

Join us on Saturday, October 17

10 AM to noon

Meet your RTM candidates at these locations:

District 1—Doc's Café

District 2—Black Bear Wines and Spirits

District 3—Crossroads Hardware/Coffee An'

District 4—Silver of Westport

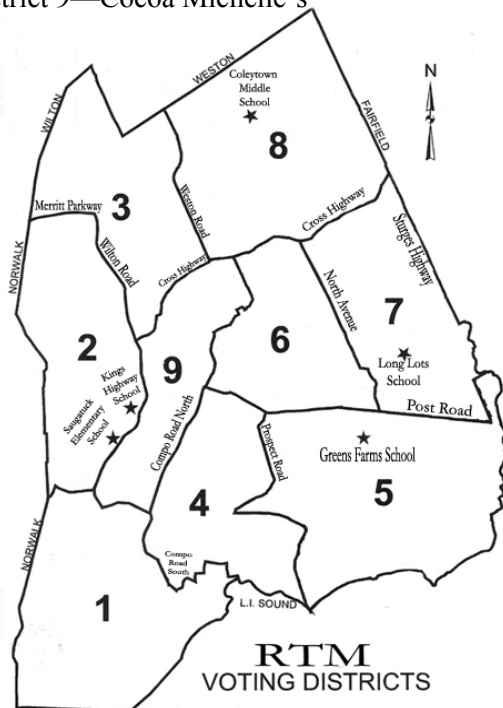
District 5—Fortuna's Deli

District 6—LCR/Fresh Market (formerly Shaw's)

District 7—The Boat Locker

District 8—Christie's Country Store

District 9—Cocoa Michelle's



And meet the town-wide candidates

1 to 3 PM

☆ On Jesup Green ☆
In Downtown Westport

Why is my vote important?

I care about my town's priorities and about who represents the town

First Selectman (Four-year term). As the town's chief executive officer, he/she:

- Supervises all town departments and agencies
- Proposes the town budget (EXCEPT Board of Education)
- Sets policy priorities

I care about how town funds are spent

Board of Selectmen (Three members including First Selectman, four-year terms). They meet regularly in order to:

- Approve town contracts and modifications
- Act as the town traffic and water authority

I care about how my tax \$\$ are spent

Board of Finance (Seven members, staggered four-year terms). They are the town's chief financial officers. They handle the purse strings as they:

- Review and approve town and BOE budgets and recommend to RTM for adoption
- Set the town's tax rate
- Approve supplemental appropriations

I care when my property taxes go up

Board of Assessment Appeals (Three members, staggered four-year terms). They function as the town's "court of appeals" on property values and:

- Review property owners' appeals on tax assessments after a town-wide revaluation and home improvements

I care about quality education and how the education portion of the town budget (about 2/3) is spent

Board of Education (seven members, staggered four-year terms). They are the schools' board of directors. They maintain a top-quality system. They:

- Oversee operation and maintenance of town's schools
- Review and revise curriculum for all grades
- Propose education budget to Board of Finance

I care about the character of the town

Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Commission (Seven members, staggered four-year terms). They make sure that development is legal and orderly and:

- Review and approve proposals for home and commercial improvements as well as land development
- Are responsible for town planning and regulations

Zoning Board of Appeals (Five members, staggered four-year terms). They are the town's "court of appeals" for those seeking relief from property regulations. They:

- Review requests for variances from planning and zoning regulations

I care about this community

Representative Town Meeting (RTM) (Thirty-six members from nine town voting districts, two-year terms). As our "local" representatives, they:

- Are a non-partisan legislative body
- Adopt ordinances for town (local laws)
- Have final approval of appropriations and budgets for the town and Board of Education
- Hear appeals of some land-use decisions

The Top 10 Reasons To Vote on November 3

10. I might run into someone I know; it's a great chance to catch up.
9. I can find out what "RTM" means.
8. Why should I let **someone else** make all the decisions?
7. It's a nice break from work.
6. I earn a full year's right to complain (and I'll learn whom to complain to).
5. You know, the polls are open **before and after** my train!
4. There are usually great bake sales at the polls!
3. I just **love** the new voting machines (or whatever you call them)!
2. You can't have "Selectmen" without the "select"!
1. Voting is part of my responsibility to my community.

- ◆ Not yet registered to vote in Westport?
- ◆ Need an absentee ballot?
- ◆ Don't know your polling place?

Just log on to the town's website at:
westportct.gov/residents/voting

Or go to:
Town Hall
110 Myrtle Avenue, Room 107
341-1115



The Westport News is a proud sponsor of
Westport—My Town, My Vote

The League of Women Voters of Westport, now in its 60th year, is a non-partisan organization that neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate.

Look for the LWV Voters' Guide in the Westport Minuteman on Thursday, October 22 and also available at the Westport Public Library, the Center for Senior Activities, Town Hall and at many businesses around town. Online at lwwestport.org.

Thanks also to:
Miggs Burroughs for logo design
Party Harty for balloons
Max's Art Supply

MY TOWN WESTPORT MY VOTE

Saturday, October 17

- ★ Learn about the local election
- ★ Meet the candidates
- ★ Celebrate democracy



League of Women Voters of Westport
lwwestportct.org