



## Degen, Schulman, Giger and Barringer

**The Lowell Sun**

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Groton residents are fortunate to have nine concerned and well-qualified citizens vying for two seats on both the Board of Selectmen and School Committee.

In the race for the Board of Selectmen, incumbents Joshua Degen and Stuart Schulman are being challenged by state Rep. Robert Hargraves and Brooks Lyman.

While all four candidates have something to offer, The Sun sees no reason to not re-elect the two incumbents, Degen and Schulman, who have been strong supporters of transparency in government, fiscal responsibility and appropriate economic development. Both were instrumental in bringing the management of Groton to a more professional level by successfully championing a change in local governance and the hiring of the community's first town manager.

The Sun has endorsed Hargraves many times during his various campaigns and considers him to be a good elected official, but we simply see no need for a change in the board's leadership at this time.

In the race for the School Committee, there are five challengers: George Barringer, Chris Clinton, John Giger, Leslie Lathrop and Sean McGinty.

All five candidates have the school district's best interests at heart, but Barringer and Giger are the

two who can best serve the schools and the community at this time.

Giger wants to help the district reduce spending while also improving the quality of education provided to students, and enhance the communication between the district and community

members.

Barringer is concerned about the polarization that has developed between school advocates and other residents. He would like to seek out compromises between the two groups that would allow for fiscal responsibility and a sound education.

Both candidates have extensive budgetary and leadership experience that will serve the School Committee well, particularly given the struggling local, state and national economies.

The Sun endorses Joshua Degen and Stuart Schulman for the Groton Board of Selectmen and George Barringer and John Giger for the Groton School Committee in the May 18 annual town election.