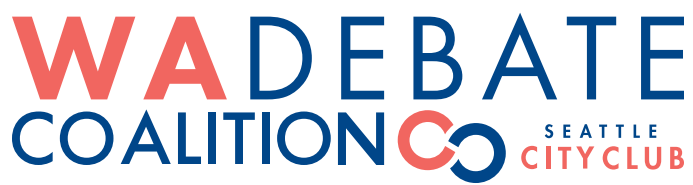




2018 ENGAGEMENT TOOLKIT

Enrich your debate watching experience with this guide organized by the Washington State Debate Coalition.



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Table of Contents

■ Overview	2
■ Debates	2
■ About the WA State Debate Coalition	2
■ 2018 WA State Debate Coalition Members	3
■ Don't Forget to Vote	4
BEFORE THE DEBATE	
■ Plan a Debate Watch Party	6
■ Resources for Educators and Campus Life	7
DURING THE DEBATE	
■ Ask the Right Questions	10
■ How to Assess an Argument	11
AFTER THE DEBATE	
■ Generate Powerful Conversations	13
■ Voting Resources	13
■ 2018 WA State Debate Coalition Sponsors	14

Overview

The Washington State Debate Coalition will host three debates this fall. We encourage you to use this guide as a resource and tool to watch the debates alone or along with friends, neighbors, or family members.

Debates

■ U.S. Senate, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, *Sat. October 6*

Debate co-hosts include: Bethel School District, Eatonville School District, Franklin Pierce School District, and Tacoma Public Schools.

■ WA-8th, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, *Wed. October 17*

Debate co-hosts include: Associated Students of Central Washington University, Cle Elum-Roslyn School District, Daily Record, Easton School District, Ellensburg School District, Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce, Kittitas School District, Thorp School District.

■ U.S. Senate, Gonzaga University, Spokane, *Tue. October 30*

Debate co-hosts include: Community Colleges of Spokane, Eastern Washington University, University of Washington, Washington State University Spokane, and Whitworth University.

LET US KNOW

We'd love to hear what you found most useful in this Toolkit!

[Take Survey](#)

About the WA State Debate Coalition

The Washington State Debate Coalition was founded by Seattle CityClub in 2016 to enhance Washingtonians' access to those who hold and seek our state's highest elected offices. With 1,800 debate attendees and over 1 million viewers on TV/online in its inaugural year, the Coalition created a solution that tapped into a strong public desire across the state for direct access to candidates.

About Seattle CityClub

Seattle CityClub is a nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization improving the civic health of the Puget Sound region by providing programs that bridge politics, sectors and generations to inform and engage residents and community leaders.

2018 WA State Debate Coalition Members

Media



Arlington Times/Marysville Globe
Auburn Reporter
Bainbridge Island Review
Bellevue Reporter
Bellingham Business Journal
Bothell/Kenmore Reporter
Bremerton Patriot/Central Kitsap Reporter
Covington/Maple Valley/Black Diamond Reporter
Crosscut
Federal Way Mirror
Forks Forum
iFiberone
Inlander
Islands' Sounder
Islands' Weekly
Issaquah/ Sammamish Reporter
Journal of the San Juan Islands
KBTC Public Television

Kent Reporter
KEPR TV
KHQ
KIMA TV
Kingston Community News
Kirkland Reporter
KIRO Radio
Kitsap Week
KNDO
KNDU
KOMO Radio
KONA
KORX
KPQ
KREM
KSPS-TV
KUNS
KUNW
KVI

KVVK
KXLY TV
La Raza
Mercer Island Reporter
NewsRadio 560 KPQ/Wenatchee
North Coast News
North Kitsap Herald
Okanogan Valley Gazette-Tribune
Peninsula Daily News
Port Orchard Independent
Redmond Reporter
Renton Reporter
Scene Magazine
Seattle Weekly
Sequim Gazette
Snoqualmie Valley Record
South Beach Bulletin
South Whidbey Record
Tacoma Daily Index

The Courier-Herald
The Daily Herald
The Daily World
The Herald Business Journal
The News Tribune
The Olympian
The Spokesman-Review
The Vidette
The Wenatchee World
Tri-City Herald
Tukwila Reporter
Vashon-Maury Island
Beachcomber
Veterans Life
Whidbey Crosswind
Whidbey Examiner
Whidbey News-Times
Whidbey TM

Civic Leaders

Norm Dicks
Dan Evans
Slade Gorton

Christine Gregoire
Gary Locke
Rob McKenna

Ralph Munro
Sam Reed
Bill Ruckelshaus

Nonpartisan Organizations



Henry M. Jackson Foundation
Seattle Rotary IV

Slade Gorton International Policy Center

Washington Nonprofits

YMCA Youth & Government

Colleges + Universities



Bellevue College
Big Bend Community College
Central Washington University

Columbia Basin College
Community Colleges of Spokane
Cornish College of the Arts

Eastern Washington University
Olympic College
Spokane Falls Community College

The Evergreen State College

Don't Forget to Vote!

For information about Washington State voter registration deadlines, voter eligibility, and instructions on how to register, visit the [Washington State elections website](#).

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

- **October 8**—Deadline for voter registration, address change, and other updates.
- **October 6-13**—State voters' pamphlets are mailed to every household in Washington State.
- **October 19**—Start of 18-day voting period. Deadline for ballots to be mailed out and Accessible Voting Units are available at voting centers. County Elections Departments may mail ballots before this date. Expect delivery of your ballot no later than October 25.
- **October 29**—Deadline for in-person new Washington State Voter registration.
- **November 6**—General Election – Drop boxes close promptly at 8 p.m.

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES

U.S. Senate Race



MARIA CANTWELL

Prefers Democratic Party



SUSAN HUTCHISON

Prefers Republican Party



WA-8th Congressional District Race

[View District Map](#)



DINO ROSSI

Prefers GOP Party



KIM SCHRIER

Prefers Democratic Party



BEFORE THE DEBATE

Questions for Discussion

- What are you hoping to learn from the debates and the candidates?
- What Washington state priorities would you like the candidates to address?

*Share your answers on social media using the hashtag
#waelex*



Plan a Debate Watch Party

Hosting a watch party is a fun way to engage in the debate and discuss the issues related to your community in a friendly environment with other civic-minded people.

FILL THE ROOM

Send Out Those Invites | Make sure to get the word out early and often for people to join you at your Debate Watch Party. Here's some sample wording you can use to contact people about your party:

Sample Message

I'm throwing a watch party for the debate this Saturday at my house and I would love for you to stop by. We'll have some fun with debate BINGO and trivia!

If you're holding a larger public event, consider submitting a calendar listing to your local newspaper, radio station, or community newsletter. Many media outlets have online event submission tools on their website, or you can call the outlet directly and ask if they offer a listing of community events. Here's some sample wording you can use for a calendar listing or article:

Sample Event Language

Join other civic-minded residents at Flatstick Pub for a free debate viewing party from 6:30pm - 8pm, Saturday September 22. Get to know your candidates while having fun!

Keep Track | When promoting your event, it's a good idea to ask for RSVPs including email addresses or telephone number. You'll want to have an idea of how many people might attend your event, especially if it's open to the public.

Keep in Touch | Whether it's by mail, phone, social media, or all of the above, make sure you remind people of your upcoming event. If you're worried about becoming a pest, consider sending a reminder one week out from the event and another the day before. You can also consider sending calendar invites as a follow-up to RSVPs to make sure the event gets on your guests' calendars!

INVITE TEMPLATES

Here are invite templates you can customize and download:

[Email Invite](#)

[Paper Invite](#)

EVENT CALENDARS

[City of Ellensburg](#)

[City of Seattle](#)

[City of Spokane](#)

[City of Tacoma](#)

CAN'T HOST A DEBATE?

Encourage others to host debate watch parties and share the 2018 Engagement Toolkit with them.

MAKE IT FUN

Debate BINGO | Gamifying the debates is a great way to engage your guests. We've put together a list of terms you can use to create your own "Debate BINGO" cards. The rules of the game: if any of the terms listed on your card come up in the Debates, mark them off on your card. The first person to mark 5 in a row (across, down, or diagonal) wins!

Alternative rules for larger groups: Each round of the game can have a different goal. Ex: Round 1: the winner is first one to get 5 across; Round 2: first one to mark 5 down; Round 3: first one to mark 5 diagonal; Round 4: First one to mark all corners; Round 5: First one to blackout the whole board.

Candidate Trivia | During commercial breaks, challenge your guests with a trivia game of fun facts about the candidates. Tally up the points as you go, and whoever answers the most questions correctly by the end of the party wins!

Resources for Educators and Campus Life

FOR TEACHERS

Strategic Note-Taking | Taking notes can be an excellent way to stay engaged and learn more from watching the debates. Provide your students with some note-taking tips for how to get the most out of the debate.

(see pg. 11)

Extra Credit Assignment | Have your students select a current issue to research in-depth before the debate and formulate their own opinions. Then, during the debate, have the students take notes and form an assessment on how each candidate addressed this issue.

(see pg. 11)

CAMPUS LIFE

Programing for Resident Assistants | Plan a debate watch party for your residents! Use the common room to livestream the debate in the residence hall. Use some of the game suggestions from the *Make it Fun* section of this toolkit to make it lively and engaging!

BINGO HELP

Here is a sample list of election words you can use for your Debate BINGO.

[Election Words](#)

Also, here is a free BINGO card generator:

[Card Generator](#)

WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR NEWS?

An international group of news organizations is collaborating to create standards around transparency in journalism with the goal of building a more trustworthy and trusted press. Organization's participating in the [Trust Project](#) will display the following icon on their platform:



INFORMING VOTERS THROUGH ART

In partnership with Amplifier, a design lab using art to spur community engagement, we commissioned an art campaign evolving a long-standing piece of American culture—the Uncle Sam recruitment poster—for the Washington State Debate Coalition. Our goal is to encourage Washingtonians to know who their candidates are and to vote.

Opportunities to Share

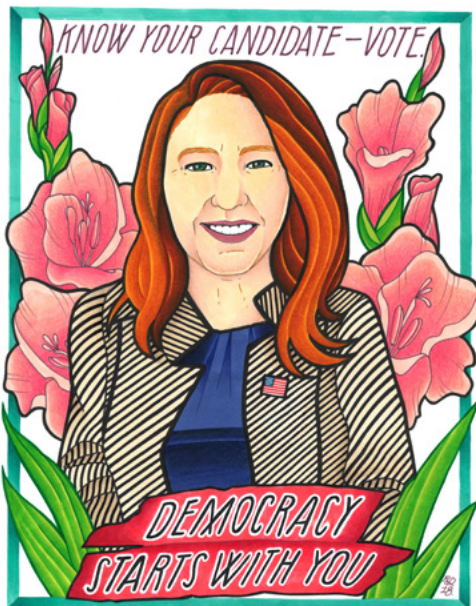
- Giveaway artwork to friends, family members, and colleagues.
- Share the artwork with your social media network by posting the download link.
- For Campuses: Mount the artwork in campus hallways and common areas.
- For Businesses: Mount the artwork in your storefront or office.



Original 1917 artwork

[DOWNLOAD ART](#)

[Amplifier Website](#)



KIM WYMAN

Secretary of State, Washington



From left to right—1) Sarah Studer, Impact Hub Seattle 2) Michael Padilla, Seattle Works, 3) Raychelle Durazo, Artist

DURING THE DEBATE

Engage in Meaningful Discussions

- Share facts, figures, and insights.
- Before you chime in, understand what you're commenting on.
- Avoid rants and keep it civil.

Share your findings on social media using the hashtag
#waelex



Ask the Right Questions

As you watch the debate, ask yourself questions and during commercial breaks, discuss the same questions with others around you. For example:

- Do the questions cover the major issues, including the the issues that are important to you?
- Do the candidates provide clear and direct answers?
- Do the candidates provide strong evidence for their arguments?
- Do the candidates discuss their policies more than they discuss their opponents?
- Are the candidates statements consistent with their previous positions, and if not, do they explain why?

GO SOCIAL

Use the official Washington state election hashtag [#waelex](#) with your debate-related posts on social media.

- Engage other residents and tweet at the individual candidates if you have specific questions.
- Follow the online discourse rules.
- Use Facebook to engage with friends, family members and candidates.
- Follow the candidates on social media:

Maria Cantwell: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)

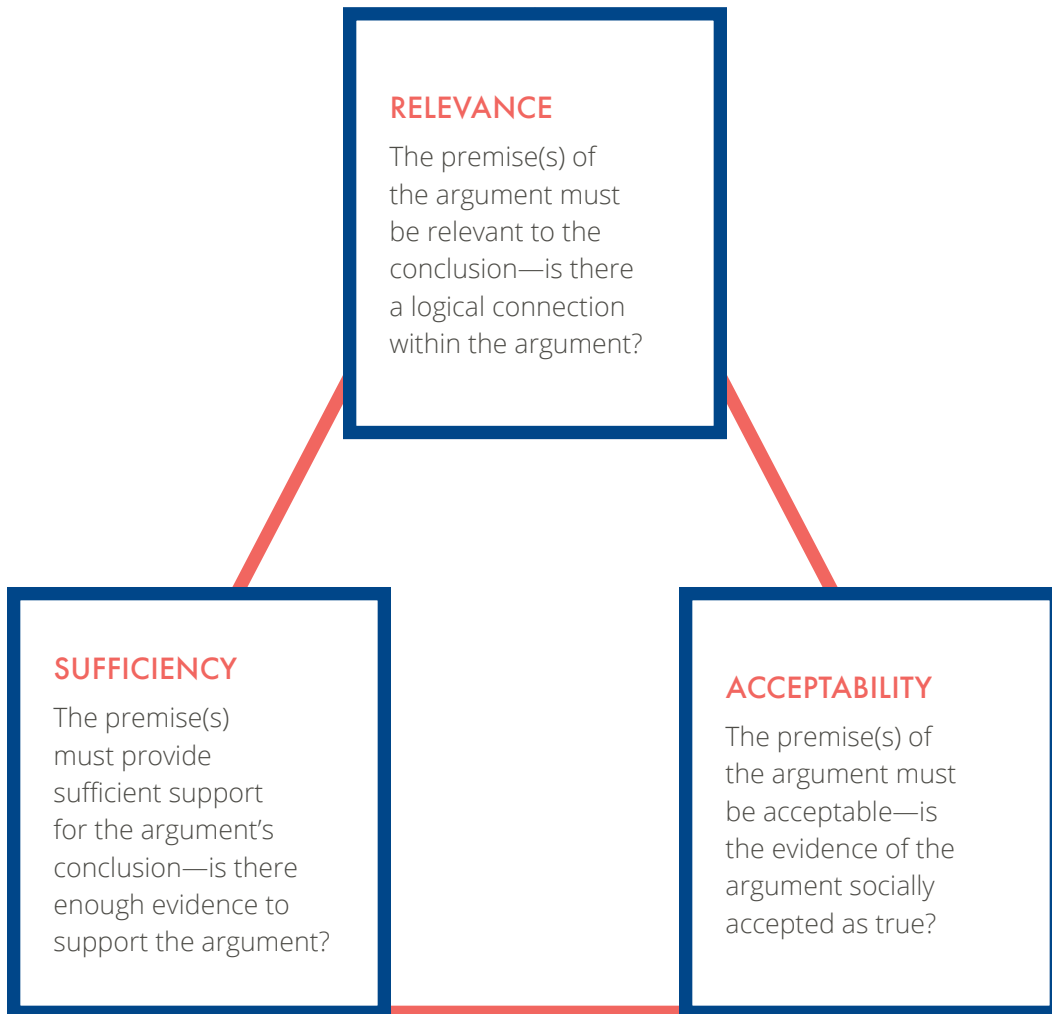
Susan Hutchinson: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)

Dino Rossi: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)

Kim Schrier: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)

How to Assess an Argument

The RSA Triangle | There are 3 criteria used to evaluate a good argument:



TAKE NOTES

Download and use the following Debate Watch Worksheet to track candidates arguments using your new knowledge.

[Worksheet](#)

What is an argument? It is a group of statements including one or more premises and one and only one conclusion.

What is a premise? It is a socially accepted fact or value that provides the starting point for a potential conclusion. There can be one or many premises in a single argument.

What is a conclusion? It is a statement in an argument that indicates of what the arguer is trying to convince the reader/listener. What is the argument trying to prove? There can be only one conclusion in a single argument.

AFTER THE DEBATE

Questions for Discussion

- What impressed/surprised you about what you heard?
- Did you hear anything that makes you feel more optimistic (or worried) about our future?
- Did the debate help inform your vote?

Share your answers on social media using the hashtag
#waelex



Generate Powerful Conversations

Be Curious and Open to Learning | Listen to and be open to hearing all points of view. Maintain an attitude of exploration and learning.

Show Respect and Suspend Judgment | Setting judgments aside will better enable you to learn from others and help them feel respected.

Look for Common Ground and Appreciate Differences | Look for what comments you can agree on and appreciate that you will disagree on some opinions.

Be Authentic and Welcome that from Others | Share what's important to you. Be considerate to others who are doing the same.

Be Purposeful and to the Point | Be mindful if what you're conveying is or is not directly relevant to the question at hand.

Own and Guide the Conversation | Take responsibility for the quality of your participation and the quality of your conversation.

GO SOCIAL

Continue the conversation after the debate by posting your comments and observations using the hashtag [#waelex](#) on social media.

- Tweet about compelling candidate arguments that may have changed your opinion.
- Send candidates your follow-up questions and comments.
- Share your thoughts and opinions on topics that weren't discussed during the debate.
- Create a quick poll to gauge what others are thinking after the debate.

Voting Resources

- [Contact your county elections department](#) to request a ballot or other voting materials or make a change to your voter registration.

DID YOU KNOW?

The hashtag [#waelex](#) is active during all Washington state elections. Utilize it to connect with candidates, organizations, and other civic-minded residents.

- Learn about all the [offices up for election this year](#) in Washington state.
- [View the Washington State elections calendar](#).
- Follow the latest [elections results here](#).

2018 WA State Debate Coalition Sponsors

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GATES *foundation*

THE
NORCLIFFE
FOUNDATION

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Washington State Tree Fruit
Association

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