



Join the Civil Discourse Discussions on Values

January 14, 2022 (Wellesley, MA) - Limited spots are still available for community members and businesses to join the Wellesley Civil Discourse Initiative for a [three-part dialogue series](#) focused on values. Discussions will take place via Zoom on **January 27, February 3, and February 17 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

Because the dialogues build on each other, participants are asked to commit to **all three dialogues**. [Advance registration is required](#) and will close on January 21 or sooner, if capacity is reached.

The series will explore the personal values and community values that shape how we talk to each other about issues facing our schools and our community. In small discussion groups, participants will create communication agreements and practice engaging on a topic about which there may be differences of opinion or perspective.

Each small dialogue group will meet on Zoom and will be guided by one or two volunteer facilitators from our community who have been trained in the [reflective structured dialogue method by the Essential Partners consulting group](#). The first two dialogues will involve structured conversations on the specific topics below; participants will choose the third dialogue topic as a group.

- **Dialogue 1, Thursday, January 27:** Share personal values and experiences and what being part of this community means to us.
- **Dialogue 2, Thursday, February 3:** Identify the values we want to see reflected in how we talk to each other, and communication agreements that reflect those values.
- **Dialogue 3, Thursday, February 17:** Apply our communication agreements and practice deep engagement on a topic chosen by participants that is affecting our schools and/or our community.

Please [sign up now](#) to secure a spot. Participants should be adults or older, mature teens.

Participating sponsors for this series include Temple Beth Elohim, UU Wellesley Hills, St. John – St. Paul Catholic Collaborative, Wellesley Weston Chabad, Wellesley Village Church, Wellesley PTO Central Council, and the Wellesley Freedom Team.

The Wellesley Civil Discourse Initiative is a volunteer effort to bring community members together for small group dialogues in an atmosphere of respect and trust. The initiative launched in March 2021 and aims to address the increasingly divisive tone of our public discourse in a constructive environment. Funding for this dialogue series was granted from the R.W. Babson Fund by the Wellesley Select Board. There is no cost to participants or sponsors.

For information or questions, please email WellesleyCivilDiscourse@gmail.com

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