

Proposed Rules for the 2018 45th Legislative District Democratic Caucus

March 24th, 2018 | 10 AM | Juanita High School

1. The 45th District Democratic Legislative District Caucus (hereafter referred to as the Caucus) shall be held on Saturday, March 24th, 2018, commencing at 10:00 AM at Juanita High School (10601 NE 132nd Street, Kirkland, Washington, 98034).
2. To vote at the Caucus, an individual must be a resident and a registered voter in the 45th Legislative District and affirm that they are a Democrat by signing on the registration sheet and agree to public record of their attendance at the meeting.
 - A. "Registered voters" include all registered voters and any seventeen-year-old who will be eligible to vote on or before November 6th, 2018, the date of the 2018 general election. "Registered voters" also include any eligible individual who completes a voter registration form while signing in to attend the Caucus.
 - B. Individuals who are not qualified to register to vote because of residence, citizenship, or age shall be allowed to participate in the platform discussion, but may not vote on rules, matters of order, resolutions or for the election of delegates or alternates, nor may they be elected as delegates or alternates.
3. A suggested registration donation of \$10 may be requested of all participants to the Caucus to defray the expenses of location rental, copies of documents, and other supplies at the door. Payment shall not be a condition of participation or election as a delegate or alternate.
4. The Chair of the 45th District Democrats, or the Chair's designee, shall serve as the Temporary Chair of the Caucus.
5. The Chair of the Credentials Committee shall present the report of the Credentials Committee no earlier than 11:00 AM, which shall include the following:
 - A. The total number of voters registered and seated at the time the report is given;
 - B. Presentation of challenged voters wishing to be seated by the Caucus as a whole, proceeding in alpha-numeric order until all challenges are resolved. If the challenged voter is not sustained, they shall be ineligible to vote or be elected as a State Delegate or Alternate. A challenged voter may not vote on the question of their own challenge.
6. The Credentials Committee may seat unchallenged voters arriving after the Initial Credentials Committee report.
7. The Chair of the Rules Committee shall present the report of the Rules Committee.
8. Any voting member of the Caucus may nominate themselves or be nominated by another voting member for the position of Permanent Caucus Chair. Nominations, seconding speeches and speeches by the candidate on their own behalf shall not total more than three (3) minutes per nominee. A majority of those voting is required to elect. If no person has a majority, the candidate receiving the least votes shall be dropped and balloting shall be repeated using the remaining names. This procedure shall be repeated until a candidate receives a majority of those voting. In case of a tie vote, the tie shall be broken by lot or coin toss.
9. The Permanent Caucus Chair shall appoint a Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Time Keeper, Tally Committee Chair, and Parliamentarian. Assistants or Committees may be appointed to assist these Caucus officers in their work, as volume dictates.

Proposed Rules for the 2018 45th Legislative District Democratic Caucus

March 24th, 2018 | 10 AM | Juanita High School

10. Procedures for the election of State Convention delegates and alternates shall be as follows:
 - A. The 45th Legislative District Caucus shall elect eleven delegates and five alternates.
 - B. Each candidate for State Convention delegate or alternate must be a resident registered voter, as defined in Section 2 of these rules, in the 45th Legislative District.
 - C. Each candidate for State Convention delegate or alternate shall be nominated individually. No second is required. A candidate who is not present must signify in advance, in writing individually to the Legislative District Chair, that they will serve if elected and that they are a Democrat and are willing to be known as such. The letter of any absent candidate shall be read by the Caucus Chair and shall constitute a nomination, no second required. All other nominations shall be made by signing the nomination list at the registration table. Each candidate shall have up to two minutes (including the time spent by the Chair reading an absent candidate's nomination letter) for speech on their behalf. The Chair, at the Chair's sole discretion, may reduce the amount of speaking time, as long as all candidates are provided the same amount of time, based upon number of candidates and any other pertinent factors.
 - D. Voting shall be by written ballot and a ballot to be counted must have all potential positions filled, contain only the names of persons nominated, and have no duplications. The ballot must not differ by more than one in the number of men and women selected. A plurality of those present and voting is required to elect. In case of a tie vote, the assignment of a delegate position shall be by lot or coin toss.
 - E. State Convention alternates shall be selected from the same set of ballots used for the election of delegates. The candidate for delegate receiving the most votes after all delegate slots are filled shall become alternate number one, and the alternate receiving the next most votes shall be alternate number two, and so forth. Voting for alternates shall be done at the same time as voting for delegates.
 - F. The delegation elected shall differ by no more than one (disregarding any positions won by non-binary gender persons) between the number of women and number of men in both the delegate and alternate categories unless there are an insufficient number of nominees from one gender to fill the available positions.
 - G. If there are the same number of candidates seeking election to the State Convention as the number of positions available or fewer, they may be elected by acclamation.
11. At the discretion of the Permanent Caucus Chair, consideration of the platform or resolutions may commence without suspension of the rules.
12. Any resolution not considered by the Caucus shall be referred to the next meeting of the 45th District Democrats and to the 2018 King County Democratic Convention.
13. Motions to postpone or table shall be out of order at all times.
14. A quorum shall consist of 30% of the number eligible to vote as shown on the credentials report, as most recently amended. Once a quorum is established, it may not be challenged until the election of delegates has been completed.

Proposed Rules for the 2018 45th Legislative District Democratic Caucus

March 24th, 2018 | 10 AM | Juanita High School

- A. The Tally Chair, in consultation with the Permanent Caucus Chair, may suspend counting of State Convention delegates and alternates ballots and inform the Caucus about where and when it will resume counting. If this option is implemented, ballots and ballot documentation shall be sealed securely in an envelope or box, the seal signed by the Permanent Caucus Chair, the Tally Chair, and a third selected member, and not re-opened until the count resumes with the seal inspected beforehand.
15. The Permanent Caucus Chair shall appoint a representative tally committee to serve under the Tally Chair. All ballots shall be returned to the Permanent Caucus Chair and thereupon provided for safekeeping to the elected Legislative District Chair if that person is a different individual from the Caucus Chair. The ballots shall be retained by the Legislative District Chair until the 2018 State Convention has adjourned.
16. The Unit Rule shall not be permitted at any time.
17. Proxy voting shall not be allowed.
18. All possible efforts shall be made to ensure maximum participation of black Americans, Hispanic/Latinx Americans, Enrolled Native Americans, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and People with Disabilities. Other constituencies of concern include but are not limited to women, youth (considered separately to include both those between the ages of seventeen and twenty-four and those between seventeen and thirty-six), persons over sixty-five years of age, LGBTQ+, and persons who are economically disadvantaged.
19. Nothing in these rules shall be inconsistent with the 2018 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan adopted by the Washington State Democratic Central Committee.
20. The Caucus shall adjourn by 4 PM, if not earlier, provided that delegate and alternate elections to the 2018 State Convention have been completed.
21. The Caucus shall adopt a platform that spells out the basic values and core beliefs of the 45th District Democrats. The proposed platform shall be presented by the Platform Committee.
22. The Platform Committee of the 45th District Democrats shall transmit the draft platform to the Legislative District Chair, who is the Temporary Chair of the Caucus, at least ten days prior to the Caucus. The Committee shall also make the draft platform available for public comment.
23. The Permanent Caucus Chair (or their designee) shall call upon the Chair (or co-chairs) of the Platform Committee to place the Platform before the body for adoption.
24. The Permanent Caucus Chair shall read each section heading and ask members of the Caucus who disagree with the substance of a plank within a section of the draft platform to flag the item for debate, and modification/removal as not representing the sentiment of the majority. Motions to delete or substitute language shall require ten seconds.
25. Amendments to add new sections or planks to the platform shall not be in order at the Caucus. Amendments to make substitutions to existing language or make technical corrections may be considered by the Caucus. Amendments to amendments shall be out of order at all times unless they are technical in nature and there is no objection to their adoption.
26. At any point after asking members to flag planks for debate, the Permanent Caucus Chair may call for a vote on the platform, which omits those flagged sections.
27. The Permanent Caucus Chair retains the prerogative to bring up planks for debate and action.

Proposed Rules for the 2018 45th Legislative District Democratic Caucus

March 24th, 2018 | 10 AM | Juanita High School

28. Debate on each flagged plank shall alternate pro and con, limited to a maximum of two speakers for and two speakers against, with each speaker to speak no more than two minutes, or less at the sole prerogative of the Chair, provided that all speakers on a specific topic are afforded the same amount of time to address the body. One extension of four additional speakers, two pro and two con, may be allowed by the Permanent Caucus Chair at their sole prerogative per issue and on adoption of the main motion to adopt the platform.
29. Removal of a flagged plank, or adoption of a motion to substitute language for a platform plank, will be by simple majority of those voting.
30. In the event the platform is not passed at the Caucus, the platform may be considered by the membership of the 45th District Democrats at its next regular meeting.
31. To be considered at the 45th LD Caucus, resolutions must be submitted in writing, and whenever possible on a Universal Series Bus (USB) drive, or by email to the Chair. Resolutions may be submitted prior to the Caucus through the 45th District Democrats' website.
32. Resolutions shall be consistent with the adopted platform. They must address specific or transitory issues, include actionable language and be submitted for consideration in the format required by the Washington State Democratic Party's Rules for Resolutions.
33. The Platform Committee shall consider all resolutions submitted in advance and may edit, consolidate, and make a recommendation on each of DO PASS or DO NOT PASS.
34. Amendments and resolutions which are consolidated by the Platform Committee shall be presented as consolidated. Amendments to delete resolution language will be accepted from the floor with ten seconds. Amendments to add language will not be in order, but amendments to correct spelling or grammatical mistakes may be accepted without objection.
35. Resolutions not acted upon at the Caucus shall be referred to the next meeting of the 45th District Democrats as well as the 2018 King County Democratic Convention for action.
36. The Platform Committee must determine whether or not an amendment or resolution qualifies as a valid platform amendment or resolution. If such a determination is questioned, the Platform Committee Chair shall explain the determination, which shall not be debatable.
37. The Caucus shall not endorse any candidates or take positions on any ballot measures.
38. The Temporary and Permanent Chairs of the Caucus may recognize candidates and other persons to address the Caucus at any time. Recognition of speakers is at the Chair's discretion.
39. The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall prevail in other matters not specifically covered herein, or in the 2018 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan.