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マスターソン プレストン



Admin · 23 hrs · Attleborough City

Hi folks, hope the [#storm](#) hasn't hit you too hard!
Don't forget the primary for the state rep [#election](#) in [#Attleboro](#) is Tuesday, March 6th!
With that in mind, we're pinning this post and tagging our candidates - [Paulo Salgueiro](#), [Ty Waterman](#) (who may have [Jax Adele](#) answering for him), [Jim Hawkins](#), Julie Hall, and [Jeffrey Bailey](#) for a [#Reddit-style #AMA](#) (ask me anything).
Comment any questions or concerns you have, but please try to be civil. In a break from our usual chaos, we will be deleting immature or unproductive comments to ensure clarity.
DISCLAIMER: As of this writing, nobody from the campaigns of [#JulieHall](#) or that [#Jeff](#) guy have made their presence in this group known, so we cannot promise they'll be participating, but the door is always open!



Like



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Evan Laferriere, マスターソン プレストン and 5 others



Catie Tuccinardi I'd like to hear their opinions/intentions regarding standardized testing in our public schools.

Like · Reply · 23h



Jax Adele Hi **Catie Tuccinardi**, this is **Ty Waterman's** response to "I'd like to hear their opinions/intentions regarding standardized testing in our public schools." "I believe that standardized testing has been way overblown and has too much influence on how to rate a student. Teachers are forced to teach to the MCAS tests which takes away from their own creative forms of teaching to some degree. I grew up in CT at a time when there were no MCAS or state-mandated testing. While NY was one of the original states to require students to take state tests for graduation. I'm glad I was in CT. We were able to learn in a more creative way and teachers were able to explore subjects in-depth with their classes as long as they pertained to the local curriculum. Since Massachusetts is forced into MCAS standardize tests, Attleboro ought to at least be judged along with similar cities. I believe an alternate form of MCAS has been developed for about a dozen midsized cities in MA including Attleboro. Not sure if that's an improvement or not."

Like · Reply · 47m · Edited



Evan Laferriere How do the candidates feel about net neutrality? And municipal internet? And what can we do about environmental policy? I'm terribly afraid that an industrial accident is just brewing after hearing about that acid spill, and then there's the Shpack landfill.

Like · Reply · 22h · Edited



Paulo Salgueiro Hi Evan,

Great questions. ... [See More](#)



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Jax Adele Hi Evan Laferriere Ty Waterman's response to your question is "I strongly support increasing the DEP portion of the state budget. The staff and the whole agency has been cut to one half of one percent in the 2018 proposed budget. It's at a point where it's almost dysfunctional. We need to double the size of the DEP's budget to one percent of the state budget, over the next 2-3 years. Otherwise, MA will suffer mightily from lack of environmental oversight. We have reached crisis proportions in the bay states effort to keep up with environmental concerns."

Like · Reply · 36m



Mike Hilario With some recent high profile failures of DCYF to protect children in dangerous situations, would any of the candidates like to see some revamping of that particular department. If so, what changes would you try to enact?





Jax Adele Hi Mike Hilario, Ty Waterman's response to your question is "First, we need to double the number of nurses in DCF. I recently met a nursing supervisor for DCF who informed me that there are five nurses covering 8 offices in Eastern MA. She told me, they can't possibly keep up with the medical issues that these children and teens incur. Preventative medical care is extremely important so that we were not just reacting to the crisis. Our state auditor, Susan Bump, recently produced a report stating that 47% of the injuries to children/teens in 2014/15 went unreported by DCF. Since then 100 new social workers have been hired. But I believe we still have a problem protecting the health and welfare of these children. Second, when DCF clients turn 18, they are released into a world they are often unprepared for. Suddenly housing, jobs, lack of family support, all become huge issues for the former DCF clients. We have to build a bridge to assist those who are leaving the system until they are sufficiently independent and secure. So far we haven't done it. Third, we need a firm limit on how many clients/families social workers can have on their caseload. If any social worker exceeds that limit, their supervisors must immediately react and fix the numerical issue. State social workers need to be able to see their clients on a frequent basis, ie. at least once every two weeks. Preferably even more often. For years the state has depended on privatizing the care and oversight of DCF clients. Social workers for private agencies have actually done the majority of the oversight and support for DCF clients and foster parents. We need to increase the direct involvement of DCF social workers and decrease their caseloads."



Evan Laferriere  Would the candidates support Massachusetts leading the nation in healthcare once again by attempting a drug law model similar to Portugal or the Netherlands? Recently the Governor spoke out against supervised injection clinics, which was very disappointing.

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Jax Adele Ty Waterman's response is: "I'm going to help protect the health insurance portion of the state budget which is somewhere between 40-43% of the entire budget. We have one of the best healthcare programs among the 50 states and we need to keep it that way. Mass Health is absolutely critical to the health of our less affluent citizens covering approximately 2.8 million people in the bay state. I have not formulated a firm opinion yet on the supervision injection clinic program. I believe it's being used extensively at Boston Medical Center. We need to learn everything we can from the care that is going on at that clinic."

Like · Reply · 7m