



## **New Hampshire Institute for Civics Education**

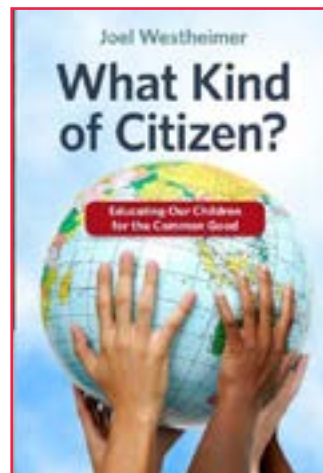
in partnership with

**New Hampshire Association for Middle Level Education  
New Hampshire Historical Society**

present

# **What Kind of Citizen? Educating Middle School Students for the Common Good**

Featuring:



**Joel Westheimer  
University of Ottawa**

**Friday, October 13, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
NH Historical Society,  
30 Park St., Concord, NH**

## Our Agenda

- 8 a.m. Continental Breakfast and Registration
- 8:30 a.m. **Welcome**  
Elizabeth Dubrulle, NH Historical Society  
**Introductions**  
Martha Madsen, President, NH Institute for Civics Education
- 8:35 to 10 a.m. **What Kind of Citizen?**  
**Educating Middle School Students for the Common Good**  
Joel Westheimer
- 10 to 10:20 a.m. Coffee Break
- 10:20 a.m. to Noon Joel Westheimer
- Noon to 12:30 p.m. Lunch from In a Pinch Cafe
- 12:30 to 1:25 p.m. **Teaching Civic Virtues**  
Matthew Hicks, Headmaster, Shaker Road Middle School, Concord and  
Erin Mitchell, YMCA Achievement and Hudson Middle School
- 1:30 to 2:25 p.m. **Naturalization Ceremonies as Civic Learning Opportunities in Middle School**  
Hon. Landya McCafferty of the Federal Court in Concord and  
Barbara Tsiaras, middle school teacher from Bedford
- 2:30 to 3:25 p.m. **Middle School Students Advocate**  
Kate Frey and Aly McKnight of New Futures; Derek Hamilton, Dean of Operations at Pittsfield Middle High School; Jenny Wellington, Justice Committee teacher mediator, Pittsfield Middle High School; and Diane Palmer, Educator
- 3:25 to 3:30 p.m. Instructions for curriculum submission and evaluations.

**Educators will receive 12 professional development hours and a \$75 stipend upon completion of a lesson plan based on the workshop content.**

## Our Speakers

**Joel Westheimer** is the author of *What Kind of Citizen: Educating Our Children for the Common Good* and Chair in Democracy and Education at the University of Ottawa. Westheimer received his Ph.D. from Stanford University and his B.S.E. from Princeton University. He is co-founder and executive director of Democratic Dialogue, a research collaborative dedicated to the critical exploration of democratic ideals in education and society. Westheimer's recent award-winning book is *Pledging Allegiance: The Politics of Patriotism in America's Schools* (foreword by the late Howard Zinn). He is also author of the critically acclaimed *Among Schoolteachers: Community, Autonomy and Ideology in Teachers' Work*. He's currently working on his third book, *Restoring the Public in Public Education*. He publishes widely in newspapers, magazines and scholarly journals. Learn more on his website at [www.democraticdialogue.com](http://www.democraticdialogue.com).



**Kate Frey** serves as Vice President of Advocacy of New Futures and has primary responsibility of directing and managing New Futures' alcohol and other drug policy legislative, communications, and community engagement initiatives. Also in her role as Vice President of Advocacy, Kate analyzes state budget policies related to the revenues raised from the sale of alcohol in the state in order to ensure adequate and appropriate funding for substance misuse programs and services and works with policymakers and stakeholders to influence spending priorities for prevention, treatment and recovery. Kate also tracks, analyzes, and synthesizes policy, legislative proposals, best practices, and research related to alcohol and other drug policy issues. Kate furthers the portion of New Futures' mission related to collaborating and educating to prevent and reduce problems associated with alcohol and other drugs in New Hampshire, and promotes New Futures' vision of state and local communities whose public policies support prevention, treatment, and recovery oriented efforts to reduce alcohol and other drug problems. Kate comes to New Futures after a 20 year career with the State of New Hampshire, which included serving as the Executive Director of the NH Commission on the Status of Women, and the State Children's Health Insurance Program Coordinator within the Department of Health and Human Services. For the last 11 years prior to coming to New Futures, Kate worked in the Division of Public Health Services as the Legislative Liaison/Policy Administrator. Kate received her degree in Social Science from St Bonaventure University.



**Derek Hamilton** currently serves as the Dean of Operations for the Pittsfield School District, located in central New Hampshire. Pittsfield is a small, rural town, with a population of approximately 4,100 people. The district's enrollment is approximately 575 students, PS-12. Hamilton has served as the Dean of Operations for the past four years. Prior to serving as the Dean of Operations, Hamilton served the Pittsfield community as a high school social studies teacher for eight years. Additionally, Hamilton served in a number of school leadership roles including the co-chair of the Site Council, the middle high school's governing body, and as the lead teacher on the student led-conference and alternative scheduling focus groups. Among other commitments, Hamilton has served as the varsity boys soccer coach for the past ten years; he also served as the varsity boys basketball coach for the Shaker Regional School District in Belmont for three seasons.



## Our Speakers - continued

**Matthew Hicks** grew up in Concord, attending public schools through high school. In 1996, he received a bachelor's degree in Public Policy from Hamilton College (Clinton, NY) before attending UNH to earn a master's in teaching with a concentration in history. He worked in seacoast area public schools while in graduate school before beginning his teaching career as a social studies teacher at Bishop Brady High School in Concord. After leaving Brady, he began working as a social studies teacher at Shaker Road School in Concord. In 2002, he earned a master's in school leadership at Harvard University and returned to SRS as a teaching assistant principal. He is currently the principal at Shaker Road School and a PhD candidate at UNH, finishing his dissertation on followership and leadership in public high schools. Hicks recently finished his second term as a member of New England Association of Schools & Colleges, Commission on Independent Schools, and he continues to chair visiting committees. He is also active in the Concord community, serving on the planning board and Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission.



**Honorable Landya Boyer McCafferty** serves as District Judge in the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire. Prior to that, Judge McCafferty served in the same court for 3 1/2 years as Magistrate Judge. Before joining the district court bench, Judge McCafferty served for more than six years (2004-2010) as Disciplinary Counsel for the New Hampshire Attorney Discipline Office. Most of her career, however, was spent as a staff attorney for the New Hampshire Public Defender Office, with two of those years as an appellate defender arguing appeals on behalf of indigent defendants before the New Hampshire Supreme Court (1995-2003). Judge McCafferty worked for a short time in private practice for the McLane Law Firm, and immediately out of law school, she clerked for the Honorable Norman H. Stahl at both the federal district and First Circuit Court of Appeals. Before law school, Judge McCafferty worked for four years (1984-1988) at St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire, as a teacher, coach, and admissions officer. Judge McCafferty attended Harvard University for her undergraduate studies and earned her law degree from Northeastern School of Law in 1991.



**Aly McKnight** is the community engagement coordinator at New Futures, where she has primary responsibility for recruiting and training prevention, treatment, and recovery advocates to participate in the legislative process. Aly earned her BA in public policy and sociology at William Smith College in Geneva, NY. Much of her academic and extracurricular time at William Smith focused on social justice through participation in coalition-building, community dialogues, and committees on organizational change. Specifically, her work focused on campus activism against sexual violence and community activism for racial justice. In 2013, she studied abroad for a semester at the University of Kwazulu-Natal in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. After graduating, Aly spent two years working in Nashua as a field organizer, an assistant to Mayor Jim Donchess, and a substance misuse professional in the Division of Public Health and Community Services. Her work in Nashua focused on building a stronger continuum of care for prevention, treatment, and recovery services by bringing community partners together to align goals and set strategy. Recently, Aly joined the Board of Directors for the Friends of NH Drug Courts. Aly grew up in the Souhegan Valley and is a proud alum of both Souhegan High School in Amherst, NH and the Boys and Girls Club of Souhegan Valley in Milford, NH. She currently lives in Manchester.



**Erin Mitchell** graduated in 2008 from Meredith College in Raleigh, completing a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Physiology while playing NCAA basketball. Erin began her professional career as a Health and Wellness Director for the Boys and Girls Club, implementing programs that introduced healthy lifestyles, responsible citizenship, and academic success. From 2013 to 2016, Erin developed a much greater appreciation for the Y's influence in the communities she worked for, serving as Director of Healthy Living. Most recently Erin and the YMCA of Greater Nashua launched the Y Achievement Center located at Hudson Memorial School in the Fall of 2016. This ground-breaking initiative is giving Hudson's youth a unique perspective on how positive character traits such as optimism, gratitude and grit can help them become more productive in and outside of the classroom.

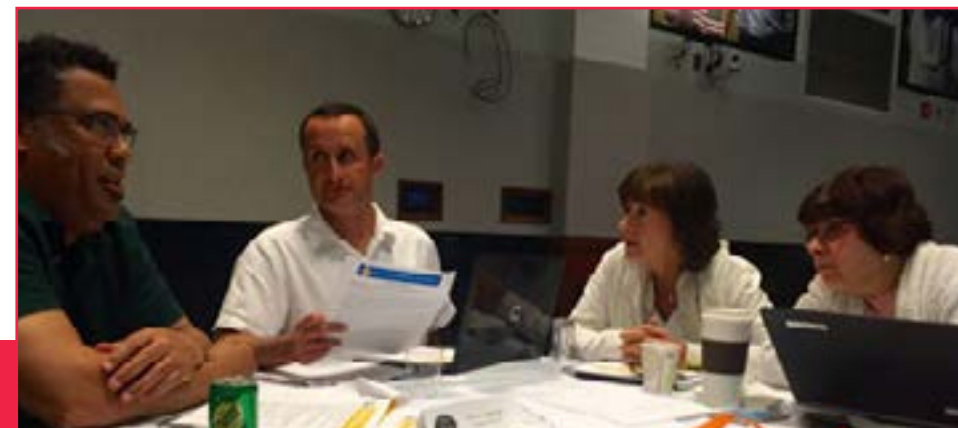


**Diane Palmer** has been an educator for over 40 years. She received her BA from Smith College, Ed.M from Harvard, and Ph.D. from University of Maryland, College Park. She has been primarily a high school teacher of social studies (history, government and geography) and English. She has also been a high school principal and a consultant. For several years she was Massachusetts state coordinator for We the People programs of the Center for Civic Education and also trained teachers in Latin America in use of the materials. She has lived and worked in several Latin American countries and worked in several countries of Eastern Europe. Presently she works as a volunteer in a women's shelter and with the League of Women Voters.

**Barbara Tsiaras** is a teacher at Lurgio Middle School in Bedford, NH. She is a graduate of Saint Anselm College and has earned a Masters of Curriculum and Development from Plymouth State University and has taken extended education classes in English Language Literacy and ESOL. Throughout her 20 year career as a Social Studies teacher, Mrs. Tsiaras and her students have participated in a multiple of Civic initiatives, such as, CSAN's Cub reporters, Politics and Eggs, Kid's Voting NH, Mock Trial NH, National History Day in Washington, DC, National Geography Bee in Washington, DC, and Naturalization Ceremonies in Concord, NH.



**Jenny Wellington** began her career as a New York City Teaching Fellow, spending six years teaching middle school in the Bronx and Queens where she received her MA in English Education from City College. For that last seven years, she has been at Pittsfield Middle High School where she teaches 11/12 English, acts as the Humanities Chair, and is the advisor for the school's Restorative Justice program. Her student-centered instructional approaches have been featured in articles in The Atlantic and The Hechinger Report. Edutopia completed a video highlighting how students in the Justice Committee are trained to mediate conflicts in the school using Restorative Justice.



## Readings:

*Why Middle School Is an Ideal Time to Teach Civic Engagement* from the National Association of Independent Schools website:  
<https://www.nais.org/learn/independent-ideas/september-2015/why-middle-school-is-an-ideal-time-to-teach-civic/>

*What Kind of Citizen? The Politics of Educating for Democracy* by Joel Westheimer and Joseph Kahne from the American Education Research Journal:  
<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.3102/00028312041002237>

*Involving Youth Advocates in Policy Change* Webinar created by Dover Youth 2 Youth:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhKY7xeUSfs&feature=youtu.be>

## The NH Institute for Civics Education is grateful for the generosity of its sponsors

William W. Treat Foundation  
NH Supreme Court Society  
Friends of Charles F. Leahy  
The NH Bar Foundation  
William W. Upton

## We are thankful for the guidance of our trustees

Mary Susan Leahy Chair	Aine Donovan	Kathy Mathis
Martha M. Madsen President	Charles G. Douglas	Joe McQuaid
Kimberly Pecora Treasurer	Dianne Duncan	Dennis Perreault
Anthony Galdieri Secretary	Sen. Dan Feltes	Christine Rath
Tristan Black-Ingersoll	Eileen Fox	Gregory L. Snyder
Dina M. Chaitowitz	John Greabe	Dianna Terrell
Todd DeMitchell	Chris Herr	Dan Wise
	John Kacavas	Susan Wolowitz
	John M. Lewis	