



PRESS RELEASE

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*Council 66 hosted first citywide Mayoral Candidates Forum in Rochester
City and School District employees questioned the candidates*

ROCHESTER, New York – June 8, 2017 – In the first citywide mayoral candidates forum since the conclusion of the Democratic Party’s designation process, the members of Council 66 affiliates BENTE/AFSCME Local 2419 and AFSCME Local 1635 hosted the top three candidates for Mayor of Rochester to discuss their vision for the future of our city. The Mayor of Rochester Candidates Forum was held on the evening of Thursday, June 8th at East High School. At the forum, candidates were asked about their stance on issues ranging from mayoral control of the city school district, the state constitutional convention that will be on the ballot in November, and economic growth that benefits hardworking families in the Rochester area.

Dan DiClemente, President of both AFSCME Council 66 and BENTE Local 2419, highlighted the significance of the event. “Our members keep the City of Rochester and the Rochester City School District up-and-running every day, so it’s right that we held the first citywide candidates forum since the Democratic Party’s designation process ended,” DiClemente said. “With so much on the line, our members could make the difference in this election.”

Bill Slocum, President of Local 1635, thanked his members for meeting with the candidates. “This was an important and enlightening exchange of views. One of these three candidates will be our next Mayor, and they will decide the direction of Rochester for the next four years or longer. We’re grateful that dozens of our members took the time to talk to the candidates about the issues that matter most to them.”

About Council 66

Council 66 is a part of AFSCME (the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees), and it has 70 Local union affiliates that represent 8,500 public sector workers across Upstate New York and the Hudson Valley. Council 66 coordinates contract negotiations, arbitration and grievances, organizing, political action, issue advocacy, and communications on behalf of our members. The Council is headquartered in the Rochester area and has four other offices in Syracuse, Buffalo, Albany, and the Hudson Valley.

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