



Winnetka Caucus 2004 Council

P.O. Box 311, Winnetka, IL 60093

www.winnetkacaucus.org - E-Mail: Caucus@winnetkacaucus.org

Richard Kates, *Chair*
Gene Greable, *Vice Chair*
Martin Beck, *Secretary*
Robert Fragen, *Village*
Ed Harney, *Schools*
Sherwyn Warren, *Library*
Richard Daley, *Parks*

Dear Neighbors:

HELP MAKE POLICY FOR WINNETKA

- Village
- Schools
- Parks
- Library

The Winnetka 2004 Caucus Survey is your opportunity to have a voice in establishing Platform policy objectives.

The deadline to return the survey is September 21, 2004

How to Return Completed Survey

Mail to:	Please address envelope with .83¢ postage and mail to: Winnetka Caucus Council P.O. Box 311 Winnetka, IL, 60093	
Free Drop Boxes Located:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AC Nielsen Tennis Center • Caribou Coffee • Grand Foods • Lakeside Foods • McDonalds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panera Bread • Starbucks • Village Hall • Winnetka Ice Arena • Winnetka Library

In each section of the Survey there is space to add your valued comments. Also, you may email comments to: caucus@winnetkacaucus.org. Please, take 10-15 minutes to complete the survey and participate in a system that trusts its residents to guide direction.

Finally, The Winnetka Caucus Council is a volunteer organization and its sole source of funding is citizen contributions. **Please make a donation using the enclosed envelope.**

Sincerely,

Richard M. Kates, Chair
Winnetka Caucus Council

- Precinct
- 8 Raheela Anwar
Marion Goldfinger
Maureen Sullivan
Carl Warschausky
- 9 Susan Curry
Jean Henderson
Pat Horne
Michael Pechette
- 10 Mort Doblin
Mary Goodrich
Tracey McCormick
Jean Stonier
- 11 Richard Daley
Arthur Hershkowitz
Mary Hines
Marvin Levine
- 12 Kathy Fink
Gabriellie Fischer
Jim Gotta
Joel Riechers
- 13 Anita Andren
Lillian Brandforn
Gene Greable
Sandy Ober
- 14 Pat Nemarva
Missy Ravid
Denise Snackard
Doug Thompson
- 15 Elena Dreiske
Ed Harney
Louise Holland
Linda Pedian
- 16 Doug Harness
Charlie Hoffman
Jane Raveret
Robert Wilcox
- 17 Terrance Duffy
Chris Johnson
Kelly Matthews-Pluta
Luvie Myers
- 18 Martin Kenny
Doug Schmidt
Baird Smart
Lauren Spears
- 19 Mike Atkinson
Robert Fragen
Nancy Lucey
Joe Szokol
- 43 Melissa Mizel
Jeanne Morette
Susan Rubnitz
Sherwyn Warren
- 47 John Campbell
Carol Cawley
Joe Dillon
Tracy Moag
- 49 Martin Beck
Beth Boehrer
Cathleen Costello
Alfred Torrence
- 66 Mike Kohler
Nancy Silberman
Peter Silberman
Gary Walther
- 71 Laura Henzlik
Lynda Knott
Nancy Marcus
Rita Osborne
- At large Lindsay Gorman
Richard Kates
Enrico Plati



DEMOGRAPHICS

1. How long have you been a resident of Winnetka? Check one
0-2 Years _____ 10-15 Years _____
3-5 Years _____ 16-25 Years _____
6-9 Years _____ >25 Years _____
2. How many adults reside in your household? Indicate number(s)
Ages 25-35 _____ Ages 56-65 _____
Ages 36-45 _____ Ages 66-75 _____
Ages 46-55 _____ >76 Years of Age _____
3. How many children reside in your household? Indicate number(s)
Ages 1-6 _____ Ages 15-18 _____
Ages 7-10 _____ Ages 18-24 _____
Ages 11-14 _____
4. Of the adults residing in your household how many are? Indicate number(s)
Employed/Self-Employed _____ Retired _____
Stay-At-Home Mom/Dad _____ Other _____
5. Do you own or rent your home? Check one.....Own _____
Rent _____

VILLAGE QUESTIONS

1. Home Rule can give Winnetka greater flexibility in dealing with legislative and budgetary issues such as the projected 2% budget deficit that the Village faces. An ad hoc committee appointed by the Village Council recently studied the pros and cons of Winnetka adopting Home Rule by referendum. How would you like to learn about Home Rule, other than the caucus sponsored debate in September, before voting on the anticipated referendum in Spring, 2005? Check all that apply.
- Pioneer Press articles and editorials..... _____
Village web site and special mailing..... _____
Small group meetings..... _____
Large group meetings..... _____
Other; please specify..... _____
2. The Affordable Housing Planning and Appeals Act (Illinois Act 93-595) was enacted by the Illinois Legislature in 2004. Do you believe that information concerning the possible impact of this act on our village should be disseminated to the citizens of Winnetka?
- Yes _____
No _____

Comments:

3. For more than 30 years the Village has prohibited on-street parking from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. to enhance the Village's ambiance and facilitate street sweeping and snow removal. Processing and monitoring 5,000 annual special requests for overnight on-street parking creates a burden for the Police Department personnel, taking manpower and attention from more pressing police matters. The police chief believes this parking ban serves little or no law enforcement purpose. The current ban on street parking during snow conditions would remain.

Would you be in favor of lifting the parking ban from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m?

3a) In residential neighborhoods?.....Yes _____ No _____

3b) In commercial areas?.....Yes _____ No _____

4. A current ordinance requires a permit for removal of any tree measuring 10 inches or more in diameter (measured at 2 feet from ground level). Which of the following measures do you favor?
Check One

Strictly prohibit tree removal that meets or exceeds the above measurements rather than requiring a permit for their removal..... _____

Reduce the tree diameter that requires a permit..... _____

Leave the ordinance as it currently reads..... _____

Consider the tree species in addition to its size..... _____

5. Some people perceive that there is a parking problem in Winnetka. If you have a parking problem in any of the following areas, please designate:

Lincoln Avenue (East Elm Street) _____

Indian Hill..... _____

Other (identify)..... _____

5a) What is your use when you have the problem?: Check any that apply.

Commercial district use..... _____

Residential use..... _____

Commuter use..... _____

Community House use..... _____

5b) What suggestions do you have to solve the problem keeping in mind aesthetic considerations and the Village's estimate that parking space construction costs are approximately \$25,000 per space. _____

6. Occasionally legislation is proposed in Springfield that could negatively impact Winnetka's budget or our quality of life. Would you be willing to give the Village office your e-mail address so that in such events the Village office can send an e-mail informing you of such legislation?

Yes _____

No _____

If yes Would you be willing to e-mail your legislators expressing your concern if you had their e-mail addresses? [The Village cannot suggest you do so.].....

Yes _____

No _____

7. Sales tax receipts help support the Village of Winnetka. Total sales tax revenue has been decreasing over recent years, placing an additional burden on the village budget. What would stimulate tax-generating business in the Village?

		Not Important			Very important
7a) Financial incentives to attract new retailers	1	2	3	4	5
7b) Beautification activities (e.g.; better lighting, improved streetscape)	1	2	3	4	5
7c) Additional signage in and to the business districts.....	1	2	3	4	5
7d) Advertising in local and regional publications.....	1	2	3	4	5
7e) Promoting cultural activities in the Village (e.g.; art fair, music)	1	2	3	4	5

7f) Other specify _____

7g) For which of the above would you favor spending tax dollars? Check all that apply

7a_____ 7b_____ 7c_____ 7d_____ 7e_____ 7f_____

8. What kind of retail establishments would you **actually use** if they were added to the mix of stores in the Village of Winnetka? Check all that apply.

- Hardware Store..... _____
- Entertainment establishment (e.g.; movie theater or live theater)..... _____
- Specialty food or wine store..... _____
- Specialty Clothing:..... Children's _____ Men's _____ Women's _____
- Restaurants:.....Gourmet _____ Family style _____ Fast food _____ Ice cream _____
- Other, specify _____

9. Please use the space below to provide any other comments regarding these or other village issues. All input is viewed as important

If you have recommendations for a Candidate for Village Council or Village President please use the space provided on page 12 at end of the survey. Thank you.

LIBRARY QUESTIONS

SERVICES

1. Do you use the internet and library web site to:

Search for book titles	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Reserve books, books on tape	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Renew library materials	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Access databases from home (See # 4)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
2. What do you like best about the library? _____

3. What would you like to see improved? _____

4. The library purchases print references and periodicals, such as Encyclopedia Britannica and The New York Times. It also purchases internet references and periodicals. These are available online in the Library or from your home/office 24/7 via the library web page (www.wpld.alibrary.com), using your library card number. Available are:

Physicians Desk Reference	General Reference Center (magazines)	The New York Times – current and since 1851	Wall Street Journal
Health and Wellness Resource Center	Encyclopedia Britannica	Chicago Tribune	Mergent Online (Moody's)
Access Science	Literature Resource Center and Contemporary Authors	Electric Library (magazines)	Morningstar
Biography Resource Center	History Resource Center	OCLC FirstSearch (Magazines)	General Business File (Investext)
Facts on File	Novelist	Heritage Quest	World Book Encyclopedia

What other sources would you like added?

FINANCES

5. The Caucus needs the community’s input regarding the Library’s financial shortfall. The Winnetka/Northfield Library district was incorporated in 1974 has not raised tax rates since then and has no significant revenue sources other than its own tax base. For 30 years, the library board, administrators and staff have worked to cut costs, but now the revenue shortfall is so large there appear to be only two alternatives, either reduce services and drastically cut hours of operation or increase taxes. A tax increase would require voter approval. How do you wish to deal with this?

5a) Reduce services and hours of operation (currently M-Th 9-9, F-S 9-5, Sunday 1-5 during school year, closed summer Sundays)..... Yes _____
No _____

If “yes”, then
What days of the week do you want to close the Library? _____
What services to eliminate? _____

5b) Maintain services and hours of operation and propose a limited tax rate increase (Currently, most home owners pay about 2.3% of their total real estate tax for the library)
Yes _____ No _____

Please use the space below to provide any other comments regarding the Winnetka/Northfield Library District. All input is viewed as important.

If you have recommendations for a Candidate for the Winnetka/Northfield Library District please use the space provided on page 12 at end of the survey. Thank you.

PARKS QUESTIONS

1. Should the Park District increase the height of the sledding hill?.....Yes _____
No _____

2. In the past, the Park District had an arrangement with New Trier that permitted Winnetka residents early morning and evening "lap" swimming. The program was canceled due to lack of use. If this program were reinstated would you use it?.....Yes _____
No _____

If yes, when: Check one.....early AM _____ evening _____ both _____

3. The Park District Garage is in a serious state of disrepair and must be replaced at a cost the Park Board estimates as much as \$2,000,000. The Park District has \$1,100,00 in unallocated funds. Should the Park District Board explore a less expensive structure?.....Yes _____
No _____

3. If a house is for sale adjacent to Corwin or another Park, or a beach, should the Park District purchase it and tear it down to expand the park, playing field, or beach thereby removing it from the tax rolls?
Yes _____
No _____

4a) **If "yes"**, how should the Park District pay for such a purchase? Check one
Raise taxes _____
Borrow funds _____
Issue bonds..... _____

4b) **If "yes"**, what do you want to expand? Check one
Beach..... _____
Park..... _____
Both..... _____

4. Does Winnetka need to build a recreation center that would include space for teenage, young adult, and senior activities?.....Yes _____
No _____

6. Please rate the following

	Facilities					Programs									
	Very Dissatisfied	1	2	3	4	Very Satisfied	5	Very Dissatisfied	1	2	3	4	Very Satisfied	5	
Beaches	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Sailing	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Tennis – Indoor	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Tennis – Outdoor	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Paddle Tennis	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Golf – 18 hole	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Golf – Par 3	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Golf – Driving Range	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Tot Play Lots	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Ice Rink – Skating/Hockey	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Basketball	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Softball / Baseball	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

Please use the space below to provide any other comments regarding the Winnetka Park District. All input is viewed as important.

If you have recommendations for a Candidate for the Winnetka Park District Board please use the space provided on page 12 at end of the survey. Thank you.

SCHOOLS QUESTIONS

1. Approximately 80% of Winnetka households have no children in Winnetka District 36 (public K-8) Schools. If your household currently has no children in Winnetka District 36 (public K-8) schools, what information is deemed necessary in order to continue your support?

- 1a) Present information is adequate _____ Yes _____ No
- 1b) Need more education information _____ Yes _____ No
- 1c) Need more financial information _____ Yes _____ No

If you answered "yes" to question 1b or 1c, please provide details _____

2. Please check any statements that apply to you:

2a) Currently have children in Winnetka District 36 (public K-8) SchoolsYes___ No___

If yes to 2a., which school(s):

Crow Island___ Greeley___ Hubbard Woods___ Skokie___ Washburne___

2b) Have had children in Winnetka District 36 (public K-8) SchoolsYes___ No___

2c) Currently have children in New Trier or another high schoolYes___ No___

2d) Have had children in New Trier or another high schoolYes___ No___

2e) Have not had children in District 36 (public K-8) SchoolsYes___ No___

3. Do you believe the following are useful sources of information regarding Winnetka District 36 (public K-8) Schools:

- Update* (Board of Education newsletter)Yes___ No___
- Learners* (District 36 newsletter)Yes___ No___
- Winnetka Talk*/Pioneer Press.....Yes___ No___
- Website: *www.winnetka.k12.il.us*.....Yes___ No___
- Board of Education meetings.....Yes___ No___
- Public presentations by school officials.....Yes___ No___
- School newsletters/bulletins.....Yes___ No___
- Other (please describe)_____

4. What types of **financial information** would you find most important in assessing the fiscal issues facing the Winnetka District 36 (public K-8) Schools and community:

	Not important		Very important		
	1	2	3	4	5
Annual budget explanations	1	2	3	4	5
Year over year budget comparisons	1	2	3	4	5
Costs versus neighboring districts	1	2	3	4	5
Teacher salaries/benefits versus neighboring districts	1	2	3	4	5
Administration Costs	1	2	3	4	5
Per pupil cost trends	1	2	3	4	5
Other (please describe) _____					

5. What types of **non-financial information** would you find most important in assessing the educational issues facing the Winnetka District 36 (public K-8) Schools and community:

	Not important		Very important		
	1	2	3	4	5
Educational philosophy	1	2	3	4	5
Curriculum and programming details	1	2	3	4	5
Trends in class size	1	2	3	4	5
Teacher qualifications	1	2	3	4	5
Student academic performance	1	2	3	4	5
Other (please describe) _____					

6. What do you believe indicates successful fiscal management?

	Not important		Very important		
	1	2	3	4	5
Per pupil costs over time	1	2	3	4	5
Amount of annual budget increases	1	2	3	4	5
Implementation of cost reduction measures	1	2	3	4	5
Costs in line with neighboring districts	1	2	3	4	5
Frequency/amount of periodic tax referenda	1	2	3	4	5
Adequate facilities maintenance	1	2	3	4	5
Other (please describe) _____					

7. What do you believe indicates a successful primary school education?

	Not important		Very important		
	1	2	3	4	5
Child's positive feeling about school	1	2	3	4	5
Child's overall development (qualitative)	1	2	3	4	5
Responsiveness to individual student's needs	1	2	3	4	5
Well rounded curriculum offerings	1	2	3	4	5
School progress reports/ report cards	1	2	3	4	5
Standardized test scores	1	2	3	4	5
New Trier placement test scores	1	2	3	4	5
Other (please describe) _____					

8. What is your level of satisfaction with how the Winnetka District 36 (public K-8) School Board and Administration are executing their responsibilities in these areas:

	Very Dissatisfied		Very Satisfied		
Quality of education	1	2	3	4	5
Fiscal management	1	2	3	4	5
Facilities management	1	2	3	4	5
Ongoing communications	1	2	3	4	5
Responsiveness to community	1	2	3	4	5
Overall (considering all of above)	1	2	3	4	5

9. If you **currently** have children in Winnetka District 36 (public K-8) schools or high school (if not, please skip question), tell us how satisfied you are with the quality of Winnetka District 36 Schools in the following curriculum areas:

	Very Dissatisfied		Very Satisfied		
Reading	1	2	3	4	5
Writing	1	2	3	4	5
Math	1	2	3	4	5
Science	1	2	3	4	5
Social Studies	1	2	3	4	5
Kinetic Wellness	1	2	3	4	5
Art	1	2	3	4	5
Music	1	2	3	4	5
Foreign Language	1	2	3	4	5
Special Needs	1	2	3	4	5

Please use the space below to provide any other comments regarding the Winnetka Public Schools District 36. All input is viewed as important.

If you have recommendations for a Candidate for the Winnetka Public Schools District 36 Board please use the space provided on page 12 at end of the survey. Thank you.

PLEASE GO TO PAGE 1 TO BEGIN SURVEY

Please suggest names (with phone numbers) of people whom you think would be good candidates for the following Board, Council, and Officer positions. Thank You

Winnetka Village President	
Winnetka Village Council	
Winnetka/Northfield Library Board	
Winnetka Park District Board	
Winnetka Public School Board District 36 (Grades K-8)	

Thank you for taking the time to complete the 2004 Winnetka Caucus Survey! Your insights will be extremely helpful in determining key Platform policy objectives. Again, The Winnetka Caucus Council is a volunteer organization and its sole source of funding is citizen contributions. **Please make a donation using the enclosed envelope.**

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How to return completed survey – please see page 1

**WINNETKA IS IMPORTANT TO YOU
MAKE YOUR OPINION COUNT
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