRONMENT: "This past term the city approved an energy efficiency contract. It's a top to bottom review of all our city systems, both heating systems, plumbing systems, how we heat our buildings, how we heat our water. We have installed solar panels at our water treatment plant, and all of our facilities are being upgraded. Most recently we had city hall upgraded with windows, and we're going to continue that under this contract."	X	X	X		X

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 JOSEPH MENDONCA	YOUTH VOICE: "I agree that getting involved with the youth commission and being represented there is a step. Anyone can register to speak or petition to have an issue brought before the City Council. Voting gives you a voice. Please vote."	ENVIRONMENT: "Over the last four years the city has done a lot to reduce our carbon footprint like putting up a lot of energy savings programs with the contract; putting the panels up at the landfill, and we've also been able to save money for the city, which gives us money to do the other programs you've been asking for."	X	X	X	X	
 RITA MERCIER	YOUTH VOICE: "We have proven that skateboard parks are in the city not because of me but because youth followed me down the street and said 'How can we make it happen?' I said, 'You make it happen, come to the city hall and speak,' and they did, and we got it because of the youth."	ENVIRONMENT: "As a city we have come together to form the Green Buildings Program through Ameresco, and they did a survey of all our buildings, and you have to spend money to save money in the long run and we will... at the landfill we have solar panels, we have many issues, we have new windows, got everything that we spent money to make savings."	X	X	X	X	X
 JAMES MILINAZZO	YOUTH VOICE: "I would support the joint commission. It's important to keep the youth's voice in city hall. I would support the idea of bringing back a youth joint commission. Vote and your voice will be heard."	ENVIRONMENT: "We probably should continue to invest in electric vehicles. We bought electric vehicles for our police department; the meter maids now go around in the electric vehicles. The fact that we just put in miles and miles of bike paths, we want to encourage youth, we want to encourage older people to ride bikes."	X	X	X	X	
 DEREK MITCHELL	VIOLENCE: "If we can find a way to allocate some more money away from prisons, I think we can fund more streetworkers across the whole state. I'd also like to look at ways that streetworkers can be embedded in the police force, providing training to police officers."	HOMELESSNESS: "I think understanding that homelessness is a much larger issue. I think that realizing the shelter is not a youth friendly place; having a shelter that's 25 and under would be a good start, and bringing GRIP [a youth residential program] back and making sure that GRIP is serving all young people, not just DCF young people."	X	X	X	X	X
 VESNA NUON	VIOLENCE: "[I] would support hiring more police officers and overtime, but also you have to support a proactive approach like UTEC to try to get youth that are troubled into jobs, so I would support that funding."	HOMELESSNESS: "I think it's important that we as city councilors and a city work with all different agencies that do provide services to homeless youth and grown-ups such as CTI, Lowell Housing Authority, to try to come together with the youth organization to try to find a way to address this issue. We have to do it together with the existing organizations."	X	X	X	X	X
 VAN PECH	VIOLENCE: "Yes, I would support having funding to prevent violence. Maybe we could do something more of a public/private sector partnership. There are a lot of resources and other things in the city that we underutilize. I think we can do more partnerships, funding is always there in the budget."	HOMELESSNESS: "The most kind of vulnerable community is the youth. I think we should have more services and more support around organizations to support youth, maybe case managers, and other social services organizations to really focus in on how we can prevent youth homelessness."	X	X	X	X	X
 WILLIAM SAMARIS	VIOLENCE: "The money is there, we have to spend it. I think what's happened to the youth of today, because of the budget shortfall, so many programs have been cut and our reason is we just can't do it. We have to do it; these programs have to be supported. Not only more community police on the street, but programs such as UTEC which have had a great effect on the overall quality of life in the city."	HOMELESSNESS: "I think we need, not only job counselors, academic counselors but we need housing counselors. People who can help the youth find the homes that they need. I can even see building dorms at a high school age because that's where we're headed."	X	X	X	X	
 COREY BELANGER	Unfortunately, Corey Belanger was not able to attend the 2013 Youth-Led City Council Candidate Forum. You can learn more about Corey Belanger at: http://coreybelanger.com/						
 FREDERICK DOYLE	Unfortunately, Frederick Doyle was not able to attend the 2013 Youth-Led City Council Candidate Forum. You can learn more about Frederick Doyle at: http://www.lowellsun.com/candidate/ci_24123646/frederick-doyle						
 DANIEL ROURKE	Unfortunately, Daniel Rourke was not able to attend the 2013 Youth-Led City Council Candidate Forum. You can learn more about Daniel Rourke at: http://www.lowellsun.com/candidate/ci_24024756/dan-rourke-lowell-city-council-candidate						

THIS VOTER GUIDE WAS CREATED USING THE ANSWERS FROM CANDIDATES AT THE 2013 YOUTH-LED CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM HOSTED BY THE UNITED TEEN EQUALITY CENTER ON OCT. 16, 2013.

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