Talking Points: Pete Buttigieg

Spoken by the Candidate

Event: Bowling with Buttigieg

* My name is Pete Buttigieg and I am running for the democratic parties nomination for President of the United States. I am a former mayor, of a little city in middle America known as South Bend. I am a veteran, a scholar, a loving husband, and most importantly a dog dad to Truman and Buddy.
* As Mayor of South Bend I was able to help cut unemployment in half, raise household income by 31%, and under my watch poverty fell by almost a third. It was my goal to make South Bend a place where every member of the community felt as though they were safe and that they belonged, and if I am elected President I hope to do the same for every citizen of this country.
* My candidacy is about charting a new course for our country. It is about engaging people from all walks of life to join our cause and restore dignity to the office of the Presidency. Part of this new course includes a series of democratic reforms to longstanding systems that simply aren’t working anymore.
* We need to replace the electoral college with a national popular vote. It’s simple, the candidate who gets the most votes should become President of the United States. I support the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact to make a popular vote system a reality and ensure the voice of every American is heard loud and clear.
* Democratic reforms include depoliticizing our judicial system. As president, I will create a bipartisan reform commission to recommend ways to stop the politicization of our highest court. Whether that be adding judges or creating term limits we must restore Americans’ faith in the Supreme Court.
* I believe that voters should choose their representatives, not politicians who draw the lines of their own districts. As President, I would put an end to partisan gerrymandering. Politicians should get reelected based on the merits of their work, not because they handpick who they represent.
* As the candidate with the lowest net worth in the field, I can strongly say that I believe we need to reform campaign finance rules. The amount of money in your bank account should not play the enormous role that it currently does in our political system. We need to strengthen the federal election commission and overturn Citizens United.
* Strengthening election security is a top priority. We weren’t prepared for the unprecedented threats of the 2016 election, and as President I will work to ensure every election is legitimate and secure.
* I want to thank Pinstripes for hosting our conversation tonight and my good friend Mandy Moore for being a part of our journey to the White House!
* You, people of New Hampshire, are next to cast a ballot in this critical election. Become part of the movement bringing generational change and fresh ideas to Washington. Join me in the fight of our lives to restore dignity to the office of the Presidency.