

* On Tuesday, October 6, 2015, Noble Neighbors is hosting a Meet The Candidates forum at 7pm at Noble Road Presbyterian Church with Cleveland Heights City Council and CHUH School Board candidates. [Click here](http://www.nobleneighbors.com/meetings--initiatives.html" \o "" \t "_blank) for parking and mobility assistance information.  
    
  Noble Neighbors regards the vitality of the northeast quadrant of Cleveland Heights as critical to the vibrancy of the city and school district as a whole. While we are equally concerned with matters that pertain to the entire city and school district, we are keenly aware that certain issues uniquely impact the neighborhoods and business districts that abut Noble Road. We are inviting each candidate to engage in conversation with us as we seek partners to help us thrive in a more safe, friendly and attractive district. We are certain that with each step our neighborhoods take to revitalize, the whole of Cleveland Heights is benefitting from our growing story of success. While only a percentage of candidates will receive votes that place them in city council or school board leadership, it is our hope that we can gain new friends and advocates from *every* person who has offered their service to our city and school district. To the candidates - we applaud your willingness to participate in a grueling campaign schedule at a time when the stakes are so high and challenges are so formidable.  Thank you all for your concern and care for your fellow citizens.  
    
  Below you will find information about our format for the evening, how to contact the candidates, and copies of the questions sent to them and copies of the invitations sent to them.
* **Noble Neighbors Meet the Candidates - Event Format**
* There are six candidates for Cleveland Heights City Council and three for CHUH School Board. This means there are a LOT of people that we need to hear from about a LOT of issues. It is our hope that by submitting questions to them in advance, each candidate will be able to use a very limited amount of time most effectively.   
    
  7:00 Noble Neighbors introductions and event information  
  7:10 School Board candidates each have one minute for an opening statement  
          School Board candidates rotate to address two questions for two minutes each (4 min/candidate)  
          School Board candidates each have one minute for a closing statement  
  7:35 City Council candidates each have one minute for an opening statement  
          City Council candidates rotate to address three questions for one or two minutes (5 min/candidate)  
          City Council candidates each have one minute for a closing statement  
  8:30 Informal conversations with candidates  
  9:00 End of the evening
* **Register to Vote**
* Voters needed to be registered to vote by October 5th for this November's election.  
    
  There is still time for registered voters to apply to vote by mail. For more information, go to: ​[http://boe.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/votebymailapplication.aspx](http://boe.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/votebymailapplication.aspx" \o "" \t "_blank)
* **Candidate forums and information**
* **﻿Cleveland Heights Whistle Stop Tours videos, hosted by The Wine Spot﻿**  
       Part 1 - Questions centered around city deficit and water issues:   [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3jcaJnmQwU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3jcaJnmQwU" \o "" \t "_blank)  
       Part 2 - Questions centered around economic development:     [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiC9mjaSYSA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiC9mjaSYSA" \o "" \t "_blank)  
       Part 3 - Questions centered around taxation:     [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wFNTELBkstA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wFNTELBkstA" \o "" \t "_blank)  
       Part 4 - September 22, 6pm.  Cancelled  
       Part 5 - October 27, 6pm.  For tickets and info go to  [http://thewinespotonline.com/](http://thewinespotonline.com/" \o "" \t "_blank)  
         Thank you, The Wine Spot, for hosting these events!!  
    
  **Candidate forums, hosted by FutureHeights and the Greater Cleveland League of Women Voters**  
       Sept. 29, 7-9pm: CHUH School Board candidates at John Carroll University’s Dolan Hall (UH City Council forum is also this evening)   
       Oct. 14, 7-9pm: CHUH School Board candidates and Cleveland Heights City Council candidates at the Cleveland Heights Community Center  
       See the October issue of *The Heights Observer* for the League of Women Voters' Voters Guide and on-line at *[www.heightsobserver.org](http://www.heightsobserver.org/" \o "" \t "_blank)*.  
    
       View the video of the Oct. 14 forum at the city's YouTube page: [​https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLeC-RcysdpkDRYcOT\_lvJS7lqnXbZ6f\_4](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLeC-RcysdpkDRYcOT_lvJS7lqnXbZ6f_4" \o "" \t "_blank)

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| * + **Candidates for CH City Council** | * + **Candidates For CH-UH School Board** |

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| * + **Cleveland Heights City Council Candidates:**  **Mary Dunbar** [http://www.marydunbar.com/](http://www.marydunbar.com/" \o "" \t "_blank)  **Julie Love** [http://friendsofjulielove.com/wordpress/](http://friendsofjulielove.com/wordpress/" \o "" \t "_blank)  **Tas Nadas** [http://www.tnadas.org/](http://www.tnadas.org/" \o "" \t "_blank)  **Carol Ann Roe** [CarolRoe.com](http://carolroe.com/" \o "" \t "_blank)  **Kahlil Seren** [https://twitter.com/kahlilseren](https://twitter.com/kahlilseren" \o "" \t "_blank)  **Keba Sylla** [http://clevelandheightsdems.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Keba-Sylla-CH-Council-Application.pdf](http://clevelandheightsdems.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Keba-Sylla-CH-Council-Application.pdf" \o "" \t "_blank) | * + **Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education Candidates:**  **James Posch** [http://www.jimposch.com/](http://www.jimposch.com/" \o "" \t "_blank)  **Katura Simmons** [https://katurasimmons4chuhboe.wordpress.com/](https://katurasimmons4chuhboe.wordpress.com/" \o "" \t "_blank)  **Beverly Wright** [https://www.facebook.com/BevWrightforSchoolBoard](https://www.facebook.com/BevWrightforSchoolBoard" \o "" \t "_blank) |

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| * + **Question preparation for CH City Council Candidates**   + Emailed Sept. 22, 2015  TO: Mary Dunbar, Julie Love, Tas Nadas, Carol Ann Roe, Kahlil Seren, Keba Sylla  Hello CH City Council Candidates,  Below, you will find the questions we are asking you to address on October 6. Each of these questions addresses issues that uniquely impact the Noble area but also impact the city as a whole. While the subject matter for each question deserves much more attention that we can afford each of you on October 6, we will be listening for your perspective and priorities as you address each issue. Noble Neighbors will be pleased to direct audience members to your social media for your more complete responses.  I have googled your names to find your candidate social media presence. I've posted on [nobleneighbors.com/meet-the-candidates](http://nobleneighbors.com/meet-the-candidates" \o "" \t "_blank) the link to what appears to be your primary election site. DO send me a correction if you would like voters to link to a different url. Additional event information is available on this same web page.  In an effort to be fair, you will present your opening statements in traditional alphabetical order by last name. The question responses and final statements will be presented in rolling alphabetical order with a randomly selected first speaker drawn during the forum for each response and for your final statement. So, for example, if Nadas was selected to be the first speaker for a question, he would be followed by Roe, Seren, Sylla, Dunbar and Love. If Seren was selected to be the first speaker for the next question, he would be followed by Sylla, Dunbar, Love, Nadas and Roe. I hope this makes sense and seems fair for you.  On October 6, you each are welcome to bring one print item, up to an 8 1/2" x 11" size to be placed at each of the two entrances to the meeting space for audience members to pick up. While you are certainly welcome to bring more print material for hand distribution after the formal presentations, we do not have table space available for more than one item per candidate.  The event begins at 7pm. You are encouraged to arrive as early at 6:30 to find parking, which is all off-site. Noble Road Presbyterian Church is at 2780 Noble Road. Greeters will be present to help you and audience members find restrooms and drinking fountains. Seating will be reserved for candidates only in the front row. Family and friends may sit in other seating areas. You will be invited to sit on the chairs on stage as the CH City Council candidate section begins.  Thank you for giving your attention to the north end of Cleveland Heights. We look forward to building partnerships and gaining advocates from every citizen.  Brenda May, on behalf of Noble Neighbors \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **CH City Council – Economic Development – 2 minutes for each candidate to respond**  Please describe a viable economic development plan that you would advocate for the Noble Road business districts. Please consider: 1. Plans for the three main business districts – Noble/Nela, Noble/Monticello and Noble/Warrensville/Mayfield 2. How you would solicit input from the Noble residents to form a plan 3. The pros and cons of annexing the East Cleveland portion of the Noble/Nela district (including GE's Nela Park) 4. Developing (a) merchants’ association(s) and/or a SID 5. The impact that the lack of an economic development plan for the north end of Cleveland Heights has on the city as a whole.  **CH City Council – Noble Elementary School – 1 minute**  Describe your perspective on the potential closing of Noble Elementary School and the impact it would have on the community. What could be done to mitigate the negative impacts if the school closes? How would you work with the school district to ensure a positive outcome for the neighborhood?  **CH City Council – Housing Values – 2 minutes**  Cuyahoga County has recently devalued properties in every neighborhood that abuts Noble Road. 1.  Compare real estate sales statistics between the Noble neighborhoods and other districts in Cleveland Heights to support or refute the devaluation. 2.  Describe factors that contribute to the devaluation and describe a plan to support housing values. Consider:    a.   on-line school system ratings    b.   perception of crime rates    c.    impact of anonymous commenting for on-line news media    d.   real estate industry and institutional location services’ “steering”                practices    e.  proximity to a distressed city (East Cleveland) and a struggling                commercial corridor (Noble Road). 3.  Describe the impact that the lowered housing values in the north of Cleveland Heights have on the city as a whole.   + **Invitation to CH City Council Candidates** | * + **Question preparation for CHUH School Board Candidates**   + Emailed Sept. 22, 2015  TO: James Posch, Katura Simmons, Beverly Wright   Hello CHUH School Board Candidates,  Below, you will find the questions we are asking you to address on October 6. Each of these questions addresses issues that uniquely impact the Noble area but also impact the city and school district as a whole. While the subject matter for each question deserves much more attention that we can afford each of you on October 6, we will be listening for your perspective and priorities as you address each issue. Noble Neighbors will be pleased to direct audience members to your social media for your more complete responses.  I have googled your names to find your candidate social media presence. I've posted on [nobleneighbors.com/meet-the-candidates](http://nobleneighbors.com/meet-the-candidates" \o "" \t "_blank) the link to what appears to be your primary election site. DO send me a correction if you would like voters to link to a different url. Additional event information is available on this same web page.  In an effort to be fair, you will present your opening statements in traditional alphabetical order by last name. The question responses and final statements will be presented in rolling alphabetical order with a randomly selected first speaker drawn during the forum for each response and for your final statement. So, for example, if Simmons was selected to be the first speaker for a question, she would be followed by Wright then Posch. If Wright was selected to be the first speaker for the next question, she would be followed by Posch then Simmons. I hope this makes sense and seems fair for you.  On October 6, you each are welcome to bring one print item, up to an 8 1/2" x 11" size to be placed at each of the two entrances to the meeting space for audience members to pick up. While you are certainly welcome to bring more print material for hand distribution after the formal presentations, we do not have table space available for more than one item per candidate.  The event begins at 7pm. You are encouraged to arrive as early at 6:30 to find parking, which is all off-site. Noble Road Presbyterian Church is at 2780 Noble Road. Greeters will be present to help you and audience members find restrooms and drinking fountains. Seating will be reserved for candidates only in the front row. Family and friends may sit in other seating areas. You will be invited to sit on the chairs on stage as the CHUH School Board candidate section begins.  Thank you for giving your attention to the north end of Cleveland Heights. We look forward to building partnerships and gaining advocates from every citizen.  Brenda May, on behalf of Noble Neighbors \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **CH-UH School Board – Noble Area Students – 2 minutes for each candidate to respond**  1. Describe your position on the potential closing of Noble Elementary School. Support your position with population data and other factors contributing to building consolidation issues.  2. If Noble Elementary School closed, where would these students attend school and in what type of facility?  3.  If East Cleveland would be absorbed into Cleveland, would you consider redrawing school district lines to include Caledonia students who live in Cleveland Heights into the CH-UH City School District? Would you support residents who may pursue redistricting?    **CHUH School Board – Housing Values – 2 minutes**  The CH-UH City School District will receive reduced property tax revenue from the north side of Cleveland Heights due to the recent devaluation of properties by Cuyahoga County. What do you believe would be the impact on the Noble Road neighborhoods if Noble Elementary School closed?  1.  What do you anticipate would be the impact on property values if Noble Elementary School closed?  2.  How will you work with the Cleveland Heights City Council to support property values?  3.  How will you address the public perception of the schools, including on-line rating systems that are associated with real estate advertisements?  4.  What would you do to mitigate any negative impacts on the community?   + **Invitation to CHUH School Board Candidates** |

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| * + Hello Candidates for Cleveland Heights City Council,  At our monthly meeting this evening, Noble Neighbors announced and approved that we will host a "Meet the Candidates" event at our Tuesday, October 6, 2015 meeting. Our meetings are at 7pm. The October meeting will be held at Noble Road Presbyterian Church. We invite each of you to participate.  More details about format will be sent to you in a few weeks, but here are the main things you need to know: 1. Each candidate will be offered an opening statement opportunity. 2. All questions will concern issues that uniquely impact the Noble district. Noble Neighbors are currently submitting questions to our email account. Noble Neighbors have agreed that the questions presented to you will be drawn from the common themes these submissions represent. Most likely, the questions will pertain to economic development, housing value support and city council's influence on the plan to close Noble School. Question submissions will determine if other, or more specific issues will be the subject of questions for you. 3. Questions will be submitted to you two weeks before the event so that you have time to prepare your responses. 4. No questions will be taken from the audience that evening, but audience members will be invited to talk with you informally (individually or in small groups) after the formal presentations. 5. I am willing to have informal conversations with each of you during September at my home. I will invite other Noble Neighbors to join me for each conversation so that you may glean multiple perspectives as you prepare for your responses. 6. FutureHeights staff and/or board members will participate by writing an article for the Heights Observer following the event.  While I am willing to respond via email to questions about logistics, I believe that questions about Noble area issues would be best handled in conversations with a small group of Noble Neighbors. I'm hoping that makes good sense to you, too.  Thank each of you for being willing to serve our city at such a challenging point. We look forward to hearing your perspectives on our Noble neighborhood of Cleveland Heights.  Sincerely,  Brenda H. May on behalf of the Noble Neighbors | * + Hello Candidates for CHUH School Board,  At our monthly meeting this evening, Noble Neighbors announced and approved that we will host a "Meet the Candidates" event at our Tuesday, October 6, 2015 meeting. Our meetings are at 7pm. The October meeting will be held at Noble Road Presbyterian Church. We invite each of you to participate.  More details about format will be sent to you in a few weeks, but here are the main things you need to know: 1. Each candidate will be offered an opening statement opportunity. 2. All questions will concern issues that uniquely impact the Noble district. Noble Neighbors are currently submitting questions to our email account. Noble Neighbors have agreed that the questions presented to you will be drawn from the common themes these submissions represent. Most likely, the questions will pertain to plan to close Noble School and Oxford School's absorption of those students. Question submissions will determine if other, or more specific issues will be the subject of questions for you. 3. Questions will be submitted to you two weeks before the event so that you have time to prepare your responses. 4. No questions will be taken from the audience that evening, but audience members will be invited to talk with you informally (individually or in small groups) after the formal presentations. 5. I am willing to have informal conversations with each of you during September at my home. I will invite other Noble Neighbors to join me for each conversation so that you may glean multiple perspectives as you prepare for your responses. 6. FutureHeights staff and/or board members will participate by writing an article for the Heights Observer following the event.  While I am willing to respond via email to questions about logistics, I believe that questions about Noble Road area issues would be best handled in conversations with a small group of Noble Neighbors. I'm hoping that makes good sense to you, too.  Thank each of you for being willing to serve our students during such a transitional point in the school district. We look forward to hearing your perspectives on our Noble and Oxford neighborhood of Cleveland Heights.  Sincerely,  Brenda H. May on behalf of the Noble Neighbors |