



**The Initiative**  
For Engaged Citizenship

## **2011 Municipal Election Candidates Guide**

Election Day is **Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Polls open at 7am and close at 8pm

Absentee Ballots can be requested from City Hall until  
Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> and returned by 8pm on Election Day

The Ballot will include

### **City Council At-Large**

City Wide. Voters can select up to 6 out of 12 candidates

### **Mayor**

City Wide. Voters can select up to 1 out of 4 candidates

**\*\*Note:** The Mayor is a member of the City Council. You must vote for your desired candidate on the ballot twice: once as Councilor-At Large, and once as Mayor

### **School Committee**

City Wide. Voters can select up to 6 out of 10 candidates

### **District City Councilors**

Voters select 1 of 2 Candidates in D1, D3, D4, & D5.

There is only one candidate on the ballot in D2.

To find your district go to <http://www.worcesterma.gov/e-services/where-do-i-vote>



Dianna Biancherria  
Candidate for Re-Election  
School Committee

8 Ventura Road,  
Worcester, MA 01604

[dbiancheria@charter.net](mailto:dbiancheria@charter.net)

Campaign is on Facebook

Current/Past Occupations

Worcester Housing Authority- Resident Services Assistant Director  
Prior employment -Worcester Public Schools- District School to Career Coordinator, City of Worcester in Mayor's office as Chief of Staff under then Mayor Raymond

"Why are you running?"

As a life time resident of our great city, my community involvement and my work experience has allowed me the opportunity to see firsthand the impact that effective elected officials and programs can have on our children and our community. As an incumbent on the School Committee I want to continue the work that I started for the children, parents and taxpayers of Worcester.

I am advocating for:

*Improved School Safety*-Strong supporter of anti-bullying programs and will work to develop parent /staff survey to improve safety at each school.

*Academic Excellence*-Supported increased Advanced Placement courses, advocating and supporting increased science, technical, engineering and math (STEM) studies, dual enrollment programs and expanding partnerships in our community

*Enhanced Job Readiness Program for students going directly to work*-Supported expanded technical programs, Led the effort for youth-at-risk establishing programs to reach and keep them in school and advocate for the Work Plus program.



Donna Colorio  
Candidate for School Committee

10 Homer St.  
Worcester MA, 01602

[www.vote4colorio.com](http://www.vote4colorio.com)

Campaign is on Facebook

Current/Past Occupations

Adjunct Faculty, Psychology  
Quinsigamond Community College

"Why are you running?"

As a professional educator, parent of a junior high student and lifelong Worcester resident, I care about the Worcester public schools and would like to contribute to our community by helping our schools succeed.

I am advocating for:

- Improved communication between parents and the schools via technology.
- Better education for our public school students by empowering the classroom teachers.
- Increase resources for K-3, the critical years for reading by reducing class size.



Jack Foley  
Candidate for Re-Election  
Worcester School Committee

6 Winter Hill Drive  
Worcester, MA 01605  
508-853-3593

[jfoley@clarku.edu](mailto:jfoley@clarku.edu)

Current/Past Occupations

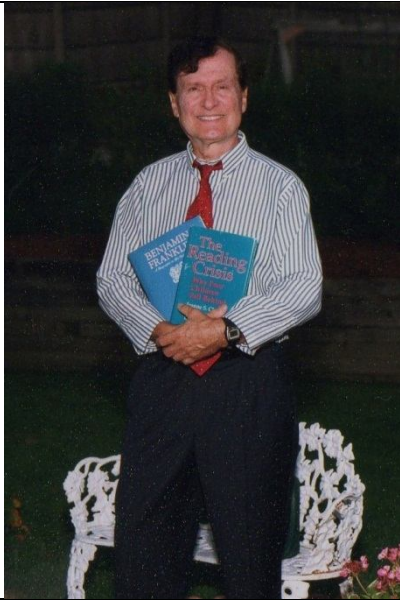
Vice President for Government and  
Community Affairs at Clark University

"Why are you running?"

I am running to continue the work to bring outstanding educational opportunities to all children in the Worcester Public Schools. Our strength as a community and as a school district will be the continued attractiveness of our schools to bring businesses and residents to our city.

I am advocating for:

I am advocating for increased school-based management and autonomy in our schools, a focus upon early childhood literacy and the goal of 100% literacy rate for students by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, and increased academic rigor and higher expectations for all students.



John Monfredo  
Candidate for Re-Election  
Worcester School Committee

8 Cherokee Road  
Worcester MA, 01606

[J1principal@excite.com](mailto:J1principal@excite.com)  
(508) 853-3444

Current/Past Occupations


Retired Principal from the Worcester Public Schools

"Why are you running?"

I am running to continue to make a difference in the lives of our children and families. I have the experience and the knowledge of what makes a good system.

I am advocating for:

- A strong school system must reach out to our parents and having them as part of the educational process... parent involvement
- We need to start addressing the achievement gap at the pre-school level with additional full-time pre-school programs
- We need to have a balance between wellness and academics if we are to meet the needs of our community.

	<p>Tracy O'Connell Novick  Candidate for Re-Election  Worcester School Committee</p> <p>135 Olean Street.  Worcester MA, 01602</p> <p>. <a href="http://www.tracynovick.org">www.tracynovick.org</a>  Campaign is on Facebook</p>
<p>Current/Past Occupations</p>	<p>Mother of Three  Prior: English Teacher at Algonquin  Regional High School</p>
<p>"Why are you running?"</p>	<p>I am running for re-election because there is a clear need for someone to push for transparency, to ask hard questions, and to give a critical look at the impact of national and state education policy on our children. The Worcester School Committee needs the perspective of those closest to the classroom--parents and teachers--in policy decisions.</p>
<p>I am advocating for:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a well-rounded education for all of our children that looks at the whole child, not just test scores.</li> <li>• more appropriate local funding for our city schools.</li> <li>• a greater voice for those closest to the classroom--parents, teachers, and students--in policy making.</li> </ul>



**Brian O'Connell**  
Candidate for Re-Election  
Worcester School Committee

54 Providence Street  
Worcester MA, 01604

[brianoc1029@verizon.net](mailto:brianoc1029@verizon.net)

[508-792-6789](tel:508-792-6789)

Current/Past Occupations

Attorney, School District Chief Financial and  
Operations Officer

"Why are you running?"

The education of the children of Worcester must be a primary focus, emphasis, priority and frame of reference for our community. We must set rigorous but achievable expectations of academic excellence for our students, and provide them the courses, programs, supportive services, skills and academic opportunities which they will need to thrive in the competitive environment which awaits them.

I am advocating for:

Enhancement of our school system curriculum, from a full-day preschool initiative to increased Chapter 74 (workforce development), advanced placement and online learning opportunities, supported and facilitated by an intensified staff recruitment process, by targeted staff development, and by aggressive advocacy at all levels of government for the necessary resources.

Expanded parent involvement, in the education of their children and in the governance councils of their schools and of the school system.

Protection of student health and safety, through facilities upgrades, reinforced security protocols, supportive "wraparound services", and vigorous wellness initiatives.



Hilda Ramirez  
Candidate for School Committee

10 South Ward Street  
Worcester MA, 01610

. [www.hildaramirez.net](http://www.hildaramirez.net)  
[508-410-6015](tel:5084106015)

Campaign is on Facebook

Current/Past Occupations

Executive Director of Worcester Youth Center  
Entrepreneur and Consultant (Ritmos  
Academy)

"Why are you running?"

As a member of the school committee, I will ensure our schools prepare every student to be an independent learner and thinker who has choices and success in the global economy. I share the experiences of the students and families in Worcester and have overcome the barriers facing them to succeed personally and professionally. My background and experiences, education and success distinguish me from other candidates. I will use my knowledge and insight to be a positive contributor to strengthen our schools and unite the community in support of our city's youth

I am advocating for:

Early Education: I will ensure the district develops greater supports for children and families that lead to improved school readiness and every child reaching grade level reading expectations by grade 3.

Connecting and Leveraging Existing Resources to improve Student Outcomes: I will ensure that all of our partnerships are geared towards improving student outcomes, whether that's through arts, music, sports, science or technology.

Effective Teacher in Every Classroom: I support teacher professional development and instructional coaching to guarantee our students reach their potential.



Todd Salmonsens  
Candidate for School Committee

18 Columbus Street  
Worcester, MA 01603

[508-353-5834](tel:508-353-5834)

[www.toddsalmonsens.org](http://www.toddsalmonsens.org)

Current/Past Occupations

School Adjustment Counselor and  
Guidance Counselor at West Boylston  
High School  
Past: Guidance Counselor at Palmer High  
School, Worcester Juvenile Court Liaison  
for Sullivan Middle School

“Why are you running?”

I am running for a change to the status-  
quo of the current system. As a parent  
and educator I am in a unique position to  
advocate for our students to receive the  
best possible education.

I am advocating for:

1. I am advocating for rigor in our schools; specifically requiring that in order to graduate, all high school students should complete a civics and government course, 20 hours of community service, four years of mathematics, and two years of a foreign language.
2. I am advocating that every elementary school should have a full-time school nurse and a full-time adjustment counselor.
3. I am advocating that as a school system we need to stop the leadership drain by providing qualified staff the chance to interview for leadership openings instead of denying them the opportunity to interview and hiring from outside Worcester Public Schools.



John Trobaugh  
 Candidate for School Committee

15 Westland Street  
 Worcester, MA 01602  
[www.johntrobaugh.com](http://www.johntrobaugh.com)  
[774-262-4022](tel:774-262-4022)

Campaign is on Facebook

Current/Past Occupations

Education Specialist in Education Affairs at UMass Medical School


“Why are you running?”

My son has a disability and is in public school. I am an education researcher and lead on a major high school outreach program at UMass Medical School. I am motivated to help others using my skill set, and I know I can make a difference.

I am advocating for:

- Improvement of communication from all levels of administration to staff and to the community.
- The Increase in measurable parent engagement and improving the governance council to be more inclusive of our school’s population.
- Increase community partnerships to improve access to books, technology, and equipment. More community involvement will also allow us to address the needs of our schools in terms of professional development and student wellness.

## Candidates Who Did Not Submit a Profile

<p data-bbox="248 359 459 390">Mary Mullaney</p> 	<p data-bbox="605 359 805 426">Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p data-bbox="548 472 862 575">24 Howland Terrace Worcester, MA 01602 508-791-0808</p>	
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