



**FAIRFAX COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE **DRAFT v2** CALL TO CAUCUS  
FOR ENDORSEMENT OF NONPARTISAN OFFICES IN THE 2023 ELECTION  
(SCHOOL BOARD & NORTHERN VIRGINIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT)**

1. **Call.** Pursuant to the Democratic Party Plan of Virginia (“the Party Plan”), the Fairfax County Democratic Committee (“the Committee” or “FCDC”) hereby calls an Unassembled Caucus for the sole purpose of selecting endorsees for non-partisan elected offices in Fairfax County for the 2023 General Election (i.e., District and At-Large School Board Members, and Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District Director).
2. **Caucus Rules, Forms, and Information.** Caucus rules will be posted, along with other pertinent forms and information about the endorsement process, at the Fairfax County Democratic Committee website ([www.fairfaxdemocrats.org/2023endorsement](http://www.fairfaxdemocrats.org/2023endorsement)). Any changes to the Caucus rules will be updated at this location.
3. **General Participation Requirements.** Each participant in the Caucus must be a qualified voter in Fairfax County at the time of their participation and must sign a caucus participation form. No participant in the Caucus may intend to support any candidate who is opposed to the Democratic endorsees.
4. **Voter Qualifications.** Qualified participants may participate online by registering **starting 10 am on Friday, May 13, 2023 and prior to 4 pm on Saturday, May 20, 2023**, or at the in-person locations specified by the County Chair on Saturday, May 20, 2023 from 10 am to 4 pm. Registration occurs by completing a caucus participation form available at [fairfaxdemocrats.org/caucus](http://fairfaxdemocrats.org/caucus). Forms may be completed electronically, or in the printed versions at any voting location. Forms must be received by the deadline to be accepted. Those who require accommodations may call 703-573-6811.
5. **Voting Opportunities.** Qualified participants may participate in this caucus:
  - By secure electronic ballot over the internet at [fairfaxdemocrats.org/caucus](http://fairfaxdemocrats.org/caucus) starting at 10 am on Saturday, May 13, 2023. **Ballots must be completed and submitted by 4:30 pm on Saturday, May 20, 2023 to be counted.** A phone helpline for electronic voting assistance will also be made available (by the vendor for electronic voting, if possible, or otherwise by FCDC.)
  - At one of at-least five locations specified by the Caucus Chair on Saturday, May 20, 2023 between 10 am and 4 pm. Participants in line at 4 pm will be allowed to participate. The caucus locations must be announced no later than Saturday, April 22, 2023.
6. **Candidate Requirements.** Each candidate for endorsement must be eligible to be a candidate for the office where endorsement is sought according to state law. Additionally, candidates must submit to the Committee a completed application for endorsement, including the additional requirements specified in Table A below, no later than 5:00 pm on Thursday, April 6, 2023. The candidate’s signature on the application form indicates understanding and agreement:
  - that completion and submission of the application and filing fee does not guarantee that any

endorsement shall be provided;

- that endorsement is granted at the sole discretion of FCDC and may be withdrawn;
- to adhere to the rules and procedures governing the selection process for candidates seeking endorsement by FCDC for this election, including requirements to support only the endorsed candidates regardless of outcome; and
- if endorsed, that they will actively participate in the FCDC Coordinated Campaign program, including attendance at one or more candidate training sessions.

7. **Benefits of endorsement.** The candidates receiving endorsement as a result of this process are the Democratic endorsees, and it will be the responsibility of FCDC to work towards their election. Endorsed candidates are entitled to the following benefits:

- Authorization to include “Endorsed by the Fairfax County Democratic Committee” on campaign materials;
- Inclusion on the Democratic Sample Ballot and other coordinated campaign materials as may be developed;
- Promotion of campaign events and website through the FCDC Calendar, website, emails, and social media;
- Possible campaign contributions from FCDC; and
- Authorization to establish a VAN Account with access to Democratic Party scores and information.

8. **Cancellation.** If the number of candidates filed at the deadline is less than or equal to the number of electable candidates in all contests (i.e., one for district school board, or three for either at-large school board or soil and water), those candidates will be endorsed and the caucus is canceled.

For questions about the Caucus, to request any accommodation necessary to ensure full participation, or to file a Declaration of Candidacy, please contact FCDC at 703-573-6811 or [info@fairfaxdemocrats.org](mailto:info@fairfaxdemocrats.org).

**Table A. Filing Requirements**

Office sought	Filing fee*	Number of petition signatures you need from FCDC members†	Additional requirements
Fairfax County School Board – At-Large	\$500	75 members from any district	Completed school board questionnaire (from <a href="https://fairfaxdems.org/2023endorsement">fairfaxdems.org/2023endorsement</a> )
Fairfax County School Board – District Member	\$250	25 members from the district	Completed school board questionnaire (from <a href="https://fairfaxdems.org/2023endorsement">fairfaxdems.org/2023endorsement</a> )
Soil and Water Conservation District Director	\$100	15 members from any district	Resume with relevant experience

**Filing deadline: April 6, 2023 at 5 pm**

**File with:**

***For School Board District Member:***

Braddock	Aaron Yohai braddock@fairfaxdemocrats.org	Mt. Vernon	Genie McCreery mountvernon@fairfaxdemocrats.org
Dranesville	Julie Waters dranesville@fairfaxdemocrats.org	Providence	Andy Pavord providence@fairfaxdemocrats.org
Franconia	Kathy Rhem franconia@fairfaxdemocrats.org	Springfield	Andrew Scalise springfield@fairfaxdemocrats.org
Hunter Mill	Paul Davis huntermill@fairfaxdemocrats.org	Sully	Bob Beury sully@fairfaxdemocrats.org
Mason	Rachel Rifkind mason@fairfaxdemocrats.org		

***For All Other Positions:***

Fairfax County Democratic Committee Headquarters  
8500 Executive Park Ave, Ste 402  
Fairfax, VA, 22031

info@fairfaxdemocrats.org  
(703) 573-6811

\* *Half of the filing fee (50%) will be refundable to candidates who are not endorsed and who provide proof that they have withdrawn from the race. The non-refundable portions of the filing fees will be used to offset caucus expenses and will be applied to the FCDC Coordinated Campaign.*

† *\_\_\_\_\_ Petition signatures for endorsement must be from those who are fully-approved FCDC members as of January 24, 2023 and must be collected on or after January 24, 2023. No other signatures will be accepted.*

**FAIRFAX COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE**  
**DRAFT v2 RULES FOR THE UNASSEMBLED CAUCUS**  
**TO BE HELD ON MAY 20, 2023 TO DETERMINE THE DEMOCRATIC ENDORSEES FOR NONPARTISAN**  
**OFFICES IN THE 2023 ELECTION**  
**(SCHOOL BOARD & NORTHERN VIRGINIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT)**

- 1) Every person intending to vote must register by completing the caucus participation form at [fairfaxdemocrats.org/caucus](https://fairfaxdemocrats.org/caucus), an in-person paper form, or must be an FCDC member to be eligible to participate.
  - a) All FCDC members who are qualified voters are automatically registered, their membership application form and duties considered sufficient evidence of party certification; as members of the Committee, their names, addresses, and phone numbers will be available to candidates who request them.
  - b) The caucus participation form for non-members (“the form”) will include a certification and signature of a statement saying that the participant is a qualified voter, a Democrat, believes in the principles of the Democratic Party, and that they do not intend to support any candidate opposed to the Democratic nominees and endorsees in the next ensuing election.
  - c) The form will be made available at 10 am on Saturday, May 13, 2023 electronically.
  - d) The form must be completed and returned electronically to FCDC no later than 4 pm on Saturday, May 20, 2023, or at an in-person voting location during voting hours on May 20, 2023.
  - e) The form will allow for registrants to control the use of their contact information:
    - i) Non-member participants may opt-in to receive continued updates from the Committee.
    - ii) Unless otherwise designated, the phone number and email address provided by the registrant may only be used by the Committee for the operation of the caucus and may not be shared with anyone else or used for another Committee purpose.
    - iii) The list of caucus participants (by name and address) will be available to candidates and the public.
  - f) Those that are unable to complete the form online or who need additional accommodation to participate should contact FCDC at 703-573-6811 for assistance.
  - g) All voters are *encouraged* to submit their form or request assistance as early as possible to ensure their vote can be counted without issue.
- 2) All ballots must be received no later than 4:30 pm on Saturday, May 20, 2023 to be counted.
  - a) Electronic voting will begin at 10 am on Saturday, May 13, 2023.
  - b) In-person voting will begin at 10 am on Saturday, May 20, 2023.
  - c) Electronic ballots are to be returned over the internet prior to the deadline.
  - d) Voting assistance will be made available in-person at in-person voting locations or via phone at 703-573-6811.
- 3) The caucus shall be conducted in accordance with the Virginia Democratic Party Plan, the Fairfax County Democratic Committee Bylaws, the Call to Caucus, in addition to these rules.
- 4) The County Chair of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee (i.e., the county chair), or their designee, shall act as the permanent Chair of the Caucus.

- 5) There shall be a credentials committee to review the qualifications of registrants.
  - a) The county chair shall appoint the chair of the credentials committee.
  - b) The chair of each District committee shall appoint one member of this committee.
  - c) If the registrant completes the participation form and matches a registered voter, they will be deemed as qualified.
  - d) If the details of the voter cannot be automatically matched to a registered voter, members of the Credentials Committee will review the voter and request additional information where necessary to determine if the voter is qualified.
  - e) The members of this committee should be comfortable with technology necessary to validate the voter registration (i.e., VAN).
- 6) The permanent chair shall appoint a caucus technology committee. The members of such a committee will support the electronic registration and voting capability of this caucus.
- 7) Candidates will specify their ballot name on the “name” line of the endorsement application form, which must include first and last name, and may optionally include a nickname and middle initial; the names will appear on the ballots in random order, which will be different on each voter’s ballot.
- 8) No votes shall be counted or accessed prior to the conclusion of the vote.
- 9) Candidates must meet the qualifications laid out in the Call to Caucus by the filing deadline, including those defined in Table A.
  - a) All forms may be filed electronically if electronic copies of the document are clearly legible.
  - b) The payment must be paid by check and must be received by FCDC or one of its agents prior to the filing deadline.
  - c) Petition signatures for endorsement must be from those who are fully-approved FCDC associate or voting members as of January 24, 2023 and must be collected on or after January 24, 2023.
  - d) Candidate questionnaires and resumes including in the candidate’s filing materials, as applicable, will be shared with all qualified pre-registrants.
  - e) The petition forms will be made available for public inspection upon request, but copies of the petition forms and the data contained within their pages will not be provided to others.
- 10) If the number of candidates filed at the deadline is less than or equal to the number of electable candidates in a contest (i.e., one for district school board, or three for either at-large school board or soil and water), those candidates will be endorsed and the question for that contest will not be included in the ballot.
- 11) Each ballot will include countywide At-Large School Board, and Soil and Water Conservation District Director contests, unless either or both contests are canceled. For each contest:
  - a) Participants may select up to three candidates of their choice for each contest.
  - b) The electronic voting software shall not permit the participant to vote for more than three candidates.
  - c) The three candidates with the most votes will be endorsed.

- 12) If the participant is a voter in a district where there is a contest for district school board, the ballot will include such a contest where:
- a) If there are two candidates for the contest:
    - i) The guiding method for tallying votes and determining the endorsee will be first-past-the-post (FPTP) plurality voting.
    - ii) Participants may select only one candidate of their choice for the contest.
    - iii) The electronic voting software shall not permit the participant to vote for more than one candidate.
    - iv) The candidate with the most votes (i.e., a plurality) will be endorsed.
  - b) If there are more than two candidates for the contest:
    - i) The guiding method for tallying votes and determining the endorsee will be instant-runoff voting (IRV).
    - ii) The endorsed candidate must receive a majority of votes allocated during the final preference vote counting round from non-exhausted ballots.
    - iii) Participants may rank the candidates in order of preference.
    - iv) The failure of a ballot to mark a rank for all candidates will not invalidate the ballot for purposes of counting it toward candidates whose preference order is clearly marked.
    - v) The electronic voting software shall not permit the participant to rank two candidates the same rank.
    - vi) The electronic voting software shall implement single-elimination rounds of tallies, breaking a tie for elimination randomly, or in another equitable manner.
- 13) Unresolved tie votes will be decided by the drawing of lots by the permanent chair.
- 14) Additional rules and process descriptions are listed in **Appendix A** – Detailed Rules and Processes, which are fully incorporated into these rules. Visit [fairfaxdemocrats.org](http://fairfaxdemocrats.org) to view Appendix A online.

# **Virtual Unassembled Caucus for 2023 FCDC Endorsements, May 20, 2023**

## **Appendix A - DRAFT v2 Detailed Rules and Processes**

### **Participant Eligibility**

- People who are qualified to vote who reside within the boundaries of Fairfax County are eligible to participate in the caucus if they complete the registration form prior to the end of the registration period.
- VoteBuilder (a.k.a., “VAN”) will be used to verify registration status.
- Participants are not required to be members of a Democratic committee.
- No proxy votes are permitted.
- No one who fails to register will be permitted to participate.

### **Credentials Committee Review**

- The Credentials Committee shall meet regularly after the registration period begins and until all non-verifiable registrations are reviewed.
- Voters will be validated in VAN and tagged with an activist code indicating their participation in the caucus.
- Voters may also be validated by the Fairfax County Office of Elections if their registration is not yet loaded into VAN.
- If the voter cannot be confirmed to be registered within the district, the participant will be contacted to validate the information on the participation form. Voters that cannot be verified as voters will remain in provisional status until their qualifications can be definitively determined.
- Registrants with confirmed voter qualifications and who have completed all required portions of the form, including their party certification, shall be deemed as qualified participants.
- Provisional voters who cannot be qualified by the end of voting will be classified as unqualified.

### **Election Software**

- The caucus technology committee will select the vendor for providing secure electronic voting, and for administering the software to adhere to the requirements for this caucus.
- The election software shall be configured:
  - to use secret ballots.
  - configured to prevent the tabulation of results until after voting has concluded.
  - with the appropriate ballot for each voter, presenting a question for a district school board contest if the voting address is within such a district.

### **Casting Votes**

- Qualified participants will receive an email and, if the participant provides a mobile phone number and the election software supports it, a text message when voting opens or as soon as possible after registration with a unique link, which will provide access to the ballot.
- Each voting link shall be single use (i.e., the system will only allow one vote to be cast and will not allow votes to be changed.)

### **Candidates**

- The deadline to file for endorsement will be 5:00 PM (ET), April 6, 2023 by which time the following must submit all items specified within the call.
- There shall be no write-in candidates.
- The election software shall generate a random order for each ballot.

### **Tallying and Verification**

- The election software shall be configured to apply the tallying logic specified in sections 11 and 12 of the rules.
- Candidates and/or an observer on their behalf will be permitted to review the audit information generated by the election software.

### **Tie Procedures**

- If the tally of ballots results in a tie of the leaders, the endorsee will be selected from among the candidates who are tied by lot.

**Declaring Endorsees:** Upon the conclusion of the tally of ballots by the software, the endorsement of winning candidates will be certified by the chair. If any race is tied, the candidate(s) selected by lot shall be endorsed (see Tie Procedures).

**Appeals:** Should any candidate contest the results of the caucus, they may file an appeal with the relevant chair(s) of the Congressional District Democratic Committees within Fairfax County.



## Petition of FCDC Members supporting endorsement candidacy

<b>Candidate Information</b>	Candidate Ballot Name: _____ Full Residence Address (including city/state/zip): _____ Office Sought: _____ District: _____
<b>Petition Signer Statement</b>	We, the members of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC) signed hereunder or on the reverse side of this page, do hereby petition the above named individual to become a candidate for Democratic endorsement for the office stated above in the November 2023 General Election.
<b>Note to Petition Signer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may sign petitions for more than one candidate.</li> <li><b>Privacy notice:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The information provided will be checked against the official FCDC member list.</li> <li>This form is available for inspection, but it and its data will not be provided to any other person, organization, or entity.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Any willfully false material statement or entry made on this form by any person shall constitute grounds for removal as a member of FCDC.</b></li> </ul>

**Your signature on this petition must be your own and does not signify an intent to vote for the candidate, but *must* represent your confidence that the person is a bona fide Democrat seeking endorsement in good faith.**

Office Use Only	#	Petition Signer	Magisterial District	Date Signed (Must be after January 1st of election year.)
	1.	_____ Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip)		
	2.	_____ Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip)		
	3.	_____ Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip)		
	4.	_____ Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip)		
	5.	_____ Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip)		
	6.	_____ Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip)		
	7.	_____ Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip)		

**Petition of FCDC Members supporting endorsement candidacy** (continued from reverse side)

Candidate Ballot Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Office Sought: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note to Petition Signer**

- You may sign petitions for more than one candidate.
- Privacy notice:**
  - The information provided will be checked against the official FCDC member list.
  - This form is available for inspection, but will not be provided to any other person, organization, or entity.
- Any willfully false material statement or entry made on this form by any person shall constitute grounds for removal as a member of FCDC.**

**Your signature on this petition must be your own and does not signify an intent to vote for the candidate, but *must* represent your confidence that the person is a bona fide Democrat seeking endorsement in good faith.**

Office Use Only	#	Petition Signer	Magisterial District	Date Signed (Must be after January 1st of election year.)
	8.	Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip) _____		
	9.	Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip) _____		
	10.	Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip) _____		
	11.	Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip) _____		
	12.	Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip) _____		
	13.	Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip) _____		
	14.	Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip) _____		
	15.	Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip) _____		
	16.	Print Full Name _____ Signature _____ Full Residential Address (including city/state/zip) _____		

## Petition of FCDC Members supporting endorsement candidacy - Instructions

<b>Printing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Petition is a two sided document (front and back) that <b>should</b> be printed on <b>one</b> piece of 8 1/2" by 11" paper. The front of the petition contains line numbers 1 through 7; the back contains line numbers 8 through 16.</li><li>• This form is in color but does not need to be printed in color (i.e., black and white, or greyscale are acceptable.)</li><li>• This instruction sheet does not need to be printed and should not be submitted.</li><li>• If you are unable to print or reproduce this form on one piece of 8 1/2" x 11" paper, contact FCDC HQ at 703-573-6811 or info@fairfaxdemocrats.org and we will be glad to provide you with blank forms.</li></ul>
<b>Circulator</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The "Candidate Information" and "Petition Signer Statement" sections <b>must</b> be completed prior to obtaining signatures.</li><li>• For the benefit of your candidate and for the reviewers of this petition, please ask petitioners prior to signing if they are <b>members of FCDC</b>. Only signatures from current voting or associate members will count towards the required total.</li><li>• Please encourage petitioners to write legibly. Only signatures with enough legible information to match an FCDC voting member will be accepted.</li></ul>
<b>Submitting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review the endorsement application (<a href="https://fairfaxdemocrats.org/2023endorsement">https://fairfaxdemocrats.org/2023endorsement</a>) to determine where and when to submit this form.</li></ul>

**Do Not Submit This Instruction Page With Completed Petition Pages.**



Endorsement Application for Fairfax County Elections **DRAFT**  
General Election – November 7, 2023

Any individual running for non-partisan elected office (School Board Member, Soil and Water Conservation District Director) may request endorsement of their candidacy by the Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC). Any such candidate must complete and file this application, the requisite number of valid voting member signatures, and a partially-refundable filing fee\* to the defined contact for each position no later than 5 pm on April 6, 2023 (see Table A on the next page for details). Alternate forms for those seeking endorsement of a candidate subject to the Hatch Act can be found at [fairfaxdems.org/2023endorsement](http://fairfaxdems.org/2023endorsement).

The candidate understands and agrees:

- that completion and submission of the application and filing fee does not guarantee that any endorsement shall be provided;
- that endorsement is granted at the sole discretion of FCDC and may be withdrawn;
- to adhere to the rules and procedures governing the selection process for candidates seeking endorsement by FCDC for this election; and
- if endorsed, that they will actively participate in the FCDC Coordinated Campaign program, including attendance at one or more candidate training sessions.

The candidate who receives the endorsement of FCDC is eligible to receive the following benefits:

- Authorization to include “Endorsed by the Fairfax County Democratic Committee” on campaign materials;
- Inclusion on the Democratic Sample Ballot and other coordinated campaign materials as may be developed;
- Promotion of campaign events and website through the FCDC Calendar, website, emails, and social media;
- Possible campaign contributions from FCDC; and
- Authorization to establish a VAN Account with access to Democratic Party scores and information.

The primary function of the FCDC is the support and election of Democratic candidates to all levels of public office. Therefore, any candidate who does not receive the endorsement of FCDC **will not** be eligible for the above benefits. No FCDC resources will be used in the support or promotion of any non-endorsed candidate.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: VA ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PRECINCT: \_\_\_\_\_ MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYER: \_\_\_\_\_

- OFFICE SOUGHT:  Fairfax County School Board – At-Large Member  
 Fairfax County School Board – District Member  
 Soil and Water Conservation District Director – At-Large

**I certify that I am a Democrat and pledge to support only Democratic nominees and candidates endorsed by the FCDC in the 2023 general election. I understand that any action contrary to this pledge may result in a repeal of the Democratic endorsement and removal as a member of FCDC, if applicable. I hereby request the endorsement of my candidacy by the FCDC. I fully understand that submission of this application does not constitute endorsement or promise of endorsement by FCDC. I certify that I have answered the questions truthfully to the best of my knowledge and authorize FCDC or its agents to verify the information herein contained.**

CANDIDATE:

FCDC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Date

Signature

Date



**Endorsement Application for Fairfax County Elections DRAFT  
General Election – November 7, 2023**

**Table A. Filing Requirements**

Office sought	Filing fee*	Number of petition signatures you need from FCDC members†	Additional requirements
Fairfax County School Board – At-Large	\$500	75 members from any district	Completed school board questionnaire (from <a href="https://fairfaxdems.org/2023endorsement">fairfaxdems.org/2023endorsement</a> )
Fairfax County School Board – District Member	\$250	25 members from the district	Completed school board questionnaire (from <a href="https://fairfaxdems.org/2023endorsement">fairfaxdems.org/2023endorsement</a> )
Soil and Water Conservation District Director	\$100	15 members from any district	Resume with relevant experience

**Filing deadline: April 6, 2023 at 5 pm**

**File with:**

***For School Board District Member:***

Braddock	Aaron Yohai braddock@fairfaxdemocrats.org	Mt. Vernon	Genie McCreery mountvernon@fairfaxdemocrats.org
Dranesville	Julie Waters dranesville@fairfaxdemocrats.org	Providence	Andy Pavord providence@fairfaxdemocrats.org
Franconia	Kathy Rhem franconia@fairfaxdemocrats.org	Springfield	Andrew Scalise springfield@fairfaxdemocrats.org
Hunter Mill	Paul Davis huntermill@fairfaxdemocrats.org	Sully	Bob Beury sully@fairfaxdemocrats.org
Mason	Rachel Rifkind mason@fairfaxdemocrats.org		

***For All Other Positions:***

Fairfax County Democratic Committee Headquarters      info@fairfaxdemocrats.org  
8500 Executive Park Ave, Ste 402                                      (703) 573-6811  
Fairfax, VA, 22031

\* *Half of the filing fee (50%) will be refundable to candidates who are not endorsed and who provide proof that they have withdrawn from the race. The non-refundable portions of the filing fees will be used to offset caucus expenses and will be applied to the FCDC Coordinated Campaign.*

† *Petition signatures for endorsement must be from those who are fully-approved FCDC members as of January 24, 2023 and must be collected on or after January 24, 2023. No other signatures will be accepted.*

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO VERSION TWO DRAFT RULES

### 1. REMOVAL OF THE CANDIDATE REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBER SIGNATURES

Change:

From the Call to Caucus, Table A, and all applicable sections of the Draft Rules and Appendix A, **remove any requirement that someone must collect signatures of FCDC members to qualify to be a candidate for endorsement, and replace such requirement with a requirement that the candidate seeking endorsement provide evidence that they are a candidate qualified for the ballot.**

*Rationale:*

*The collection of FCDC member signatures makes the process more insular, and harder to navigate for non-party insiders. The FCDC process should be open to allow for participation regardless of whether they can garner support from a number of members.*

### 2. REINSTATEMENT OF A PRE-REGISTRATION PERIOD

Change:

Change the Call to Caucus, Table A, and all applicable sections of the Draft Rules and Appendix A, to **require pre-registration of all participants in a period from Monday, April 10, 2023 through Friday, May 5, 2023**, with automatic pre-registration for FCDC members who are qualified voters, and adding the sharing of the names and addresses of pre-registered participants with the candidates and the ability for individual participants to opt-in to sharing their phone number and email address as well.

*Rationale: The original draft rules included a pre-registration period. While such a period is a departure from a regular firehouse primary, it simplifies caucus operation and allows for the candidates for office to have targeted outreach to the people who have declared an interest in deciding the endorsement. In a large county with nearly 800,000 voters, and with the limited resources of school board and soil and water board member candidates, this allows for substantive outreach to voters without making a barrier of entry to candidates.*

### 3. ADDITION OF VOTER REQUIREMENTS

Change:

Change the Call to Caucus, Table A, and all applicable sections of the Draft Rules and Appendix A, to **add the following requirements for voters to be qualified to vote:**

- **2022: DNC Dem Party Support V1 score of at least 30**
- **That the voter did not sign the filed recall petitions for Laura Jane Cohen or Elaine Tholen.**

*Rationale: In the current political climate, many Republican school agitators have encouraged participation in Democratic caucuses stating that the Democratic pledge is “meaningless” or “unenforceable”. Our desire should be for Democrats to make this endorsement decision without outside involvement. While these proposed requirements are imperfect, they will assist in ensuring that participants are not hardcore Republicans nor those intent in removing democratically elected school board members. Of the 130k voters in the County which have voted in a Democratic primary in the last four years, this would only exclude 7,049 (or 5%) by score. There are 3,687 voters with scores greater than 30 in the County who signed the recall petitions.*