



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

# VOTERS GUIDE: PRIMARY ELECTION 2025

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

Listing candidates on the ballots of **Abington, Cheltenham, Jenkintown, Lower Moreland, Rockledge, Springfield and Upper Dublin.**

Polls open 7 AM to 8 PM

This guide may be taken into the voting booth.

A nonpartisan publication from the League of Women Voters Abington-Cheltenham-Jenkintown Area and the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund.

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## IN THIS ELECTION WE VOTE FOR:

### State:

Judge, Superior Court  
Judge, Commonwealth Court

### County:

Judge, Court of Common Pleas  
Jury Commissioner

### Municipal:

Abington School Directors  
Abington Commissioners  
(Wards 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14)  
Abington Tax Collector  
Cheltenham School Directors

Cheltenham Commissioners (Wards 2, 4, 6)

Cheltenham Finance Officer  
Jenkintown School Directors  
Jenkintown Borough Council  
(Wards 1, 2, 3, 4)

Jenkintown Mayor

Jenkintown Tax Collector  
Lower Moreland School Directors  
Lower Moreland Commissioners  
(Wards 2, 4, 6)

Lower Moreland Tax Collector  
Rockledge Borough Council  
Rockledge Borough Council—2 Year Term  
Rockledge Mayor  
Rockledge Tax Collector

Springfield School Directors

Springfield Commissioners (Wards 2, 4, 6)  
Springfield Tax Collector

Upper Dublin School Directors  
Upper Dublin School Director—2 Year Term  
Upper Dublin Commissioners (Wards 2, 4, 6)  
Upper Dublin Tax Collector

### Referendum:

Abington & Rockledge Ballot Question  
(*Independents may vote on this item*)

### Precinct:

Judge of Election  
Inspector of Election  
(*not listed in this guide*)

We have made every effort to reach candidates on the ballot in local and county races covering our communities. Some candidates may not have been able to submit their information and responses in time to meet our print deadline.

Please visit our online guide, [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org), to find more candidate information and photos, as well as information on races elsewhere in Montgomery County.

We have not listed candidates for Judge and Inspector of Elections.



**JUDICIAL ELECTIONS** occur in odd-numbered years. Justices and judges may serve an unlimited number of terms until they reach the mandatory retirement age of 75. At the end of a term, a Judge can be retained (or not) by the voters. Vacancies that exist before an election may be filled by gubernatorial appointment until an election is held. These selections are subject to Senate confirmation.

• **JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Superior Court is one of Pennsylvania's two statewide intermediate appellate courts. This court, established in 1895, reviews most of the civil and criminal cases appealed from the Courts of Common Pleas in the Commonwealth's 67 counties. The Superior Court consists of 15 judges. The president judge is elected to a five-year term by his or her colleagues. A large number of appeals flow to Superior Court from the trial courts. Generally, appeals are heard by panels of three judges sitting in Philadelphia, Harrisburg or Pittsburgh. The court often is the final arbiter of legal disputes. Although the Supreme Court may grant a petition for review of a Superior Court decision, most such petitions are denied and the ruling of the Superior Court stands.

**Term: 10 years · Salary: \$247,188 · Vote for ONE**

*For more nonpartisan information on appellate court candidates, view the PA Bar Association’s ratings and questionnaires here: [www.pabar.org/site/For-Lawyers/Committees-Commissions/Judicial-Evaluation/Resources/JEC-Ratings/2025](http://www.pabar.org/site/For-Lawyers/Committees-Commissions/Judicial-Evaluation/Resources/JEC-Ratings/2025)*

**DEMOCRATIC**  
**BRANDON NEUMAN**, Washington County  
**Occupation** Judge of the Court of Common Pleas  
**Education** University of Richmond - BA in Criminal Justice. Duquesne University Kline School of Law - Juris Doctorate

**Qualifications** 8th year as a Judge- Presiding over Family, Civil, Criminal and Veteran's Court -Sheriff & Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board. PA House of Representatives. Served on House Judiciary Committee, Commission on Crime Delinquency, and PA Commission on Sentencing -Former Trial Lawyer  
**Campaign Website** [judgeneuman.com](http://judgeneuman.com)  
**Facebook URL** [facebook.com/VoteNeuman/](https://facebook.com/VoteNeuman/)  
Questions:

**Q: Why do you seek to serve as an appellate court judge?**  
A: To bring my extensive and diverse experience to the Superior Court. The PA Bar Association stated, “The Candidate’s opinions demonstrate knowledge of substantive and procedural legal issues and the ability to

provide good factual backgrounds and well-developed legal arguments.” I have a proven record of being fair and impartial. As a judge, I have the experience to properly rule on any case presented to the PA Superior Court. As a legislator, I wrote laws to protect victims of sexual assault. Pennsylvanians deserve a judge who has broad experience. As a Judge, I have presided over Veterans Court, Family, and Criminal matters, Dependency cases, and Civil cases. My experiences allow me to be the best candidate for the PA Superior Court.

**Q: What process would you follow to be fair and impartial in reviewing and evaluating opposing positions presented in a case?**

A: Part of the reason I was Highly Recommended by the PA Bar Association was that my colleagues indicated I have a high level of integrity, treat all individuals fairly, and is patient with all persons who appear before me. I will not have any preconceived opinions prior to having heard all of the information. I have a proven record as a judge of patiently listening to each party and applying the law equally and appropriately. I understand that parties deserve and expect an impartial ruling that follows the law. Once a case is properly presented to the PA Superior Court, each party is entitled to be heard as the law allows. I am the best candidate for the PA Superior Court based on my unique experiences and proven record as a judge.

**Q: What criteria would you consider in deciding a case that could affect long-standing precedent?**

A: The analysis remains the same for every case. I would first read all documents provided to the court. Then I would research any legal issues that are presented. Next, I would determine if any distinguishable facts about this case would set it apart from any previous ruling made by a PA Appellate Court or The PA Supreme Court. I would also research to determine if there was any change in law since previous rulings addressed a similar legal issue. If there are no distinguishable facts or change in law, then legal precedent would be given great deference. If there was a change in law or the facts of the case are distinguishable, then a full legal analysis pertaining to the legal issue must be explored.

**REPUBLICAN**  
**MARIA BATTISTA**, Clarion County  
**Occupation** Executive/Attorney  
**Education** 2 undergraduate degrees: Elementary Education, Speech Communication & Theatre, Clarion University, B.S.; Westminster College, M.Ed.; Ohio Northern University, J.D.; University of Pittsburgh, Ed.D.  
**Qualifications** 15+ years experience in Civil, Criminal and Administrative Law; Former Assistant District Attorney; Former Attorney with the Governor Corbett Administration; Served as an Administrative Hearing Officer where I presided over hundreds of hearings and

issued hundreds of administrative decisions.  
**Campaign Website** [battistaforjudge.com](http://battistaforjudge.com)  
**Facebook URL** [facebook.com/BattistaForJudge](https://facebook.com/BattistaForJudge)  
**Instagram URL** [www.instagram.com/mariabattistaforjudge/](https://www.instagram.com/mariabattistaforjudge/)

Questions:  
**Q: Why do you seek to serve as an appellate court judge?**

A: In 2008, after studying the courts in more detail, I put on two legal symposiums about the courts. One program discussed the role of courts as protectors of children as a result of the Luzerne cash for kids scandal. I have seen as a practicing attorney, educator and mother how important our judicial system is and what happens when there is a breakdown of that system. When I served as a hearing examiner, which has similar functions as a judge, I issued hundreds of decisions. The decisions I wrote impacted the lives of others. I believe it is a calling and higher duty to serve as a judge. I would be honored to serve as a judge of the Superior Court to ensure our laws and constitution are upheld as written and to provide justice for all.

**Q: What process would you follow to be fair and impartial in reviewing and evaluating opposing positions presented in a case?**

A: The Superior Court is one of two intermediate appellate courts in PA. The Superior Court is responsible for appeals in criminal and most civil cases from the Courts of Common Pleas. This court is also responsible for appeals involving children and families. When a matter is appealed to the Superior Court, it is the role of the judges assigned to the case to review the record from the lower court along with the issue or issues on appeal. Each case has opposing positions/parties. Each case should be fairly and impartially evaluated by the judges based on the specific facts, law and if applicable, the constitution. It is not the role of the court or any judge to legislate from the bench.

**Q: What criteria would you consider in deciding a case that could affect long-standing precedent?**

A: The evaluation of a case does not change even if it could affect long-standing precedent. The role of the judge is to do what is right in every case. The review of case law related to the issue or issues before the court must be analyzed thoroughly in each case along with any constitutional issues raised. While it is rare that landmark cases are overturned, it is possible with a particular set of facts before the court.

**ANN MARIE WHEATCRAFT**, Chester County  
**Occupation** Judge, Court of Common Pleas  
**Education** University of NH School of Law 1990-1993 JD; Pennsylvania State University 1983-1988 BS Psychology and Minor in Business  
**Qualifications** Currently President Judge in Chester

County. Initially elected 2011. 2000-2011 I served as a prosecutor handling every type of criminal case. I have presided over civil, family, criminal, and treatment courts.

**Campaign Website** [www.judgewheatcraftforpa.com](http://www.judgewheatcraftforpa.com)

**Facebook URL** [www.facebook.com/judgewheatcraftforpa](http://www.facebook.com/judgewheatcraftforpa)

Questions:

**Q: Why do you seek to serve as an appellate court judge?**

A: For 25 years I have served Chester County; first as a prosecutor and for the last 14 years on the Court of Common Pleas. I have presided over criminal, civil, and family proceedings and, since 2018, I have supervised our treatment courts, where we reduce recidivism and restore families. My daily courtroom experience as a litigator and as a trial judge make me an ideal candidate for the appellate work of Superior Court. I have been teaching criminal court practice to newly elected PA trial judges since 2016. My many years in family court and in civil court ensure that I have the appropriate experience in all areas of practice under Superior Court's purview. I wish to employ my expertise and experience in service to all PA citizens.

**Q: What process would you follow to be fair and impartial in reviewing and evaluating opposing positions presented in a case?**

A: I have been employing a fair and impartial process in handling cases in my courtroom since taking the bench in 2012. I will continue to treat all with respect and dignity, considering evidence presented, arguments of parties, and the applicable law in deciding cases. On Superior Court, three-judge panels collaborate on cases, determining the appropriate law and applying it to the facts at issue. As the President Judge in my county, I collaborate with county officials and all department heads to ensure our courts are efficient and fair for citizens. Having been an advocate and a litigator for 12 years prior to taking the bench, I understand the role of the parties and am respectful of each party fulfilling their role in our justice system.

**Q: What criteria would you consider in deciding a case that could affect long-standing precedent?**

A: In deciding cases, the same process applies as noted above. Judges must not legislate from the bench but rather apply the laws and Constitution as written, without personal or political bias. I participated in the judicial

evaluation process of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and after they conducted a thorough investigation and panel interview, the Association awarded me their highest rating. "Due to her broad experience as a practicing attorney, proven record of judicial leadership, high ethical standards and dedication to the legal profession, the commission is confident that the candidate would serve with distinction as a Superior Court judge and highly recommends her candidacy." [www.Pabar.org](http://www.Pabar.org), 2025 Sup. Court Judicial Eval. Committee.

## • JUDGE OF THE COMMONWEALTH COURT •

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Commonwealth Court is one of Pennsylvania's two statewide intermediate appellate courts. This court, established in 1968, is unlike any other state court in the nation. Its jurisdiction generally is limited to legal matters involving state and local government and regulatory agencies. Litigation typically focuses on subjects such as banking, insurance, utility regulation, and laws affecting taxation, land use, elections, labor practices, and workers compensation. The Commonwealth Court also acts as a court of original jurisdiction, or a trial court, when lawsuits are filed by or against the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth Court is made up of nine judges. The president judge is elected to a five-year term by his/her colleagues. Generally, appeals are heard by panels of three judges sitting in Philadelphia, Harrisburg, or Pittsburgh.

**Term: 10 years · Salary: \$247,188 · Vote for ONE**

*For more nonpartisan information on appellate court candidates, view the PA Bar Association's ratings and questionnaires here: [www.pabar.org/site/For-Lawyers/Committees-Commissions/Judicial-Evaluation/Resources/JEC-Ratings/2025](http://www.pabar.org/site/For-Lawyers/Committees-Commissions/Judicial-Evaluation/Resources/JEC-Ratings/2025)*

## DEMOCRATIC

**STELLA TSAI**, Philadelphia County

**Occupation** Judge, Court of Common Pleas

**Education** B.A. - Pennsylvania State University J.D. - University of Pennsylvania

**Qualifications** My 35 plus years of experience in law and the judiciary have equipped me with the skills and insights necessary to address the complex social, economic, and governmental issues facing our Commonwealth.

**Campaign Website** [stellaforjudge.com](http://stellaforjudge.com)

**Facebook URL** [facebook.com/StellaForJudge](http://facebook.com/StellaForJudge)

**X Handle** @Stellaforjudge

**Instagram URL** [instagram.com/stellaforjudge/](http://instagram.com/stellaforjudge/)

Questions:

**Q: Why do you seek to serve as an appellate court judge?**

A: It has been my great honor to serve as judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the last eight years. I decided to run for the vacant seat on the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania because the judges on this Court weigh in on many of the important issues of our day that will affect citizens across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, such as public education, the environment, voting rights, workers' rights, and the right to free and fair elections. The Commonwealth Court is often the last resort for these litigants because the Supreme Court only hears a select number of cases. I understand the responsibilities which come with serving as a judge and have an established record which demonstrates my commitment to ethics, integrity, and fairness.

**Q: What process would you follow to be fair and impartial in reviewing and evaluating opposing positions presented in a case?**

A: My job requires me to act impartially and to treat all parties with respect. I want all parties to feel that they are on a level playing field. I do my best to put the parties at ease and allow them to have a free and fair opportunity to present their case, including language access, and that parties receive what they recognize to be due process under the law.

**Q: What criteria would you consider in deciding a case that could affect long-standing precedent?**

A: If I were to consider a case that might affect long-standing precedent, I would apply the guidelines articulated by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, which recognized that a decision to overrule a past decision requires special consideration and depends on a number of factors, including: the age and lineage of the decision, the quality of reasoning, the workability of the rule it established, and its consistency with other related decisions reliance on the decision." "See *Allegheny Reproductive Health Center v. PA Department of Human Services*, 309 A.3d 808 (Pa. 2024). *Stare decisis* is "afforded 'special force in the area of statutory interpretation' In contest to constitutional law" and "does not demand unseeing allegiance to things. Id.

**Independents living in Abington and Rockledge can vote on the Ballot Question (see p. 18).**



**Remember: Democracy is NOT a spectator sport. Get out and VOTE!**



**REPUBLICAN**

**MATT WOLFORD**, Erie County

**Occupation** Attorney

**Education** Undergraduate degree: Penn State; Juris Doctorate degree: Temple University School of Law

**Qualifications** 38 years of relevant experience in government and private sectors, including Commonwealth Court hearings and appeals; ranked "Highly Recommended" by the PA Bar Association; see website for additional details

**Campaign Website** [www.mattwolfordforjudge.com](http://www.mattwolfordforjudge.com)

**Facebook URL** [facebook.com/Mattwolfordforjudge](https://facebook.com/Mattwolfordforjudge)

Questions:

**Q: Why do you seek to serve as an appellate court judge?**

A: I seek to serve on the Commonwealth Court specifically due to its critical importance to the fundamental rights of “We the People.” The Commonwealth Court – which acts mostly as an appellate court but can also act as a trial court for certain matters – is limited to cases involving State and local governments. As a result, Commonwealth Court judges are often gatekeepers in striking an appropriate balance between the necessity for government on the one hand versus unreasonable government interference with personal freedoms and private property rights on the other. I believe the Court needs common sense, constitutional conservative judges who are willing to push back on government overregulation and overreach and not legislate from the Bench.

**Q: What process would you follow to be fair and impartial in reviewing and evaluating opposing positions presented in a case?**

A: For this response, I assume that the Commonwealth Court is acting in its capacity as an appellate court. In my view, appellate courts should be “hot” courts, meaning that prior to oral argument, judges should become versed in the legal arguments presented. This requires reading the opening, response, and reply briefs; and, to the extent indicated by the arguments, reviewing portions of the reproduced record. Timely preparation allows judges to take advantage of the opportunity to ask unbiased, intelligent questions at oral argument. During oral argument, judges should treat all counsel with dignity and respect; and should be mindful of the extraordinary expenditure of time, effort, and resources required to appear before the Court.

**Q: What criteria would you consider in deciding a case that could affect long-standing precedent?**

A: This question suggests the existence of a legal issue in a case that implicates revisiting well-settled precedent. Such cases are necessarily rare (and should be) under the principle of stare decisis; otherwise, society cannot rely on the certainty and security the law is intended to provide. Nevertheless, there are occasions

when precedent is legally infirm or ongoing injustice must be remedied. Plessy v. Ferguson comes to mind as clearly bad precedent on legal and moral grounds. In deciding such cases, in addition to the two above-referenced criteria, fairness to the parties and the likely practical consequences of a change in the law should be carefully considered. The facts of the case are also obviously relevant.

**JOSH PRINCE**, Berks County

**Occupation** Attorney

**Education** Juris Doctorate

**Qualifications** I’ve spent my career defending our civil rights in the state and federal courts. Beyond having successfully litigated numerous appeals in the PA courts, including before the PA Supreme Court, in just the past 6 years, I’ve successfully litigated more than 10 cases before the Commonwealth Court.

**Campaign Website** [princeforjustice.com](http://princeforjustice.com)

**Facebook URL** [facebook.com/PrinceForPA](https://facebook.com/PrinceForPA)

**X Handle** @PrinceForPA

**Instagram URL** [instagram.com/PrinceForPA](https://instagram.com/PrinceForPA)

Questions:

**Q: Why do you seek to serve as an appellate court judge?**

A: The Commonwealth Court hears cases that touch many areas of daily life—education, family law, civil rights, healthcare, election integrity, and government accountability. It plays a vital role in ensuring Pennsylvanians are treated fairly and that public institutions follow the law. I’ve spent my career standing up for constitutional rights, applying the law as written, and offering restorative legal solutions that bring dignity to people and healing to communities. I want to use my experience and expertise in the service of others. My wife Jessica and I are expecting our first child, and I want our daughter to grow up in a Commonwealth where justice for all isn’t just a promise—but something every Pennsylvanian can count on.

**Q: What process would you follow to be fair and impartial in reviewing and evaluating opposing positions presented in a case?**

A: Fairness starts with listening. I would approach each case with an open mind, carefully reviewing the facts, applicable law, and arguments from all parties. I believe in applying the Constitution and laws as written—not based on personal opinion, favors, or political pressure. The courtroom must be an approachable place where everyone knows justice will be served impartially. Behind every legal matter are real people and communities, and I take that responsibility seriously.

**Q: What criteria would you consider in deciding a case that could affect long-standing precedent?**

A: Precedent brings stability and consistency to the law, and it should not be overturned lightly. I would examine

whether the precedent is legally sound, aligns with constitutional principles, and serves justice in practical, modern terms. If a decision causes confusion, inequity, or departs from the law’s original intent, the Court has a duty to correct course carefully and transparently. Any decision to uphold or revisit precedent must promote fairness, accountability, and the long-term strength of our legal system. This is how we build a foundation of trust in Pennsylvania’s courts.

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**• JUDGE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS •**

**38th JUDICIAL DISTRICT**  
**(MONTGOMERY COUNTY)**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Courts of Common Pleas generally have countywide jurisdiction. They are primarily trial courts, civil and criminal, and not appellate courts. The number of judges and the size of the districts are determined by the legislature. Divisions include orphans, juvenile, family and dependency courts.

**Term: 10 years · Salary: \$229,393**  
**Vote for ONE**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**LAUREN HUGHES**, Norristown  
No response received by print deadline.

**RAYMOND MCGARRY**, Abington  
No response received by print deadline.

**MARY PUGH**, Springfield  
**Campaign Phone** (215) 703-7870  
**Web Site** [www.marypughforjudge.com/](http://www.marypughforjudge.com/)  
**Email** [marypugh4judge@gmail.com](mailto:marypugh4judge@gmail.com)  
**Age** 64 years old  
**Education** Villanova University School of Law (Law Review Member) and Rosemont College (Summa Cum Laude)  
**Qualifications** I have over 37 years of legal experience practicing in all of the legal divisions in Montgomery County and the appellate courts in Pennsylvania. I have participated in educational seminars teaching Judges, professionals, stakeholders, elected officials, students, and the general public.  
**Mailing Address** P.O. Box 222 Flourtown PA 19031

**Questions:**

**Q: What judicial philosophy do you draw on to arrive at a fair verdict?**

A: To ensure a fair verdict, a judge must serve as an impartial arbiter presiding over trials. A judge must apply the law fairly, according to the rules of evidence. All judges must suspend all personal opinions and feelings. A judge must ensure that there is a fair jury, selected from a diverse pool from the community, fairly and equitably. At trial, he must apply the rules to ensure that

the case is proceeding fairly and legally. He has a non-delegable duty to uphold the Constitution.

**Q: What can you do, both on and off the bench, to ensure that all individuals have equal access to justice, and an equitable and fair court?**

A: Judges can ensure people have access to justice by conducting all business fairly and ensuring that the legal processes are available to everyone who comes in the courtroom. The judge should explain the procedures and the processes so the people understand and can ask questions. Such communication will help the judge identify any barriers to justice for the litigants. Judges should participate in programs that educate the public about the court system and offer ways improving access to justice.

**Q: If elected, what steps will you take to remain impartial and not conflicted by campaign donors, politicians or party leaders?**

A: According to the Code of Judicial Conduct, judges must act in a dignified way, abiding by their oath to the Constitution. Judges must act ethically and dignified inside and outside the courtroom. The judge is bound by strict finance regulations which require the disclosure of all contributions and prohibit them from soliciting funds. Such safeguards help judges to be fair and reject personal biases. Trainings to recognize biases or partiality will help them to refrain from such activity.

## REPUBLICAN

**LAUREN HUGHES** – see entry under Democratic

**RAYMOND McGARRY** – see entry under Democratic

**MARY PUGH** – see entry under Democratic

## • JURY COMMISSIONER •

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The two Jury Commissioners, not of the same political party, annually prepare lists of qualified persons for jury duty for the ensuing year.

**Term: 4 years · Salary \$46,519**  
**Vote for ONE**

## DEMOCRATIC

**ANDREA BAPTISTE**, Collegeville  
No response received by print deadline.

## REPUBLICAN

**MERRY BRODERICK WOODS**, Maple Glen  
No response received by print deadline.

## • ABINGTON SCHOOL DIRECTORS •

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The School Director as a member of the Board of School Directors is responsible for equipping, furnishing and maintaining the public schools in the municipality. Principal duties include

appointing and/or dismissing the superintendents, principals, and teachers; levying and assessing school taxes; purchasing land; locating new buildings; adopting textbooks and courses of study; fixing salaries of teachers and other appointees of the Board. The Abington School District includes Abington Township and the Borough of Rockledge.

**Term: 4 years · Salary: None**  
**Vote for Not More Than 4**

## DEMOCRATIC

**ADRIENNE FLETCHER**, Abington

**Email** adriennelfletcher@gmail.com

**Age** 46

**Education** B.S. Chemistry, California University of Pennsylvania and Certificate in Leadership, Cornell University

**Qualifications** Strong analytical problem solving, Leadership and teamwork, Public service and community focused, Financial oversight

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: 1- Managing and navigating future budget challenges: The future financial challenges facing school districts in light of potential changes in funding will require a creative and strategic approach. 2- Mental Health and Student Well-being: I want to focus on the growing mental health crisis among students and the role schools can support and address. 3- Community Engagement and Support: Continue to foster strong connections between schools, families and the local community.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: As a leader within my company, I am responsible for managing both short-term and long-term budgets, which has provided me with a strong foundation in budget decision-making. I regularly analyze data, prioritize spending, and make strategic decisions to ensure that resources are allocated to achieve both immediate and long-term goals. My experience is to balance fiscal responsibility with organizational needs, while also considering the broader impact of financial decisions.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: I have always been drawn to public service, and my passion for helping others, especially children, has been a constant throughout my life. Over the past 15 years, I've volunteered with my children. From 2021 to 2025, I served on the board of a non-profit that supports children, and during that time, I witnessed firsthand the impact we can have when we provide the right resources

for kids to thrive. I believe children should be able to reach their potential without obstacles.

**YAASIYN MUHAMMAD**, Elkins Park

**Email** ymuhamml@gmail.com

**Age** 38

**Education** BA (History), Temple University M.Ed. (Secondary Social Studies and English Language Arts Certification), Temple University Education Administration Certification University of Pennsylvania

**Qualifications** I have been an educator since September of 2009. I have served as a high school teacher, curriculum specialist, and currently an assistant principal. I am a concerned citizen, who is adept at communication, distributed leadership, team building, public speaking, and building consensus.

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: Firstly, increased costs of public education. to address these concerns, I will continue to collaborate with my School Director colleagues, urging district leadership to find responsible ways to reduce spending without compromising educational programming. Second, the condition of our middle school requires immediate attention. If the upcoming referendum to fund a new middle school is approved we will closely oversee this project, ensuring the effective and responsible use of taxpayer funds.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: In my role as a high school assistant principal, I've worked closely with my principal on budgeting for years. We've had to make some tough calls, always keeping our school's mission and priorities in mind. I know how important it is to manage a large budget, it impacts the education of almost 2,000 students, and I understand that budgets show where your priorities lie. I'll bring that same approach to the Abington School District's budget conversations.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: I am running for school board because I believe education is the lifeblood of our community, and I am driven to ensure every student has the opportunity to thrive. My life was transformed by the guidance of dedicated educators, and I am committed to paying that forward. I will be a tireless advocate for students and a collaborative partner with all stakeholders to move our district forward. I possess the intellect, moral code, and passion contribute meaningfully to our community.



**ANGELIQUE FRAZIER**, Abington

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: Despite the residual effects of learning lost contributed to Covid along with the over use of social media apps, and technology, a current factor, one of many, involve budget uncertainty in light of our current climate. To address prospective shortfalls I would consult with our team about assessing alternatives to federal funding sources, such as research trends that support the availability of grants from the private sector that could act as a supplement to state and local contributions.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: Concerning budget decision making, I have had more experience as a recipient as a public school teacher. In this role there are a myriad of circumstances, i.e. federal, state, and local agencies that informs who gets what, where, and how. Being flexible you adapt and do what's best in the interest of students via pedagogical principles. However, as a current School Board Director, there are plenty of opportunities to actively engage in real time fiscal policy, and with great leadership!

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: As a single mother of four Abington Alumni, my children have had the benefit of receiving an education from the district that helped pave the way for their future academic successes. Two have received a Master's degree, one a Doctorate, and the youngest to graduate from Harvard this May. I would like to continue to advocate for students, their parents, and the administration to ensure all parties have a prosperous experience.

**BRIAN ALLEN**, Abington

**Education** Master of Business Administration, and a Master of Education in Educational Administrator/Leadership

**Qualifications** Seeking Reelection to Abington School Board

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: Abington faces key challenges: ensuring strong fiscal planning while addressing aging facilities. I support the One ASD, One Future referendum to build a safe, future-ready middle school. Responsible budgeting is critical—we must invest wisely and maintain high-quality programs. We also need to modernize instruction to prepare students for tomorrow. I'll continue to advocate for innovation, data-driven improvement, and support for all

learners and educators.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I bring governance and professional experience to budget decisions. I have served on the Abington School Board and Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Education Board, gaining insight into fiscal oversight and planning. As a district administrator, I've helped align budgets with instructional goals. I hold an MBA and M.Ed. in Education Administration, providing a strong foundation in both financial management and educational leadership.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: I'm seeking reelection because I believe public education is the foundation of opportunity. As an educator, administrator, and current board member, I've seen how strong schools transform lives. I'm committed to using my experience to support students, educators, and families—especially as we face key decisions around facilities, instruction, and long-term planning. I will continue making thoughtful, student-centered decisions for Abington and Rockledge.

**JOSEPH J ROONEY**, Glenside

No response received by print deadline.

**ROY J BANT JR**, Huntingdon Valley

**Campaign Phone** 2155942582

**Age** 59

**Education** Mechanical Engineering and an MBA in International Business

**Qualifications** Project Manager for many similar construction projects that the school district is currently embracing

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: The key challenges are the costs to repair and/or replace school structures and systems to enhance learning for the Abington School District Students. I would like to bring my 35 years engineering and project management background to make sure the best decisions are made for the Abington students and Abington school tax payers.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: Masters in Business and Administration, with emphasis in Finance and Global Business from LaSalle University

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: As an Abington School District tax payer with a son

as a former student, I want to make sure that sound engineering and business practices are utilized to improve education for the students, and at reasonable tax increase for the tax payers. Change and improvements are inevitable, and currently required. I want to have input to the best of my abilities for the best experience for our students, and at reasonable tax increases to the tax payers of Abington School district

**REPUBLICAN**

**ADRIENNE FLETCHER** – see entry under Democratic

**JOSEPH J ROONEY** – see entry under Democratic

**BRIAN ALLEN** – see entry under Democratic

**JOSEPH F O'BRIEN**, Glenside

**Campaign Phone** 215-884-9876

**Web Site** [www.commonsenseabington.com](http://www.commonsenseabington.com)

**Email** [oss@verizon.net](mailto:oss@verizon.net)

**Age** unimportant

**Qualifications** Taxpayer

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: Abington High School has dropped from the top 10 to 54th. This is not acceptable. The current School Board only wants to build buildings, they are not concerned with true education. They will not answer question at the meetings, and there no transparency in their actions. This has to be fixed and an audit of expenditures must be conducted.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I've run my own business for 44 years. I have worked with a great number of businesses and individuals consulting about computers and software. I understand what the STEM students need and how critical it is to our future. As a musician I also understand how important music is for students.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: There must be fiscal responsibility and transparency when spending the taxpayers money. Abington Township is not being well served by the current School Board, all they seem to understand is TAX- SPEND-BORROW-REPEAT. This has to end.

**ROY J BANT JR** – see entry under Democratic



**• ABINGTON TOWNSHIP  
COMMISSIONERS •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Board of Commissioners implements the legislative and executive functions of the Township, including the adoption of a budget and levying of taxes.

**Term: 4 years**

**Ward 2**

**Vote for 1**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**JEREMY ROSENBAUM**, Huntingdon Valley  
No response received by print deadline.

**REPUBLICAN**

**No candidate filed.**

**Ward 4**

**Vote for 1**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**JIMMY DIPLACIDO**, Elkins Park  
**Campaign Phone** 267-800-5565  
**Email** jimmydiplacido@gmail.com  
**Age** 54

**Questions:**

**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for them?**

A: Economic Development. Environmental sustainability. Fiscally sound and balanced yearly budgets.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I've directed and produced complex budgets for nearly 30 years in the corporate, not-for-profit, and governmental sectors.

**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you would change right now to better your community?**

A: Redevelop the WGM and it's real estate parcel to ensure that it may generate positive economic dividends, be environmentally sound, and offer multifaceted benefits for all Abington's residents and visitors.

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: First, listen, then evaluate the information. Clear thinking individuals are able to change their view if it contradicts their belief. Indoctrinated individuals lack that ability and are conditioned to dismiss facts. I will remain clear, and call out misinformation each and every time it's presented.

**REPUBLICAN**

**No candidate filed.**

**Ward 6**

**Vote for 1**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**JEFFREY R BROWNE**, Glenside  
No response received by print deadline.

**REPUBLICAN**

**No candidate filed.**

**Ward 8**

**Vote for 1**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**LORI HENRY**, Willow Grove  
No response received by print deadline.

**REPUBLICAN**

**No candidate filed.**

**Ward 10**

**Vote for 1**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**CHRISTINE YOUNG-GERTZ**, Abington  
**Campaign Phone** 215-266-9681  
**Email** cmlyg@comcast.net  
**Age** 71

**Education** J.D. New York Law School

**Qualifications** Retired member of the Pennsylvania Bar. Government relations attorney, legislative staffer, and recreation therapist, retired.

**Questions:**

**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for them?**

A: 1. Economic development: We must create business tax revenue but our development decisions must not hurt the surrounding community. 2. Health and safety: Recent events have made it crystal clear- Our future budgets must continue to provide the resources for the best possible police, fire, emergency and public works services. 3. Community resources, including our library and parks. Our budget must include them. And we must continue to seek any possible funds from federal and state sources.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I served for many years as the director of a large government affairs program in a not-for-profit organization. I had responsibility for developing and maintaining its operating budget. Every decision must be laser-focused. And I am well-acquainted with the workings of government entities, including the legislative procedures for passing budgets and the mandated accountability for budget decisions.

**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you**

**would change right now to better your community?**

A: Magic wand? Presto! - Enhanced parks and recreation spaces! Our township has some wonderful green spaces, parks and playgrounds. But we need more of them to serve the many young families that are moving to Abington. Investment in our parks and recreation facilities will make our great township an even greater place to live.

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: Misinformation can be thwarted with frequent, transparent communication with residents- thanks to 21st century technology , through newsletters, social media, and public meetings. Residents must feel welcome to contact the township and officials with any question or concern, as well as welcome to attend and participate in meetings. In my career I learned critical listening skills and the need for "civil" as well as "civic" discourse. Continuous, open communication is key.

**REPUBLICAN**

**No candidate filed.**

**Ward 12**

**Vote for 1**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**MATTHEW VAHEY**, Glenside  
**Campaign Phone** 2152600090  
**Email** matt@mattvahey.com  
**Age** 44

**Education** B.A., The Catholic University of America; J.D. Temple University

**Qualifications** I have been an active member of the Abington Community for over two decades, and I have served as commissioner for the last 7 years.

**Questions:**

**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for them?**

A: 1.) Responsible rebuild / repurposing of the SPS site; 2.) Economic Development in Keswick Village and through the township; 3.) continued investment in our parks and recreation offerings.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: Through our strategic planning process, the board of commissioners has identified our priorities for funding. In my positions as finance chair and then board vice president, I have lead efforts to ensure these priorities are funded.

**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you would change right now to better your community?**

A: I would have Highland Avenue re-opened immediately. The SPS fire forced the current closure which is imposing a significant traffic burden on our neighborhood.

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: I will ensure that the Township is utilizing its communication channels to promote transparency and share accurate information. I will collaborate with local community groups to ensure the resident concerns are being addressed. I will remain accessible to community members to answer questions and find solutions.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

Ward 14

Vote for 1

DEMOCRATIC

**LORI SCHREIBER**, Roslyn  
**Campaign Phone** 2155177502  
**Email** loriforroslyn@hotmail.com  
**Age** 66  
**Education** Masters in Social Relations  
**Qualifications** I have been a Commissioner for 19 years. Prior to being elected, I was a committee person, an active community volunteer, and worked with elected officials on issues important to the public’s welfare.  
**Questions:**  
**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for them?**  
A: One priority is Economic Development. We have a newly created Economic Development Corporation, and continue to look for other creative ideas to help produce more vibrant business districts. Positive constituent services continues to be a main priority as I always try to return calls/emails within 24 hours, and regularly send a community newsletter. A third priority is fostering a welcoming, safe, and inclusive community, as we continue to be rich in our diversity.  
**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**  
A: I have voted on Abington's Budget for the last 19 years. We have been fiscally responsible and have not had to raise taxes very often during my years on the board.  
**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you would change right now to better your community?**  
A: Our hardest issue to fix is probably traffic safety- I would use my magic wand to have people slow down, obey stop signs and other traffic laws, have less traffic congestion, and have people be more polite to their fel-

low neighbors when traffic issues do arise.

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: I try to communicate through emailed newsletters, and I avoid debating issues on social media. Recently, I held a town hall meeting due to a situation in my ward. Although people may not have been happy that the problem could not be easily fixed, I hope they did have a better understanding of facts through this forum. Good communication and empathy are important. But, combating misinformation can be a struggle, so referring back to the experts to "fact check" can help.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

ABINGTON TAX COLLECTOR

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** A Tax Collector’s responsibilities include collecting real estate, per capita and other taxes for the county, school district, and the municipality that they serve.

Term: 4 years · Vote for ONE

DEMOCRATIC

**KAREN GELD SANCHEZ**, Jenkintown  
**Email** sanchez4montco@gmail.com  
**Age** 46  
**Education** Bachelor of Science from Penn State University; JD and MBA from Temple University  
**Qualifications** I have been a practicing finance attorney for over 20 years, and the Montgomery County Controller for over 9 years.  
**Questions:**  
**Q: What makes you personally and professionally best suited for this position?**  
A: When I decided to run for office, it was because I wanted to put my values to work by showing that elected officials can be fiscally responsible and compassionate at the same time. I have proven that to be the case, using my legal skills and Master’s degree in Business Administration as the fiscal watchdog of the County for the last 9 years. In my personal life, I give back to my community in many ways, through serving on boards, volunteering as a child advocate and organizing food drives.  
**Q: What issue is your top priority if elected, and what would you do to address it?**  
A: My top priority is providing exceptional service at the tax office. In addition, I will be an exemplary fiduciary of the township's tax dollars to make sure they are properly accounted for and collected. I have previously served in roles that require excellent constituent services and financial responsibility and I have proven myself,

and I hope to earn this opportunity again in this election.

REPUBLICAN

**GIUSEPPE BUCCI**, Glenside  
No response received by print deadline.

CHELTENHAM SCHOOL DIRECTORS

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The School Director as a member of the Board of School Directors is responsible for equipping, furnishing and maintaining the public schools in the municipality. Principal duties include appointing and/or dismissing the superintendents, principals, and teachers; levying and assessing school taxes; purchasing land; locating new buildings; adopting textbooks and courses of study; fixing salaries of teachers and other appointees of the Board.

Term: 4 years · Salary: None

Vote for Not More Than 4

DEMOCRATIC

**DANIEL SCHULTZ**, Elkins Park  
**Web Site** <https://csbdems.com/>  
**Email** schultzd@alum.mit.edu  
**Age** 38  
**Education** MS - Massachusetts Institute of Technology; BS - Carnegie Mellon University; HS - Cheltenham High School  
**Qualifications** 2-term Board Member (2017), Vice President (2021), parent and alumnus, technology professional with passion for community and journalism  
**Questions:**  
**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**  
A: Cheltenham faces a period of implementation with major construction projects, a grade reconfiguration, and the adoption of new instructional materials over the next three years. I have worked with my board to ensure these projects incorporate community voice, fit within a balanced and affordable budget, and meet the needs of all students. I will continue to push for strong communication, careful planning, and effective rollout for these critical initiatives.  
**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**  
A: I have served as the co-chair of the Financial Affairs committee for the entirety of my 8 years on the board. Through this role I have gained deep experience in public school accounting, budgeting, union negotiations, and strategic planning. I champion processes that incorporate community feedback and thoughtful discussion in order to set realistic and affordable goals for our administration.



**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: Our board is skilled and dedicated. Our administration is a dream team. Our staff are incredible. This position allows me to support something vital and ensure that Cheltenham upholds the promise of public education for every child. I also simply love this role—the opportunity to understand my community’s needs and represent them in our largest local institution is truly an honor.

**CAROLINE WATTS**, Elkins Park

**Web Site** csbdems.com

**Email** wattscal1016@gmail.com

**Age** 64

**Education** BA, Psychology/Sociology, Yale University; Ed.M and Ed.D, Counseling Psychology, Harvard University

**Qualifications** 17 year resident in Elkins Park; Psychologist with 30+ years experience working with public schools to build access to quality resources for all students

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: The challenges I see: Recruiting and retaining quality leaders who understand and are committed to this community; Right-sizing the buildings and upgrading facilities so that the schools offer a quality learning and teaching environment; Consistently addressing achievement and opportunity gaps for students without creating divisions or furthering assumptions about who can succeed. We have the capacity to address all of these with collaborative problem-solving grounded in our common values.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I have spent most of my career developing institutional partnerships between low-resource public schools and high leverage organizations like universities and hospitals, to create programs that build capacity in people and systems of care. Much of this work has been funded through philanthropy, grants, foundations, and some operational support. This has given me important on-the-ground experience in making difficult financial choices in order to accomplish sustainable short- and longterm goals.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: I have spent my professional life working in urban school districts on behalf of children and families to redress inequity and improve access to quality services

and supports. I am passionate about ensuring that all children get what they need and deserve to grow up with opportunities for their own development and success. I believe public schools are an ideal vehicle to accomplish this mission. Having chosen Cheltenham because of all it offers, I want to serve this mission in my own community.

**LEAH MULHEARN**, Elkins Park

**Web Site** www.csbdems.com

**Email** lswmulhearn@gmail.com

**Age** 43

**Education** BS Psychology, Eastern University

**Questions:**

No response received to questions.

**ZACHARY EPPS**, Cheltenham

Party: Democratic

**Web Site** csbdems.com/

**Education** M.B.A. / B.A.

**Qualifications** Zachary is a partner and parent of school aged children and a seasoned professional in leadership development and strategic planning. Zachary considers it an honor to run on a slate of candidates with shared values on how to approach ensuring the school district is well run.

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: One of the most significant challenges facing public education is providing spaces where all students feel they belong, no matter their identity, and are provided the inspiration and resources that meet their needs and interests. In Cheltenham, wonderful and effective efforts within our schools encourage positive culture and academic achievement. Much of the work now is focused on ensuring those effective practices are systemic and continuously improve.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: Over the last decade, I received formal education in corporate financial management, created and analyzed budgets for youth programs and adult learning opportunities, and founded a profitable small business. During my first term, I diligently reviewed and analyzed financial documents presented to the board each month and advocated for responsible stewardship of public funds.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: Public education is the most important investment we make as a community. It directly impacts our community's health, wealth, and sustainability. This position activates my core values of family, wisdom, and service. It

allows me to continue a family legacy of using thoughts, time, skills, and experience to contribute to measurable improvement in my immediate community. Having the lived experience as the parent of current students affords the board a closer lens into the impact of decisions.

**REPUBLICAN**

**No candidate filed.**

## • CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS •

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Board of Commissioners implements the legislative and executive functions of the Township, including the adoption of a budget and levying of taxes.

**Term: 4 years · Salary \$6,000 · Vote for 1**

### Ward 2

**DEMOCRATIC**

**DWIGHT PEDRO LEWIS**, Laverock

No response received by print deadline.

**REPUBLICAN**

**VERONICA HALLY**, Glenside

No response received by print deadline.

### Ward 4

**DEMOCRATIC**

**EMILY STINE**, Wyncote

**Web Site** www.emily4ward4.com

**Email** emily4ward4@gmail.com

**Age** 42

**Education** BA History, George Washington University

**Qualifications** Operations Manager and small business owner, Board Member of Cheltenham Chamber of Citizens (CCC)

**Questions:**

**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for them?**

A: 1) Support for local businesses and responsible, appropriately sized development 2) Properly maintained parks and facilities 3) Pedestrian and cyclist safety. For a more detailed response to this question and the other three questions, including how I would address costs, please visit www.emily4ward4.com.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I am part-owner and Operations Manager of a small local business. Often my job involves figuring out how to provide the best possible service for our clients with the limited resources of our small business. Creativity and resourcefulness is required. I see the Township’s current budget deficit in much the same way. We need

to reprioritize our available resources so that they are all directed toward the same goal – providing our residents the best possible services.

**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you would change right now to better your community?**

A: I would repurchase the Township sewer system from Aqua and complete all required repairs. This would return the asset to the control of the residents and ensure that we are not paying a for-profit company for this essential public service.

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: I have worked in my role as a CCC Board Member to educate residents on current Township issues and events and encourage civic participation. If elected, I would resign my role on the CCC Board, but would continue these efforts in my new position. I plan to establish a variety of communication methods with constituents including: social media, email, in-person meetings, and frequent attendance at public Township events. We can only have productive dialog if we are all well-informed.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

Ward 6

DEMOCRATIC

**EMILY CHERAMIE WALZ**, Elkins Park  
**Web Site** <https://www.emilycheramiewalz.com/>  
**Email** [emilyforcheltenham@gmail.com](mailto:emilyforcheltenham@gmail.com)  
**Age** 45  
**Education** BA, Ithaca College  
**Qualifications** Nearly 25 years working in Philadelphia nonprofits (fundraising/development, communications, consulting, board management), 18 year resident of the Township  
**Questions:**  
**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for them?**  
A: I believe the township should prioritize projects that enhance the quality of life for residents. I believe that climate change is a real and pressing issue and that we should take proactive measures to protect our natural resources. I am committed to exploring Cheltenham's opportunities for economic development. I believe that we need to reduce the Township's dependence on tax income by attracting new industries that align with our values and strengths.  
**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**  
A: I have worked in nonprofit leadership for many

years, managing a board of directors, preparing financial documents for review, and being responsive to an ever changing budget. I'm familiar with the need to get creative when finding funding solutions, weighing the pros and cons when making decisions and, ultimately, having to make calls that align with your ultimate goals and vision, but perhaps don't make everyone happy in the immediate.

**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you would change right now to better your community?**

A: Create a robust commercial corridor that brings in businesses that both contribute economically to the Township, but that also help develop our beautiful, diverse and vibrant community.

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: I believe that accessibility, transparency, and communication are KEY. We are stronger together, even if we don't always agree with one another. I am a big fan of respect and KINDNESS above all else. I will be open, honest, and available to my constituents.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

• CHELTENHAM FINANCE OFFICER •

Term: 4 years · Vote for ONE

DEMOCRATIC

**MELVIN PITTS**, Elkins Park  
**Web Site** [FriendsOfMelvinPitts.com](http://FriendsOfMelvinPitts.com)  
**Email** [mgp215@FriendsOfMelvinPitts.com](mailto:mgp215@FriendsOfMelvinPitts.com)  
**Education** Masters in Taxation  
**Qualifications** Over 20 Years of tax experience  
**Questions:**  
**Q: What makes you personally and professionally best suited for this position?**  
A: With my accounting background, tax expertise, and experience at major financial institutions, I can position myself as someone who understands both the public finance requirements and the needs of the business community. This balanced perspective would be particularly valuable for a municipality looking to maintain fiscal responsibility while supporting economic vitality.  
**Q: What issue is your top priority if elected, and what would you do to address it?**  
A: A top priority if elected as Cheltenham Finance Officer is to build relationships with local businesses by the following: 1. Regular business roundtables: Host quarterly sessions where business owners can meet with me to discuss financial concerns, tax questions. 2. Financial literacy workshops: Offer free workshops on

topics like local business taxation 3. Economic development: Strengthening ties between the municipality and local businesses to foster economic growth and expand the tax base.

REPUBLICAN

**THOM ESTILOW**, Cheltenham  
No response received by print deadline.

• JENKINTOWN SCHOOL DIRECTORS •

JOB DESCRIPTION: The School Director as a member of the Board of School Directors is responsible for equipping, furnishing and maintaining the public schools in the municipality. Principal duties include appointing and/or dismissing the superintendents, principals, and teachers; levying and assessing school taxes; purchasing land; locating new buildings; adopting textbooks and courses of study; fixing salaries of teachers and other appointees of the Board.

Term: 4 years · Salary: None  
Vote for Not More Than 4

DEMOCRATIC

**JASON TUCKER**, Jenkintown  
**Campaign Phone** 2159014588  
**Email** [jasonatucker@gmail.com](mailto:jasonatucker@gmail.com)  
**Age** 40  
**Education** J.D. Temple University 2011, B.A. Amherst College 2007  
**Qualifications** Licensed Attorney (PA, NJ), Real Estate Professional, Former Adjunct Professor at Jefferson University, Prior board service on education and civics related non-profit organizations, Father of two.  
**Questions:**  
**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**  
A: 1. Educational Equity/Access: I'll advocate for more equitable distribution of resources across classrooms and increase targeted support programs for kids that need them. 2. Fiscal Responsibility/Budget Management: I'll prioritize funding impacting student success, look for long-term investment opportunities, and explore all funding sources. 3. Community engagement: Develop and implement more effective communication channels, including regular updates and open forums for parents and community.  
**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**  
A: Professionally, I manage complex project budgets related to the acquisition and development of commercial real estate projects. Many projects require the securing and management of public funding sources. Additionally, I've served on multiple non-profit boards with

budgetary oversight responsibilities some of which specifically relate to school operations.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: As a newer Jenkintown parent, I bring fresh perspective to the district and I recognize the district's evolving demands to its changing community, its physical plant, and shifting academic offerings. I want to serve for the benefit of the district's existing and future families by fostering teamwork, respect, and open communication between teachers, parents, students, and the community. We are at an inflection point in public education and I want to help navigate these challenging times.

**JONATHAN LITWINOWICZ**, Jenkintown

No response received by print deadline.

**LISA SMITH**, Jenkintown

**Web Site** [https://business.facebook.com/latest/home?asset\\_id=104365418377801](https://business.facebook.com/latest/home?asset_id=104365418377801)

**Email** [smithl@jtowndrakes.org](mailto:smithl@jtowndrakes.org)

**Age** 53

**Education** MSW, University of Pennsylvania, BA, University of Rhode Island

**Qualifications** MSW, BA Social Worker for over three decades, specializing in child welfare and mental health, training and curriculum writing and consulting, as well as experience as a social worker in special education and oncology.

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: Navigating changes in the education system while still ensuring that we meet the needs of our school community will require thoughtful consideration to the implications of potential policy and funding changes on our students. Additionally, school districts continue to manage unfunded mandates which limit our ability to freely explore opportunities for students, as most funding is essentially spent before it's received. Both issues necessitate out of the box thinking to best serve the community.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I have served on the board for the past four years and am also a board member of our IU overseeing and voting on both budgets. We have had to balance the needs of the community at large with the needs of students in

both organizations, and have tried to consider alternate funding with great success with grants and donations to fill gaps.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: I am running because I have spent many years dedicating my time to serve the community, both as a social worker in county and state organizations, and with the school community. I believe that the strength of the community is the school - it's why people choose to live here, impacting property values for all and impacting future generations by supporting our youth in becoming good citizens and future leaders, neighbors and innovators.

**ANTHONY MCCLOSKEY**, Jenkintown

**Campaign Phone** 2158398029

**Web Site** <https://mccloskey4jtownschoolboard.com>

**Email** [anthony@nordalai.com](mailto:anthony@nordalai.com)

**Age** 46

**Education** Master of Science in Cybersecurity

**Qualifications** Has held leadership positions in various civic/political action organizations including Boy Scouts, JYA, Common Defense, NAMIC Philadelphia

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: I believe the fundamental problem at the core of all the issues in the School District is a lack of transparency. If I am elected to the board, I am committed to communicating clearly and regularly with the community to ensure they know what is being discussed, what decisions are being made, and how they might be impacted.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I have a B.S. in Accounting with a Minor in Economics, and I spent years working as an accountant for small local businesses and for Fortune 500 Companies.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: I recognize that the community has unaddressed concerns and needs change and transparency. Multiple people have asked me to run, and when I thought about the challenges faced by the community, I kept coming back to the question, "If not me, then who?" I believe it is important to be a driver of the change that people want to see.

**LAURA IGOE**, Jenkintown

**Email** [turnerlg@gmail.com](mailto:turnerlg@gmail.com)

**Age** 42

**Education** M.A. and Ph.D. in art history from Temple University, B.A. from Dickinson College

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: It is extremely important that every child in the Jenkintown School District, regardless of race, gender, religion, or cultural background, feels supported and included. I would work hard to ensure the school fosters a diverse and inclusive environment and help the board communicate its efforts in this regard. As the district seeks to improve, update, and expand its facilities, I would carefully evaluate and provide informed feedback on future plans.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: As a museum chief curator and member of my institution's executive team, I regularly set financial goals, prepare realistic budgets, and track expenses. Working in non-profits for over a decade, I understand how to assess an institution's needs, allocate spending for future growth, and identify potential funding streams. I would bring this budgeting experience to the Jenkintown School Board.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: I am a mother of two Jenkintown Elementary students and a museum curator with experience in nonprofit leadership and board service. I'm passionate about education, the arts, and making sure every student feels welcome and supported. I'm running for school board because I believe in thoughtful, transparent decision-making and I want to help strengthen our district by listening to our community and working collaboratively to move forward.

## REPUBLICAN

**JONATHAN LITWINOWICZ** – see entry under Democratic

**LISA SMITH** – see entry under Democratic

**LAURA IGOE** – see entry under Democratic

**JASON TUCKER** – see entry under Democratic



**Visit [montgomerycountypa.gov/753/Voter-Services](https://montgomerycountypa.gov/753/Voter-Services) to find your polling location, download sample ballots, find ballot dropbox locations and more for the May 20 primary election.**

• **JENKINTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Borough Council implements the legislative and executive functions of the Borough, including the adoption of a budget and levying of taxes.

Term: 4 years · Salary: None

Ward 1  
Vote for 2  
**DEMOCRATIC**

**GORDON LEWIS**, Jenkintown  
Email [glewis@jenkintowboro.com](mailto:glewis@jenkintowboro.com)  
Age 72  
Education Harvard College, BA Government

**Questions:**  
**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for them?**

A: 1) Update the parking ordinance for improved access and enforcement (minimal cost) 2) Update the emergency response plan to better reflect current risk environment (minimal cost) 3) Attract more small businesses to help expand tax base, attract more visitors, and support Jenkintown public education (minimal cost)

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I have been self-employed and have run a variety of successful small businesses. I have also served on Jenkintown Borough Council for 1 year.

**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you would change right now to better your community?**

A: See answer to question below.

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: Encourage Borough Council members to speak as one voice whenever possible. Doing otherwise can encourage "willful misunderstanding" and distortions on the part of interest groups and individuals with a self-centered agenda.

**DEBORRA SINES PANCOE**, Jenkintown  
No response received by print deadline.

**REPUBLICAN**  
No candidate filed.

Ward 2  
Vote for 1  
**DEMOCRATIC**

**CHRISTIAN SOLTYSIAK**, Jenkintown  
No response received by print deadline.

**REPUBLICAN**  
**ALEXANDER KHUSIDMAN**, Jenkintown  
No response received by print deadline.

Ward 3  
Vote for 2  
**DEMOCRATIC**

**JOSHUA CURTIN**, Jenkintown  
No response received by print deadline.

**ALEXANDRIA KHALIL**, Jenkintown  
Campaign Phone 215-479-6527  
Email [agkhalil@yahoo.com](mailto:agkhalil@yahoo.com)  
Age 62

**Education** BS Electrical Engineering Technology- Temple, MS Library and Information Science- Drexel, JD - Temple

**Qualifications** I have served 6 years on Council. I have owned my own business and currently work at a major Pennsylvania corporation.

**Questions:**  
**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for them?**

A: Maintain public safety and public works services while not raising taxes. 1. As a member of Council, I have worked with my colleagues on Council to dramatically improve the economic development in the borough 2. We sought outside guidance by the Commonwealth on how to maintain an independent police department while keeping costs down. 3. We aggressively sought and received state grants to improve borough infrastructure and public works services

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I have spent 6 years on Council participating in the budget process. I worked with my colleagues last year to not raise taxes while increasing funding for our library and improving economic development.

**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you would change right now to better your community?**

A: I would find a way to speak to everyone of my constituents on a weekly basis. I learned that social media is a terrible substitute to speaking, listening and informing my neighbors. I have given my phone number and email address so that my neighbors can reach me with their concerns.

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: Getting off social media and directly listening and speaking with my neighbors.

**REPUBLICAN**  
No candidate filed.

Ward 4  
Vote for 1  
**DEMOCRATIC**  
**ANNE MACHAFFIE**, Jenkintown  
No response received by print deadline.  
**REPUBLICAN**  
No candidate filed.

• **JENKINTOWN MAYOR •**  
**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Mayor is the chief law enforcement officer of the borough, the executive administrator of the police department (if any), and the elected official who takes charge during the time of an emergency. The mayor attends and takes part in the monthly Borough Council meetings and votes in cases of a tie (unless it involves the hiring or firing of police personnel). The Mayor has the power to sign or veto ordinances and regulations as well as the responsibility for their enforcement.

Term: 4 years · Salary: None · Vote for ONE

**DEMOCRATIC**  
**GABRIEL LERMAN**, Jenkintown  
Campaign Phone 6109092646  
Web Site <https://www.facebook.com/MayorGabeLerman>  
Email [GabeForJenkintown@gmail.com](mailto:GabeForJenkintown@gmail.com)  
Age 47

**Education** M.B.A. (2006) B.A. in Politics (2000)  
**Qualifications** Currently serving as Mayor (2022-present), As a Sr. Director, Project Leadership I manage a team of project managers and directors in the delivery of clinical research and development projects, including resources, budgeting/finance, quality/regulatory compliance, client/stakeholder relationships.

**Questions:**  
**Q: What makes you personally and professionally best suited for this position?**

A: My wife and I chose Jenkintown for the schools, the walkability and tree lined streets, the proximity to Philadelphia and the availability of public transportation. We have two children in the Jenkintown school district, who are getting a great education and experiences that will help them in the future. We have built strong relationships with neighbors and feel very much a part of the community.

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your municipality in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: The key challenges I see for Jenkintown are: Continuing to help the business district recover from Covid and to thrive again by supporting our current businesses and encouraging new businesses to come to Jenkintown.

Improving the sustainability of the services that the Borough provides to residents by getting the best value for the community. Managing the finite and sometimes limited resources that the Borough has and balancing the needs of the residents, business owners, and visitors.

**Q: What is your position on making a more inclusive and accessible community?**

A: I believe that inclusivity and accessibility are incredibly important for communities to be vibrant and to succeed. I fully support and actively work towards making Jenkintown an inclusive and accessible community for everyone. I'm proud of the events we host throughout the year which bring people together from Jenkintown and beyond as well as the public works and infrastructure projects we have for accessibility and ADA compliance.

**REPUBLICAN**

No candidate filed.

**• JENKINTOWN TAX COLLECTOR •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** A Tax Collector's responsibilities include collecting real estate, per capita and other taxes for the county, school district, and the municipality that they serve.

**Term: 4 years · Vote for ONE**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**ELIZABETH WOLFF**, Jenkintown

**Education** BA Economics

**Qualifications** Most recent corporate job was Vice president/Director of Operations and Financial control for Bank of America's mutual funds. Since 2004 I have been an independent investment advisor and since 2013 I have also been in the Jenkintown tax collector

**Questions:**

**Q: What makes you personally and professionally best suited for this position?**

A: I have Extensive experience managing processing, customer service and reconciliation areas in the financial services industry.

**Q: What issue is your top priority if elected, and what would you do to address it?**

A: My first priority is to provide the timely and accurate billing and processing of taxes payments for the Borough, county, and School District. Simultaneously I try to provide timely service to the taxpayers regarding questions or problems.

**REPUBLICAN**

No candidate filed.

**• LOWER MORELAND SCHOOL DIRECTORS •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The School Director as a member of the Board of School Directors is responsible for equipping, furnishing and maintaining the public schools in the municipality. Principal duties include appointing and/or dismissing the superintendents, principals, and teachers; levying and assessing school taxes; purchasing land; locating new buildings; adopting textbooks and courses of study; fixing salaries of teachers and other appointees of the Board.

**Term: 4 years · Salary: None**  
**Vote for Not More Than 4**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**DEREK AUSTIN**, Huntingdon Valley

**Web Site** www.lmttogether.com

**Age** 39

**Education** High School Diploma

**Qualifications** General Contractor, Music Technology Professional

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: LMTSD is growing. Attendance is soaring and we can't wait to help each and every student on their way to a bright future. With so many new students we need to ensure that they continue to have all the support they need -smaller class sizes, safe facilities, extra curricular enrichment, and individualized learning. We can accomplish these things by properly allocating funding and resources, fairly compensating teachers and staff, and promoting an atmosphere of kindness and cohesion.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: Much of the decision making will be centered around the maintenance of our buildings. With twenty years experience as a general contractor I can easily interface with the trades, assess fair material and labor costs, and diagnose building issues before they become dangerous and expensive.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: In 2023 our kid began 1st grade at Pine Rd school after attending kindergarten elsewhere. My wife and I were immediately amazed by the support, care, and honest communication that the school provided us during enrollment. Since then they have continued to go above and beyond not only for our child, but for our family. I'm hoping to support those who have helped us -so that other families can experience what we've had. We're excited to send our youngest to kindergarten at Pine Rd in fall 2025!

**MARIE VOLTERANO**, Huntingdon Valley  
**Campaign Phone** 2157601011

**Email** marievolverano@gmail.com

**Age** 48

**Education** Law School

**Qualifications** Prior Boards, Legal

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: Since I would be new to the LMTSD Board, I won't pretend to completely understand all the challenges or how to resolve them yet. However, as a resident, I am concerned about the retention of highly qualified and valued staff, educators, and administration from the school bus to the classroom to buildings and one-size fits all approach to the education of our students. In order to address these issues, I would start by having open conversations within the people of our community and listen.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I have been committed to the service of others for as long as I can remember. Since I enjoy service and being active in my community, I began volunteering for Lower Moreland organizations shortly after moving to Lower Moreland. In addition to being an active member of the PTA and often the Homeroom Mom at school, I also volunteered for the LM Athletic Association. I served as a member of the Huntingdon Valley Library Board and even served as Treasurer for Soroptimist.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: I know that this position will require a large time commitment and I did not want to apply for a service position unless I was committed. Now that my own children are getting older and becoming more independent, I



am able to commit more time to my community and there is an open position. I decided that I would run and if elected I can use the extra time to be a part of the solution rather than simply identifying issues.

**MICHAEL BERARDI**, Huntingdon Valley  
**Age** 54

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: Balancing our budget, while trying to keep our tax rates within the Act 1 index. We now operate 4 buildings. It will be important to find balance between making necessary repairs to our facilities and solving the shortage of our athletic fields. We had an opportunity to solve the athletic fields with a new turf field but current board leadership put a pause while also causing high profile resignations and staff turnover.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: As a 25 year veteran in the Financial Services Industry and an 8 year member of the Board, I bring a unique insight to our budget process. I am capable of seeing and understanding where the district should be allocating its resources and I also know when to support our Administration and allow them to lead with sound financial decisions that benefit not only our students, but also our residents who do not have school aged children.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: if re-elected, this will be my third term. So, I am fully aware of the time commitment this position demands. I am proud to say that my attendance and participation in the monthly meetings as well as committee work has been close to 100%. Not only is this position time consuming, but it also puts you and your family in the spotlight. Having school aged children in the district can put pressure on your decision making. I have never let that get in the way of doing what is right for our district.

**ERSKINE S PAYTON**, Huntingdon Valley  
No response received by print deadline.

**DAVID LITT**, Huntingdon Valley  
**Web Site** lowermorelandtogether.com  
**Age** 57

**Education** Medical school

**Qualifications** Parent of 3 lower moreland students, primary care physician in our community for three decades, former member of ad hoc committee for superintendent advisory group, co-owner of physician group

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you ad-**

**dress them?**

A: Increased student enrollment is a significant issue facing our schools. This is coupled with a limited amount of space. We are continuing to use an older building that had been slated for demolition. We will need to continue to have a detailed long term plan for managing out anticipated infrastructure and other costs.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: As a co-owner of a local medical practice, I have routinely participated in our budgeting and other financial business related decisions.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: I have been a long time resident in the community. I have always been interested in playing a greater role in the township but was limited by work requirements. At this point, I have more time to give in this capacity.

**JOSEPH FRANKINA**, Huntingdon Valley  
**Age** 54

**Education** Central High School, Temple University BS Biology, Temple Dental School DMD

**Qualifications** Dedicated, well rounded ,hard working individual with over 25 years of experience running a business

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: One of the key challenges our school district is facing is hiring and retaining good teachers and support staff. Unfortunately, the education system has lost many assets in recent years. We should implement creative professional development and search long and far for the best talent to improve our schools and inspire our students.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: My first job as a young thirteen year old was a construction worker for a family friend's construction company. I spent several years learning the skills of major residential projects and learned all about the bidding process, tools and hands on hard work involved in construction. Though this may have been on a small scale, it was hard labor that taught me how to work with my hands and mold me into the individual I am today. I am a Dentist with 25 yrs of experience managing my Dental Practice.

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: My desire to be a School Board Director is to ensure the School District provides our students with an excep-

tional education and gives them the opportunity to become well rounded individuals. I believe our teachers and administration should have all means necessary to accomplish this while being fiscally responsible to our tax payers. I truly believe I would be an asset to the school board and would be an advocate in achieving the best educational experience for our students.

**JENNIFER CANNON**, Huntingdon Valley  
**Email** jennifer.m.cannon@comcast.net  
**Age** 45

**Education** BS Marketing and Management, MS Elementary Education and TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)

**Qualifications** I have professional experience in both education and finance. I'm also a proud mother of three LMTSD current students!

**Questions:**

**Q: What are the key challenges facing your school district in the coming term, and how would you address them?**

A: One of the most important challenges facing LMTSD is balancing future development and improvements to our facilities while remaining fiscally responsible to the residents of our township. It's my goal to remain under the Act 1 Index set by the Commonwealth, as we have each year during my four-year tenure as a School Director.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: As a financial professional by trade, I work daily with individuals, families, and businesses to maximize their protection and savings, all while remaining within their allowable spending limits. This requires looking at finances holistically, so I bring this same philosophy to my experience as a School Director. There are many moving parts, and examining the budget from both a macro and micro lens allows the district to focus on what's needed now, and moving forward in planning for the future

**Q: This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: When I first sought a position as School Director in 2021, I was dedicated to ensuring that my children returned to school full-time following Covid closures. Since then, I have been able to utilize my professional experience in the world of education and finance to make informed decisions that better all students. I'm seeking this role again to continue this work. The position may be volunteer, but it's not thankless; the success of our children is the best reward!

**PATRICIA A BALITZKY**, Huntingdon Valley  
No response received by print deadline.

**REPUBLICAN**

**JENNIFER CANNON** – see entry under Democratic.

**PATRICIA A BALITZKY** – see entry under Democratic.

**MICHAEL BERARDI** – see entry under Democratic.

**DAVID LITT** – see entry under Democratic.

**ERSKINE S PAYTON** – see entry under Democratic.

**DEREK AUSTIN** – see entry under Democratic.

**JOSEPH FRANKINA** – see entry under Democratic.

**MARIE VOLTERANO** – see entry under Democratic.

**• LOWER MORELAND TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Board of Commissioners implements the legislative and executive functions of the Township, including the adoption of a budget and levying of taxes.

**Term: 4 years · Salary: \$3,250**

**Ward 2**

**Vote for 1**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**CHUCK MCDADE**, Huntingdon Valley  
No response received by print deadline.

**REPUBLICAN**

**JOSEPH PACE**, Huntingdon Valley  
No response received by print deadline.

**Ward 4**

**Vote for 1**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**SETH LINEHAN**, Huntingdon Valley

**Questions:**

**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for them?**

A: 1) I plan to seek out braided funding streams to support safety and wellness initiatives. 2) Prioritize fiscal responsibility and transparency – scrutinize income and expenses, avoid excess debt or spending. 3) Strictly scrutinize future developments – gather accurate plans and specifications for the construction and maintenance

of infrastructure projects. Prioritize addressing environmental issues including water treatment and waste management.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: As the Executive Director for a non-profit, I create the budget, prepare the tax filings, and track money associated with the organization. In college I served as President of the largest entertainment body – my role involved making decisions to allocate our six-figure budget. My thought process is to understand the criteria, rationales used in making the estimates, verifying the sources for accuracy and reasonableness, and evaluate if a long-term approach (i.e. a 10-year plan) was considered.

**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you would change right now to better your community?**

A: Everyone who wants a job would have a job to earn a reasonable living wage with health benefits. Some individuals could have employment at a community arts and services program, that teaches life-sustaining skills for residents: CPR/First Aid, car/house maintenance, garden/cook/sew, and financial planning. Community arts offer a supportive social environment and enhance well-being.

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: I would plan to open up lines of communication to ease some of the tension amongst our community by holding focus groups, conversations, and get-togethers at the playground. We plan to survey residents periodically about satisfaction with LMT/ LMTSD, for example, asking how likely on a scale of 1 to 10 are they to recommend living in Lower Moreland to a friend or family member.

**REPUBLICAN**

**JOSEPH A CANALE JR**, Huntingdon Valley  
No response received by print deadline.

**Ward 6**

**Vote for 1**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**DENISE KURITZ**, Huntingdon Valley  
No response received by print deadline.

**ANDREW KRAFT**, Huntingdon Valley  
No response received by print deadline.

**REPUBLICAN**

**No candidate filed.**

**• LOWER MORELAND TAX COLLECTOR •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** A Tax Collector's responsibilities include collecting real estate, per capita and other taxes for the county, school district, and the municipality that they serve.

**Term: 4 years · Vote for ONE**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**No candidate filed.**

**REPUBLICAN**

**JANE ANN SAILE**, Huntingdon Valley  
No response received by print deadline.

**• ROCKLEDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Borough Council implements the legislative and executive functions of the Borough, including the adoption of a budget and levying of taxes.

**Term: 4 years · Salary: \$1,000**  
**Vote for Not More Than 3**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**JOSEPH L DENELSBECK**, Rockledge  
**Email** jdenelsbeck50@mail.com

**Age** 59

**Education** Masters Degrees in Educational Leadership

**Qualifications** 19 years as a member of Council 10 as President of Council

No response received to questions.

**REPUBLICAN**

**KATIE HOPKINS-TOFFLING**, Rockledge  
**Campaign Phone** 2156924344

**Email** kathleen.e.hopkins@gmail.com

**Age** 39

**Education** Undergrad and Graduate Degree from LaSalle University

**Questions:**

**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for**

Find candidate and ballot information online at the  
League of Women Voters nonpartisan election  
information website: **vote411.org**



**them?**

A: My top three priorities are building a stronger sense of community, securing grant funding to improve local services, and fostering stronger relationships with our business association and state representatives. To address these priorities, I would work to identify and pursue local, state, and federal grant opportunities that align with our community goals—whether for parks, infrastructure, or public safety.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: I bring over 13 years of experience in the healthcare industry, with a strong focus on government relations and policy. A core part of my role involves educating elected officials on healthcare legislation, budget implications, and cost-saving opportunities. I collaborate closely with subject matter experts, actuaries, and legal teams to ensure we are maximizing value while preserving access and quality. I am a strong believer in transparency and responsible use of taxpayer dollars.

**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you would change right now to better your community?**

A: In addition to creating better parks for our kids, I would make Huntingdon Pike more welcoming and accessible for local businesses and restaurants. I envision a thriving main street feel—one that encourages foot traffic, supports small businesses, and creates a vibrant community hub. I’d also prioritize investments in infrastructure and public safety, making sure our police and fire departments have the training and equipment they need to keep our neighborhood safe.

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: I believe in the power of transparency and engagement. I would work to improve our borough's social media presence to keep residents better informed and involved. I’d also encourage more people to attend borough meetings and offer opportunities for community members to bring ideas forward. By opening up lines of communication and fostering a welcoming environment, we can build a stronger, safer, and more united community for people of all ages.

**FRANK H ENDERLE**, Rockledge  
No response received by print deadline.

**VINCENT M MENNITI JR**, Rockledge  
Age 45  
Education Highschool Graduate

**Questions:**

**Q: What are your top three priorities for your municipality, and how would you address and pay for them?**

A: Top of my list is keeping our taxes down, we need to do the best we can to keep Rockledge running efficiently within the budget. Right now I’m working on updating the playgrounds and trying to do it all with grants. Continue to bring Rockledge up to date with all the new technology that is available and utilizing social media for communication.

**Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to budget decision making.**

A: Previously to my last term I had no experience with a budget, but from staying involved and constantly learning in the last 4 years I can tell you what every line item details.

**Q: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstacles in your way, what is the one thing that you would change right now to better your community?**

A: Update both playgrounds to ADA specs

**Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?**

A: Since I help the Borough Manager run our website and Social Media platforms I’m already sharing all the information with the public. I put myself out there in the public and on social media and I answer every question the residents may have, I also monitor the Community pages and do the best I can to ensure all the information being shared is accurate.

**CORY TONER**, Rockledge  
No response received by print deadline.

**• ROCKLEDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL—  
2 YEAR TERM •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Borough Council implements the legislative and executive functions of the Borough, including the adoption of a budget and levying of taxes.

**Term: 2 years · Salary: \$1,000  
Vote for ONE**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**No candidate filed.**

**REPUBLICAN**

**No candidate filed.**

**• ROCKLEDGE MAYOR •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Mayor is the chief law enforcement officer of the borough, the executive administrator of the police department (if any), and the elected official who takes charge during the time of an emergency. The mayor attends and takes part in the monthly Borough Council meetings and votes in cases of a tie (unless it involves the hiring or firing of police

personnel). The Mayor has the power to sign or veto ordinances and regulations as well as the responsibility for their enforcement.

**Term: 4 years · Salary: \$1,200  
Vote for ONE**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**No candidate filed.**

**REPUBLICAN**

**BRIAN CORRIGAN**, Rockledge  
No response received by print deadline.

**• ROCKLEDGE TAX COLLECTOR •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** A Tax Collector’s responsibilities include collecting real estate, per capita and other taxes for the county, school district, and the municipality that they serve.

**Term: 4 years · Vote for ONE**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**No candidate filed.**

**REPUBLICAN**

**ALBERT W WARTMAN**, Rockledge  
No response received by print deadline.

**• SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DIRECTORS •**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The School Director as a member of the Board of School Directors is responsible for equipping, furnishing and maintaining the public schools in the municipality. Principal duties include appointing and/or dismissing the superintendents, principals, and teachers; levying and assessing school taxes; purchasing land; locating new buildings; adopting textbooks and courses of study; fixing salaries of teachers and other appointees of the Board.

**Term: 4 years · Salary: None  
Vote for Not More Than 4**

**DEMOCRATIC**

**KD DAVENPORT**, Oreland  
No response received by print deadline.

**LEE ABBERLEY**, Glenside  
No response received by print deadline.

**GERARD BRETT**, Glenside  
No response received by print deadline.

**KATE MCGRANAGHAN**, Oreland  
No response received by print deadline.

**REPUBLICAN**

**KATE MCGRANAGHAN** – see entry under Democratic.



A: I've managed budgets throughout my professional career in the nonprofit sector, helping me understand and appreciate the importance of being a good steward of our finances. Previously, I was President of my Alumni Association where I had responsibility of our annual budget. I serve on the Millersville Foundation Board, providing oversight of scholarships and endowments. I also participated in the budgeting process for the 24/25 academic year as a member of the Upper Dublin School Board

Q: **This position is truly public service, as it is both time-consuming and unpaid. Why did you decide to run for this position?**

A: I love Upper Dublin and want to do everything I can to make it even better. My wife and I chose to move here for the schools, and with three kids in three build-ings (high school, middle school and elementary school) I have a unique perspective about the District I can lean on to help guide policy, financial and long-term plan-ning decisions for the betterment of the community. My service also gives me a front row seat to all the amazing things students, teachers and administrators do every day.

REPUBLICAN

JENNA EVANS – see entry under Democratic.

JOHN HELD – see entry under Democratic.

KENYA N LOWE – see entry under Democratic.

WENDY BAILEY – see entry under Democratic.

• UPPER DUBLIN SCHOOL DIRECTOR—  
2 YEAR TERM •

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The School Director as a mem-ber of the Board of School Directors is responsible for equipping, furnishing and maintaining the public schools in the municipality. Principal duties include appointing and/or dismissing the superintendents, prin-cipals, and teachers; levying and assessing school taxes; purchasing land; locating new buildings; adopting text-books and courses of study; fixing salaries of teachers and other appointees of the Board.

Term: 2 years · Salary: None  
Vote for ONE

DEMOCRATIC

MARK SIROTA, Dresher  
No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

MARK SIROTA – see entry under Democratic.

• UPPER DUBLIN TOWNSHIP  
COMMISSIONERS •

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Board of Commissioners implements the legislative and executive functions of the Township, including the adoption of a budget and levying of taxes.

Term: 4 years · Salary: \$4,375

Ward 2

Vote for 1

DEMOCRATIC

MEREDITH FERLEGER, Dresher  
No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

Ward 4

Vote for 1

DEMOCRATIC

IRA S TACKEL, Fort Washington  
No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

Ward 6

Vote for 1

DEMOCRATIC

ALYSON FRITZGES, Maple Glen  
No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

• UPPER DUBLIN TAX COLLECTOR •

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** A Tax Collector’s responsibili-ties include collecting real estate, per capita and other taxes for the county, school district, and the municipality that they serve.

Term: 4 years · Vote for ONE

DEMOCRATIC

MICHAEL E KLEIN, Maple Glen  
No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

• ABINGTON AND ROCKLEDGE  
BALLOT QUESTION •

Shall debt in the sum of \$285,000,000 for the purpose of financing the construction of a new Abington Middle School be authorized to be incurred as debt approved by the electors?

Vote YES or NO

NOTE:

**ABINGTON AND ROCKLEDGE  
RESIDENTS WHO ARE NOT  
REGISTERED EITHER DEMOCRATIC  
OR REPUBLICAN MAY VOTE ON  
THIS BALLOT QUESTION,  
BUT ON NO OTHER ITEMS  
IN THIS PRIMARY ELECTION.**

INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT  
(accessed from montgomerycountypa.gov website, 2025 election information page)

The purpose of this debt is to finance construction of a new Abington Middle School with associated site, field, and parking improvements. The original Middle School was constructed in 1962, with a science wing added in 1996. As a result, the Middle School has required many renovations over the last 63 years and would require substantial additional renovations and repairs to main-tain.

This referendum, if approved, would allow the Abington School District to issue electoral debt in an amount not to exceed \$285,000,000 for a term to be determined by the School District for the purpose of construction of a new Abington Middle School.

Selecting "Yes" means a vote FOR this referendum question and would allow the Abington School District to issue electoral debt in the amount not to exceed \$285,000,000 for a term to be determined by the School District for the purpose of constructing a new Abington Middle School.

Selecting "No" means a vote AGAINST this referendum question and would not allow the Abington School Dis- trict to issue electoral debt for the purpose of construct- ing a new Abington Middle School unless voters ap- prove issuing electoral debt at a subsequent election called not less than 155 days after this first election.





## **INFORMATION ON PENNSYLVANIA VOTING PROCEDURES AND YOUR VOTING RIGHTS FROM THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**

### **ABOUT THIS GUIDE**

The material in this Guide was compiled by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund. This material may not be altered or reprinted without the permission of the League. Each candidate's reply has been printed as submitted. Candidates were invited to participate in the Vote411 online voters guide via email. All reasonable efforts were made to encourage candidates to participate.

The candidates listed are those whose names appear on the ballot as available at press time. They are listed according to their ballot order.

Nothing in this guide should be construed as an endorsement or non-endorsement of any candidate, party or initiative by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund.

### **\*CERTIFICATION NOTE\***

As of the publication date of this guide, the slate of candidates listed herein is accurate based upon the Pennsylvania Department of State's Bureau of Elections unofficial ballot and the Montgomery County Board of Elections unofficial ballot.

### **PURPOSE AND POLICY OF THE LEAGUE**

The purpose of the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is nonpartisan: it does not support or oppose any political parties or candidates.

### **ONLINE VOTERS GUIDE**

The League of Women Voters online voters guide is available at [vote411.org](http://vote411.org). This site also has useful links to online voter registration and other election information. The League of Women Voters of PA homepage is at [palwv.org](http://palwv.org).

### **ONLINE REGISTRATION AND BALLOT APPLICATIONS**

If you have a Pennsylvania driver's license or PennDOT-issued ID card, you can register to vote online in PA. Go to [vote.pa.gov](http://vote.pa.gov) to register, check your registration status, update your registration, or apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot.

### **ABSENTEE OR MAIL-IN VOTING**

Under Act 77 of 2019, **any Pennsylvania voter may apply for a mail-in ballot that requires no excuse**. Registered voters who are ill or disabled or who will be absent from the municipality on Election Day may vote by absentee ballot.

Apply for your ballot online at [vote.pa.gov](http://vote.pa.gov), or mail in an application. Completed applications for civilian absentee ballots or mail-in ballots must be received by the County Board of Elections by **5 PM, Tues., May 13, 2025 (postmarks do NOT apply)**. Completed absentee or mail-in ballots must be received at the Board of Elections by **8 PM on Election Day, May 20, 2025 (postmarks do NOT apply)**. You can also drop off your own ballot at a ballot box: visit [montgomerycountypa.gov](http://montgomerycountypa.gov) and search "ballot boxes" for a list of locations.

In emergency situations (such as an unexpected illness or disability and last-minute absence) following the deadline at 5 PM on May 13, you can request an Emergency Absentee Ballot. The deadline to submit your Emergency Absentee Ballot Application to the County Office of Voter Services is 8 PM on Election Day.

### **FOR ELECTION INFORMATION**

Contact Montgomery County Voter Services at (610) 278-3280, [montgomerycountypa.gov/voterservices](http://montgomerycountypa.gov/voterservices), or visit [vote.pa.gov](http://vote.pa.gov).

### **PROCEDURES AT THE POLLS**

Visit [montgomerycountypa.gov/voterservices](http://montgomerycountypa.gov/voterservices) to find your polling place. Any disabled voter with questions regarding the accessibility of a polling place should contact the county Board of Elections.

Montgomery County uses **paper ballots** that the voter marks by pen, which then go through an optical scanner. You may bring your own black pen to the polls.

### **ELECTION DAY PROBLEMS**

If your right to vote is challenged at the polls on Election Day and the problem cannot be resolved at the polling place, the Judge of Elections at the polling place should telephone the Montgomery County Board of Elections at (610) 278-3275. The problem could be resolved by phone if your name appears on the County records, or you may ask for and vote by provisional ballot. If it is later determined that you were eligible to vote, your ballot will be counted. You will be told how to determine if your vote was counted.

**If you have any questions at the polls or need to report any problems, call 1-866-OUR-VOTE.**

### **IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW VOTERS**

If you are a new voter or if you are voting at a polling place for the first time, then you must bring your voter ID card or a photo ID such as a driver's license, student ID or some other form of Federal or State government-issued ID. Some forms of non-photo ID are also acceptable such as a firearm permit, current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or government check. If you do not have any acceptable ID, then you must be allowed to vote by provisional ballot.





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