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Constitution Day Hosts Roundtable on Public Education, Democracy

Public education for all children is a foundation stone of this nation's success. But changing times bring changing challenges. We can agree that children should learn basic skills, but what else do they need? What central purpose do we want our schools to serve today?

On Saturday, Sept 17, Constitution Day Centre Inc., a nonpartisan educational nonprofit, will host a community deliberative roundtable from noon to 2 p.m. The event is open to the public and will be held at the American Legion Post 245, 1950 Science Park Rd., State College. Sept. 17 celebrates the 235th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution by delegates of the original 13 states.

Groups of 8-12 people will discuss the topic: *What is the role of public education in our community?* Every group will deliberate 3 approaches: 1. To prepare our students to be college and career ready. 2. To be effective citizens. 3. To develop their individual talents. The goal is to hear every view, to find common ground, and to share with our overall community and policymakers.

"Constitution Day Centre has sponsored successful in-person and virtual celebrations from 2017 through 2021," says President David Hutchinson. "This September, we are planning a community deliberative roundtable and inviting local residents with diverse perspectives to listen, deliberate, and find common ground. Our democracy depends on civil dialogue, deliberation, and compromise. We agree more than we disagree."

In addition, the non-partisan education organization will honor the 2022 recipient of the Madison Award for Civility in the Community. Light refreshments will be available. For free registration, email info@constitutiondaycentre.org. The public is invited to attend.

More information is at constitutiondaycentre.org or follow Constitution Day Centre on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.