

VOTERS GUIDE: GENERAL ELECTION 2025

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 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
Judicial retention: Supreme Court
Judicial retention: Superior Court
Judicial retention: Commonwealth Court

County:

Judge, Court of Common Pleas Judicial retention: 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

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, <u>Vote411.org</u>, 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

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 <u>judgeneuman.com</u>
Facebook URL <u>facebook.com/VoteNeuman/</u>
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 Of-

ficer where I presided over hundreds of hearings and issued hundreds of administrative decisions.

Campaign Website <u>battistaforjudge.com</u>
Facebook URL <u>facebook.com/BattistaForJudge</u>
Instagram URL <u>www.instagram.com/</u>
mariabattistaforjudge/

Ouestions:

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

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.

LIBERAL

DANIEL WASSMER, Pike County **Occupation** Attorney/College Professor/Business Owner

Education MBA/ID

Qualifications Attorney

Campaign Website Wassmer4pa.com

Questions:

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

A: I was asked to run by a cadre of like minded individuals who believe that "judicial independence" is a paramount to good government while opposing the political and special interest influence that has recently seems to have permeated our judicial system.

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

A: I would pledge to keep an open mind to all arguments. I would note that I am the only truly "Independent" candidate in this race and have over the course of my life changed many of my earlier positions after educating myself on issues I initially thought I fully understood. If something is fair and reasonable that is the goal of achieving equity. From the appellate position of evaluating such matters working with or listening to other judges is equally important. It is my goal to act in a cordial manner regardless of positions and to always seek the proper position based upon law as well as equity.

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

A: The precedent would hold unless there were a subsequent and previously unaddressed issue related to constitutionality or in the event intervening legislation has been passed.

• 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

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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
Facebook URL facebook.com/StellaForJudge
X Handle @Stellaforjudge
Instagram URL 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 longstanding 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.

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
Facebook URL facebook.com/Mattwolfordforjudge
Ouestions:

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 extraordi-

nary 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 abovereferenced 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.

• JUDICIAL RETENTION •

Judicial retention is a nonpolitical method of reelecting Pennsylvania judges. The merit retention provision of Pennsylvania's constitution allows all but magisterial district judges to be retained with a simple "yes" or "no" vote without ballot reference to political affiliation. This provision was designed to remove judges from the pressures of the political arena once they begin their first term of office.

* Source: <u>www.pacourts.us/learn/how-judges-are-elected/</u>

For more nonpartisan information on judicial retention 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

Learn more about the current justices on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court here: <u>pacourts.us/courts/supreme-</u> <u>court/supreme-court-justices</u>

• SUPREME COURT JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTION 1 •

Shall Christine Donohue be retained for an additional term as Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

(Vote yes or no)

Yes - For the Measure

A Yes Vote Would keep Justice Christine Donohue on the Supreme Court until she reaches the mandatory retirement age of 75.

No - Against the Measure

A No Vote Would remove Justice Christine Donohue from the bench at the end of her term. When a justice is removed, the Governor can appoint a temporary replacement with 2/3 approval of the State Senate. A special election would be held in 2027 to permanently fill that seat.

• PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME COURT JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTION 2 •

Shall Kevin M. Dougherty be retained for an additional term as Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

(Vote yes or no)

Yes - For the Measure

A Yes Vote Would keep Justice Kevin Dougherty on the Supreme Court for another 10 year term.

No - Against the Measure

A No Vote Would remove Justice Kevin Dougherty from the bench at the end of his term. When a justice is removed, the Governor can appoint a temporary replacement with 2/3 approval of the State Senate. A special election would be held in 2027 to permanently fill that seat.

• PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME COURT JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTION 3 •

Shall David Wecht be retained for an additional term as Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

(Vote yes or no)

Yes - For the Measure

A Yes Vote Would keep Justice David Wecht on the Supreme Court for another 10 year term.

No - Against the Measure

A No Vote Would remove Justice David Wecht from the bench at the end of his term. When a justice is removed, the Governor can appoint a temporary replacement with 2/3 approval of the State Senate. A special election would be held in 2027 to permanently fill that seat.

• SUPERIOR COURT JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTION •

Shall Alice Beck Dubow be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

(Vote yes or no)

Yes - For the Measure

A Yes Vote Would keep Judge Alice Dubow on the Superior Court until she reaches the mandatory retirement age of 75.

No - Against the Measure

A No Vote Would remove Judge Alice Dubow from the bench at the end of her term. When a judge is removed, the Governor can appoint a temporary replacement with 2/3 approval of the State Senate. A special election would be held in 2027 to permanently fill that seat.

• COMMONWEALTH COURT JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTION •

Shall Michael H. Wojcik be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Commonwealth Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

(Vote yes or no)

Yes - For the Measure

A Yes Vote Would keep Judge Michael Wojcik on the Commonwealth Court for another 10 year term.

No - Against the Measure

A No Vote Would remove Judge Michael Wojcik from the bench at the end of his term. When a judge is removed, the Governor can appoint a temporary replacement with 2/3 approval of the State Senate. A special election would be held in 2027 to permanently fill that seat.

• 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.

You can view the Montgomery County Bar Association's judicial candidate ratings from the 2025 primary season (including candidates no longer on the ballot) at:

https://www.montgomerybar.org/?pg=Blog&blAction=showEntry&blogEntry=119540

Term: 10 years · Salary: \$229,393 Vote for not more than 3

DEMOCRATIC

LAUREN HUGHES, Norristown No response received by print deadline.

RAYMOND MCGARRY, Abington

Age 62

Campaign Phone 2158705994

Web Site www.raymcgarryforjudge.com

Education Delaware Law School (1989); University of Delaware (1986)

Qualifications Practicing trial attorney for more than 36 years

Ouestions:

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

A: Be prepared; review all submissions; understand and apply the applicable law; and treat every single person that comes into my courtroom with respect.

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: Educate the public (both inside and outside of the courtroom) about their rights and obligations; and have empathy knowing that something bad has happened to land these individuals in court.

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

A: In the event I have any relationship with any lawyer, party or witness who appears before me, whether that relationship be a prior business relationship, personal friendship, prior political relationship or prior campaign donor, I would always disclose those relationships to all parties and counsel and in those cases in which I believe I cannot be impartial, I will recuse myself.

MARY PUGH, Springfield

Campaign Phone (215) 703-7870

Web Site www.marypughforjudge.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.

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

• JUDICIAL RETENTION •

Judicial retention is a nonpolitical method of reelecting Pennsylvania judges. The merit retention provision of Pennsylvania's constitution allows all but magisterial district judges to be retained with a simple "yes" or "no" vote without ballot reference to political affiliation. This provision was designed to remove judges from the pressures of the political arena once they begin their first

term of office.

* Source: <u>www.pacourts.us/learn/how-judges-are-</u>elected/

You can view the Montgomery County Bar Association's judicial retention recommendations at:

https://www.montgomerybar.org/?pg=NewsReleases &blAction=showEntry&blogEntry=129574

• COURT OF COMMON PLEAS JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTION 1 •

Shall Dan Clifford be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, 38th Judicial District, Montgomery County?

(Vote yes or no)

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

• COURT OF COMMON PLEAS JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTION 2 •

Shall Todd D Eisenberg be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, 38th Judicial District, Montgomery County?

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

• COURT OF COMMON PLEAS JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTION 3 •

Shall Risa Vetri Ferman be retained for an additional term as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, 38th Judicial District, Montgomery County?

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

• 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.



Visit 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.

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

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

Ouestions:

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

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.

ANGELIQUE FRAZIER, Abington **Ouestions:**

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

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.

YAASIYN MUHAMMAD, Elkins Park 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.

Ouestions:

O: 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.

O: 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.

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 Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to planning while implementing the voter-approved One ASD. One Future referendum for a safe, future-ready middle school. Responsible budgeting remains critical we must invest wisely while maintaining 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 music is for students. learners and educators.

O: 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 (MCIU) 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.

O: 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.

REPUBLICAN

BRIAN ALLEN – see entry under Democratic

JOSEPH J ROONEY, Glenside No response received by print deadline.

JOSEPH F O'BRIEN, Glenside **Campaign Phone** 215-884-9876

Web Site www.commonsenseabington.com

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.

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

O: 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, Huntingdon Valley Campaign Phone 2155942582

Age 60

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 or no tax increases to the tax payers of Abington School district

• 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 levving of taxes.

Term: 4 years

Ward 2

Vote for 1 DEMOCRATIC

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

REPUBLICAN

DANIEL P DONNELLY, Huntingdon Valley Campaign Phone (267)607-0190

Age 65

Qualifications Retired Mechanical Engineer Web Site atrogop.org/daniel-p-donnelly-2025-abingtoncommissioner-candidate/

Questions:

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

A: 1. Promote fiscal responsibility in managing taxpayer funds through ensuring competitive bidding and transparency. 2. Maintain Abington's unique character as an older close-in suburb of Philadelphia by maintaining single family zoning and restricting high density housing. 3. Ensure effective and efficient maintenance of existing township infrastructure and adequately plan for required long-term renewals and improvements.

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

A: As a retired mechanical engineer in higher education facilities, I have substantial experience with capital planning and budgeting for infrastructure maintenance and renewals.

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: Provide for a more open and transparent township government and substantially increase citizen participation in the township governance process.

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

A: Ensure that the township leadership does everything possible to promote an informed citizenry, especially regarding critical issues affecting township residents and promote citizen participation in the township's decisionmaking processes for divisive or controversial issues.

Ward 4

Vote for 1 DEMOCRATIC

JIMMY DIPLACIDO, Elkins Park Campaign Phone 267-800-5565

Age 55

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 and balanced 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 its 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

JOE DUNN

No response received by print deadline.

Ward 6

Vote for 1

DEMOCRATIC

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

REPUBLICAN

MARIA DELLAMONICA, Glenside

A 00 63

Campaign Phone 2158508994

Education Master's Degree in Education

Qualifications Active community member for over 40 years

Questions:

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

A: 1) Township safety demands that our commissioners be involved in supporting and recognizing the Police Department and its community accomplishments. 2) Commissioners' duties are to protect the public, protect future zoning and enhance our neighborhoods. 3) I will make it my responsibility to analyze and question expenditures. The push for high density development in a township that is already 98% developed.

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

A: During my time as a board member for various non-profit organizations, I have gained substantial experience managing budgets and overseeing expenditures. I maintained a strong sense of financial responsibility, particularly when allocating and spending funds entrusted to the organization. My ongoing commitment to financial stewardship has shaped my approach to decision making, ensuring that every financial choice is made with careful consideration and respect for the interests of stakeholders.

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: Children access well-equipped parks, but preteens and teenagers lack dedicated spaces where they can socialize and develop. The Police Athletic League (PAL) of Abington Township offers an exceptional program to engage our teens. Leadership involvement & support is needed to enhance these opportunities. Also, our fire departments face membership challenges. Implementing incentives such as tax rebates, health and retirement benefits will increase volunteer membership & ensure continued safety.

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

A: I will commit to serving the residents of Ward 6 with honesty, integrity, and transparency. I will strive to listen to and address the questions and concerns of my constituents by holding town hall meetings, and responding to emails and answering phone calls in a timely manner. Additionally, I will honor my privilege and responsibility to attentively listen to and address concerns at township meetings with respect.

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

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: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: We must create business tax revenue, but our development decisions must not hurt the surrounding community. HEALTH AND SAFETY: Recent events have made it crystal clear - our budgets must continue to provide the resources for the best possible police, fire, emergency and public works services. 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: For many years I was the director of a large government affairs program in a not-for-profit organization. I was responsible for developing and maintaining the department's operating budget. I also served on the finance committee of their national organization. I know every budget 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: I can't limit it to just one: Let's enhance our 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. AND we have to work on traffic safety throughout the township.

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

A: Misinformation can be defeated with frequent, detailed and transparent communication with residents. I always respond as quickly as possible to emails, phone calls and questions. And residents must always be made to feel welcome when contacting the township or offi-

cials. I have learned that listening and "civil" as well as "civic" discourse are very important. Continuous, open, detailed and respectful communication is key.

REPUBLICAN

AMY R HAVILAND

No response received by print deadline.

Ward 12

Vote for 1 **DEMOCRATIC**

MATTHEW VAHEY, Glenside Campaign Phone 2152600090

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.

Campaign Website www.mattvahev.com **Ouestions:**

O: 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.
- O: 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: A quick rebuild of the SPS property.

O: What could you do in your elected role to promote O: 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

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 KAREN GELD SANCHEZ, Jenkintown officials on issues important to the public's welfare.

Ouestions:

O: 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

O: 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 fellow neighbors when traffic issues do arise.

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

LORI SCHREIBER – see entry under Democratic

• 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

Age 47

Education McKinley Elementary School, Abington Junior and Senior High School, Bachelor of Science from Penn State University; JD and MBA from Temple

Qualifications Lifelong Abington Resident who attended Abington Schools and I have been a practicing finance attorney for over 20 years, and was the Montgomery County Controller for over 9 years.

Ouestions:

O: 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 for the community showing that elected officials can be fiscally responsible and compassionate at the same time. I have proven that, using my legal skills and Master's degree in Business Administration as the fiscal watchdog of the County for the last 9 years. I give back to my community through serving on boards, volunteering as a child advocate for over 20 yrs and organizing community food drives.

O: 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 your 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

Campaign Phone 267-884-4854

Age 36

Education Summa Cum Laude Graduate in Accounting of Temple University Fox School of Business

Qualifications CPA

Web Site www.giuseppebucci.com

Questions:

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

A: Being a CPA for 15 years, I've spent my career managing money the right way, I'll do the same for Abington. I hear what taxpayers are feeling—frustrated, ignored, tired of seeing their hard-earned money wasted. You deserve better. I will deliver for you, put you first, and be the peoples' tax collector. My campaign is grassroots and powered by the people. Visit my website and join the movement. There you will find links to my social media and ways to contact me directly, donate, or volunteer.

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

A: My top priority? The taxpayers and businesses of Abington. I will be a full time tax collector with Saturday hours during busy seasons. There will be clear, honest service for everyone. Every tax dollar will be accounted for. All questions will be answered. Current and new businesses will be welcomed with open arms and given the tools they need to hit the ground running. Lastly, the prior two tax collectors have also simultaneously served as Treasurer for Abington. I plan on doing the same.

• 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

CAROLINE WATTS. Elkins Park

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

Web Site csbdems.com

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.

DANIEL SCHULTZ, Elkins Park **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

Web Site https://csbdems.com/

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.

LEAH MULHEARN, Elkins Park Campaign Phone 8565202481

Age 43

Education BS Psychology, Eastern University **Qualifications** Current School Board Director finishing first term and experience serving education non-profits as a board member and volunteer including strategic planning, budgeting and hiring.

Web Site www.csbdems.com

Ouestions:

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

A: A key challenge will be preparing financially for the approved capital improvement plan. Our plan is reasonable, realistic, & much needed to provide equitable educational environments for our students. I believe our administration & school board will continue to work collaboratively during this uncertain time regarding tariffs & possible loss of funds from the federal government. Another is the grade realignment we are undergoing. The changes are essential & exciting but not without challenges.

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

A: As an incumbent I am now in my 4th cycle of the annual budget process. Each year I learn a bit more & we improve our decision making. Beyond school board I have also been a part of the financial decisions & budgetary process for several other education related non-profit institutions. While they are not completely analogous, each process has helped me develop the tools I

initiatives, & build my knowledge base.

O: 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 ran initially because I felt I could offer the perspective of an involved parent who had volunteered in our schools, had been a part of parent leadership groups, & participated in district level committees. I still believe this is true with the added benefit of experience in the position. I truly enjoy the time I spend with my colleagues & seeing our decisions impact students & teachers positively is the best reward. It takes a village & I feel fortunate to be a part of this village.

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.

Ouestions:

O: 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

need to ask the right questions, align budgets to strategic 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

Age 42

Education BA History, George Washington University Qualifications Operations Manager and small business owner, Board Member of Cheltenham Chamber of Citizens (CCC)

Ouestions:

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.

O: 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 Agua 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.

O: 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

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

Web Site https://www.emilycheramiewalz.com/

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

Education Masters in Taxation

Qualifications Over 20 Years of tax experience

Web Site FriendsOfMelvinPitts.com

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

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.

Ouestions:

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 oversite 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.

LISA SMITH, Jenkintown

Web Site https://business.facebook.com/latest/home? asset id=104365418377801

Age 53

Education MSW, Univeristy of Pennsylvania, BA, Univeristy 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.

Ouestions:

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 ensuring that we meet the needs of our school community will require thoughtful consideration as the implications of State and Federal funding and policy changes take shape. 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. I will continue to advocate for and State and Federal support and charter school reform.

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, seeking grants and donations to fill gaps. In my time on the board, we've successfully navigated this balance by maintaining the highest rating during our independent audit, despite ongoing challenges, such as the state budget impasse.

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 cornerstone of our community is the school district - it's why people choose JASON TUCKER - see entry under Democratic to live here, impacting property values for all and enhancing Jenkintown's future generations by supporting our students in becoming emerging leaders and innovators, engaged citizens, and good neighbors.

LAURA IGOE, Jenkintown

Age 42

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

Questions:

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

A: The district will hire a new superintendent in 2026, which is an exciting opportunity. I promise that, if elected to the board. I will make sure the search for the new superintendent is as transparent and inclusive of the community as possible. The process should be clearly articulated to the public and involve community representation and input. Let's work together to find a smart, kind, responsive, and empowering new leader for the school!

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

A: I have worked for over a decade in non-profits and I therefore understand how to budget effectively and responsibly. I also have experience in fundraising and grant-writing. I have helped raise millions of dollars for a variety of projects at my current museum. I know that the school is seeking to grow its contributed income as it receives inadequate support from the state and federal government. I can help with that.

O: 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 want to give back to our community and because I want to help make sure the school continues to be a strong, community pillar. I'm a mother of two Jenkintown elementary students, so I am invested in the school and its growth. 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.

JONATHAN LITWINOWICZ, Jenkintown No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

LISA SMITH – see entry under Democratic

LAURA IGOE – see entry under Democratic

JONATHAN LITWINOWICZ - see entry under Democratic

COMMON SENSE

BOB KOHLHEPP. Jenkintown

Campaign Phone 2679704805

Age 41

Education Associates Degree - Pennsylvania State University

Qualifications Local Business Owner, Former Chef/ Restaurant Management/Consultant

Web Site Bobkohlhepp.com

Ouestions:

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

A: First, and foremost, regaining the trust in the community. After recent events, major change is needed. Having a transparent and community oriented search and selection process for a new superintendent. Second. Cutting wasteful spending and programs that are not benefiting students and the community as a whole. Never voting to raise taxes. The current model is unsustainable. Third. Returning the power back to the people. The school board is beholden to the people, not the superintendent.

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

A: I worked in the restaurant business as a chef, restaurant manager and a consultant for close to 20 years. Overseeing budgets, eliminating waste and managing day to day operations sometimes on razor thin margins. I worked in small hole in the wall places with \$500,000+ annual income to others with \$20,000,000+ annual income. I have a vast experience in problem solving. I can and will talk to anyone at anytime, from any background or point of view. Whether I agree with them not.

O: 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 did not want to run, I felt I had to. A long history of systemic abuse and concerns from the community, teachers and students was being ignored. Although I am

a single father of two children and run a small business. I felt it imperative for the good of my children, and all the children of the community to step up and make a difference. I have an intimate knowledge of the school that all of the other candidates lack and fail to discuss when asked

• JENKINTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL •

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

Term: 4 years · Salary: None

Ward 1 Vote for 2 DEMOCRATIC

DEBORRA SINES PANCOE. Jenkintown

Age 71

Education BA, MS

Qualifications Experienced educator, activist, and public servant; Borough Council representative since 2006; Council President for 7 years; extensive Board of Trustee service.

Questions:

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

A: Preserving the Jenkintown Community feel - small town with access to big city resources. Planning for 10 years in the future; larger community; need for more services. We continue to try to expanding our tax base, so we can keep the tax rate steady & keep vital services strong. We look for grants & costs savings to keep our community running smoothly. We work collaboratively with businesses, residents, state & local government to make Jenkintown a great place.

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

A: I have served on several boards of trustees; fiscal responsibility is an important part of that role. I review budget sheets; I ask questions and have a keen eye. I am a person of integrity and know the importance of good stewardship of funds. I am in a leadership role in my faith community which requires oversight of budget & finances. I have served on Borough Council for 19 years and our goal is to minimize tax increases while main-





taining 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: Slow down traffic! Our traffic issues are a major impediment to the community feel that we want to maintain. I would undertake a major traffic study to try to reroute truck traffic and commuter traffic from our small community streets. Parking is also an issue. I would like to be able to create more municipal parking. Bike lanes and open space for recreation are also important. Our school playground needs improvement and safety upgrades. Our school and its playground are community resources.

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

A: I continuously promote civic and civil discourse and try to combat misinformation. Social media can be so divisive; I would like to improve our public relations and communications systems to have ongoing public conversation about issues that are important to residents & business owners. Community meetings help to build relationships. We need to keep talking with each other. I will continue to find ways to make connections with constituents.

GORDON LEWIS, Jenkintown

Age 72

Education Harvard College, BA Government **Ouestions:**

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 en-

courage "willful misunderstanding" and distortions on the part of interest groups and individuals with a selfcentered agenda.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

Ward 2 Vote for 1 DEMOCRATIC

CHRISTIAN SOLTYSIAK, Jenkintown Ouestions:

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

A: In my last term we made great strides in unifying our 2 fire houses into one cohesive Fire Department. The Borough also commissioned studies to support this unification as well as a projection of apparatus needs. The Fire Department dedicated time to updating and formalizing their policies and bylaws. I would like to continue that forward momentum as we contemplate future fire apparatus needs and purchases. In the coming fiscal year we plan to return full funding to our fire apparatus fund.

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

A: In my roles as owner and Principal for an insurance brokerage in Elkins Park (2008-2018), as the Director of Strategic Operations for CeasefirePA (2019-2022) I have been responsible for and contributed to the annual budgeting process. I have also participated in the budgeting process during my past years on Jenkintown Borough Council.

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 including unlimited funds - a new Borough Hall/Police Station/Public Safety hybrid building that also has space for community meetings and events.

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

A: In my years on Borough Council there has been a dramatic shift in public discourse towards Government and elected officials. Angry rhetoric, public aggression, and even acts of violence have become rote and normalized. I would encourage the public to attend meetings, not seek their news from social media sites where it is often inaccurate, and get involved. There are many ways to get involved in Borough Government – volunteering with your neighbors is a great way to gain perspective.







REPUBLICAN

ALEXANDER KHUSIDMAN, Jenkintown Campaign Phone 6094238390

Age 54

Education B.S. Computer Science Ouestions:

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

A: 1. Public Safety: Jenkintown needs a fully-staffed police department to handle the demand for police services while maintaining officer safety. I see it as a core function of the municipal government, and police department budget should be prioritized over other expenses. 2. Revitalization of the Business District: Focused effort is needed to attract more business to increase commercial tax revenue 3. More Transparent Government: Easy-to-read budget, adoption of accrual accounting is needed

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

A: I have 5 years in corporate management experience as a head of 50-person department, an 15 years as a small business owner. While this experience is not at the scale of borough budget, the principals are the same - the goals need to be prioritized, and budget must follow these priorities

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: Bring more business to Jenkintown via the following: 1. Restrict through-traffic on Old York road to make the business district more attractive. 2. Expand business district to the area around the train station.

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

A: Transparency and better accessibility of the borough government is the best way to promote civic discourse.

Ward 3 Vote for 2 DEMOCRATIC

JOSHUA CURTIN, Jenkintown No response received by print deadline.

ALEXANDRIA KHALIL, Jenkintown Campaign Phone 215-479-6527

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

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

Campaign Phone 2158844400

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 andreconciliation 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.

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



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

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 **Ouestions:**

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

PATRICIA A BALITZKY, Huntingdon Valley Web Site www.lmtogether.com

Age 44

Education Bachelor Degree in English Literature **Qualifications** Business Management work history,

Legal Compliance work history, effective communicator, Business acumen, actively sitting on the Huntingdon Valley Library Board of Trustees and the Lower Moreland Parent-Teacher Assoc Board

Ouestions:

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

A: The #1 challenge is how to pay the increased costs of operating FOUR buildings. Before 2024, there were only three buildings in operation. Just utilities costs for these buildings are monumental. In past years, no fund was initiated to pay for improvements to existing buildings. We must plan for the future better. How will we financially support this and not cut any academics or services? I'll seek feedback from all, when making decisions to financially support our facilities and people.

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

A: I am experienced in business management and legal compliance. I can successfully balance the costs of operating a business against its income. I can build income, analyze financials, source competitive prices, prepare profit and loss sheets, make critical decisions on repairs and maintenance to facilities, hire and train talented staff, and stay within my fiscal year budget. I communicate clearly, seek community input and am respectful of the needs of all stakeholders.

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 believe in the responsibility of all citizens to serve their community. I currently serve our community as a PTA leader and board member for Pine Road El School, and as a Trustee on the Board for our local nonprofit library, Huntingdon Valley Library. I consistently commit my time and energy to serving this wonderful community. I wish to continue to meaningfully engage LM families and secure the future of our great schools.

DEREK AUSTIN, Huntingdon Valley **Web Site** www.lmtogether.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!

ERSKINE S PAYTON, Huntingdon Valley **Campaign Phone** 5712881074

Age 49

Education Temple University, MSc; Western Michigan University, BSc

Web Site https://www.lmtogether.com/
Ouestions:

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

A: There are several issues of importance for the school in the coming year. Staff recruitment and retention; technology enhancements; increased funding through public/private partnerships; and the need for infrastructure support for aging buildings are a few of the challenges for the year ahead. My goal to work with my colleagues on solutions to provide positive resolutions without individual tax increases.

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

A: I owned a successful technology business where I focused on maximizing income while decreasing risks. I have also supported organizations in building out technology plans to meet the needs of changing times and expectations.

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 firm believer in investing my skills and time into my community. Throughout my life. I have received support and opportunities that have led to a successful career. Paving forward these investments of time is an important part of my contribution to Lower Moreland. I also believe in setting an example for the younger generation that civic engagement is crucial to a thriving community.

REPUBLICAN

MICHAEL BERARDI, Huntingdon Valley Age 54

Ouestions:

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

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.

O: 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 MARIE VOLTERANO, Huntingdon Valley 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.

JENNIFER CANNON, Huntingdon Valley 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!

Ouestions:

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

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

O: 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!

Campaign Phone 2157601011

Age 48

Education Law School

Qualifications Prior Boards, Legal

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.

O: 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.

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

Ouestions:

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 ronment they can be proud of. Practice

O: 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 exceptional 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 pavers. 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.

• 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

Campaign Phone 2672451060

Age 65

Education High School - Some College

Qualifications . I am a 31+ year resident and have attended 99% of Board meetings for the last 10 years.

Ouestions:

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

A: Bring back small businesses to Lower Moreland! Start a shop local campaign utilizing social media (no cost). Flood and Traffic Mitigation. Utilize Public Works Department and work with PennDOT. Because of my suggestion, these were approved and funding provided by state. Utilize the Public Works Department and work with PennDOT to clean and clear traffic areas of litter and debris. Residents want a clean and safe envi-



O: Please share your skills and experience relevant to cles in your way, what is the one thing that you budget decision making.

A: As an Officer of a Union Local, I negotiated contracts for budget and healthcare. I also participated in bid processes for infrastructure development,

O: 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 more open space and create better traffic flow through our township.

O: What could vou do in your elected role to promote civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?

A: Transcripts of monthly Zoom Board, Planning and Zoning Meetings should be easily found on township website so that information cannot be misconstrued or posted incorrectly. This provides in written form what was discussed and what plans or processes are approved.

REPUBLICAN

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

Ward 4

Vote for 1

DEMOCRATIC

SETH LINEHAN, Huntingdon Valley **Ouestions:**

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 diversified 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.

O: If you had a magic wand and there were no obstawould 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 wellbeing.

O: What could vou 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.

REPUBLICAN

DENISE KURITZ – see entry under Democratic.

• 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

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

REPUBLICAN

JANE ANN SAILE—see entry under Democratic.

• 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 Campaign Phone 2158806983

Age 59

Education Masters Degrees in Educational Leadership **Qualifications** 19 years as a member of Council 10 as President of Council

Questions:

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

A: My priorities will be to improve the quality of life issues that continue to plague the borough. I also am committed to a fiscally response approach to borough government. Our taxes continue to rise with little difference in the services we receive. Finally I would like to return to a time when people in the borough helped each other and we will be a strong community and a team.

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

A: I have many years of experience being involved in community groups including council. As a life long resident I have seen many changes, some are great and some are not. Past councils have managed and created opportunities for the borough to become a better place to live but I don't feel that this is currently happening. In the past we created parks and planted trees and paved streets, We haven't paved a street in over 20 years and we continue to cover open space. We can do better.

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 revenue source that wasn't based on property tax.

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

A: I think the borough could schedule town halls and information sessions. We often say come to a meeting but as we see that doesn't happen unless there is an issue. I also would increase the dissemination of information in social media.

GREG LAW, Rockledge

No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

VINCENT M MENNITI JR, Rockledge

Age 45

Education Highschool Graduate

Ouestions:

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.

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

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

KATIE HOPKINS-TOFFLING, Rockledge

Campaign Phone 2156924344

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 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.

• 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

BRIAN CORRIGAN, Rockledge No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

BRIAN CORRIGAN— see entry under Democratic.

• 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

KATE MCGRANAGHAN, Oreland

No response received by print deadline.

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.

REPUBLICAN

KATE MCGRANAGHAN – see entry under Democratic.

MICHAEL PARSONS, Oreland

No response received by print deadline.

DOUG LIEBERMAN. Flourtown

Age 67

Education BA English

Qualifications Parent and Youth mentor, Consulting Business Owner

Ouestions:

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

A: I'm deeply concerned about the financial health of our school district and how it impacts our families. By 2026 we are projected to be spending \$30,000 per student. On top of this, we have a \$50 million unfunded deficit from teacher pension liabilities. This may lead to a crushing real estate tax hike. We need better budget and investment management to regain financial stability.

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

A: I run my own consulting company, and am responsible for managing multi-million dollar project budgets every day.

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 a heart for youth and the challenges they face in today's culture, both in and out of school. I believe that politics have no place in school governance. We should be asking ourselves what is best for the children in our effort to make our schools the best they can be, and to prepare students for a successful life after high school, whether that be in college or in the work force.

RYAN HABEL

No response received by print deadline.







• SPRINGFIELD 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: \$2,000

Ward 2

Vote for 1

DEMOCRATIC

SUSANNA RATSAVONG, Wyndmoor

No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

Ward 4

Vote for 1

DEMOCRATIC

ROBERT GOLDBERG, Erdenheim

Web Site ward4together.net

Age 65

Education BA, English Writing, MJ (Master's of Journalism)

Qualifications 25-year resident of Erdenheim. Professional background in web production management, marketing, and design. An active community member in Springfield Township, especially regarding traffic calming and human powered transit. Prior govt. experience at DEP and consultant to USEPA.

Ouestions:

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

A: Improved ability to walk and bicycle in the township. Improved transparency of governmental functions and increased public participation. Enhanced police/community relations. All of these goals can be achieved with current township budget plans.

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

A: I have negotiated consulting contracts within large institutions and as a small business owner for the past 20 years.

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 make it possible to complete the planned Circuit Trails (multiuse trails) connections that are slated for the township.

Q: What could you do in your elected role to promote

civic discourse and combat misinformation in our community?

A: I would provide residents with additional public comment opportunities (after having first surveyed to community to gain feedback on existing methods). I would enhance existing channels of communication to make them more accessible and inviting.

REPUBLICAN

No candidate filed.

Ward 6 Vote for 1 DEMOCRATIC

THAD KIRK. Oreland No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

MICHELE CHESAITIS. Oreland No response received by print deadline.

• SPRINGFIELD TAX COLLECTOR •

JOB DESCRIPTION: A Tax Collector's responsibilities include collecting real estate, per capita and other that they serve.

Term: 4 years · Vote for ONE

DEMOCRATIC

JOELLE KLEINMAN, Wyndmoor No response received by print deadline.

REPUBLICAN

JOELLE KLEINMAN – see entry under Democratic.

• UPPER DUBLIN 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

JENNA EVANS, Dresher No response received by print deadline.

WENDY BAILEY, Fort Washington Campaign Phone 2156537443

Age 62.

Education Ph.D. Molecular Biology and Genetics **Qualifications** UDSD resident, parent and volunteer on the EAC

Web Site www.udalliance.org **Questions:**

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

A: If elected as a School Director, I intend to work with school administrators, faculty and parents on initiatives that ensure every student feels safe, valued and possesses a sense of belonging to a strong, supportive community; elements proven to be needed for success. Fiscal responsibility will be paramount when addressing expected budgetary shortfalls and when working to address our district's aging infrastructure. I will work to ensure all district stakeholders feel heard and respected. Q: Please share your skills and experience relevant to

budget decision making.

A: I hold a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and Genetics and have worked as a professional research scientist for over 30 years in academia and at Merck. I recently retired from Merck as a Sr. Principal Scientist where my taxes for the county, school district, and the municipality responsibilities included budget oversight for my department and I managed external collaborations with the NIH, biotech and academics. I have served on a number of boards including private not-for-profit organizations where budgetary oversight was required.

O: 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 grew up in Idaho where public education was the only option. My mother was a teacher and each of my 3 siblings had successful careers in public health or education. We were raised to take civic responsibility seriously. From my upbringing, I came to value and appreciate what a gift public education is to a society. I strongly believe we cannot have a functioning democracy without an educated electorate. Once I retired, I felt it was time to give back to my community as a School Director.

KENYA N LOWE, Dresher **Ouestions:**

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

A: Some challenges are equity, safety, student wellbeing, & appropriate allocation of resources. The issues of equity, safety, & student well-being are all connected. I would work w/ UDSD to foster a district-wide culture of belonging where students feel included, respected, & valued. I would also work w/ UDSD to make sure the

environment surrounding the schools remain safe for all students. Addressing funding would be a little more complex. I would prioritize protecting core instructional areas

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

A: I have volunteered for many years on various committees throughout the school district & served as a PTO board member in the capacity of Member at Large & Vice President, I also serve on the board for a nonprofit organization that helps improve the quality & lives of individuals, families, and other organizations. I served in the capacity of Secretary, Treasurer, & Vice President, where I worked to create and implement balanced budgets, to allocate resources, & implement fundraising initiatives.

O: 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 2 children in the UDSD. I believe in the need for a strong public education that serves every child. I myself am a product of public education. I care about keeping our schools safe places for all students so each student can meet their potential. The best way to advocate for the needs of all students is to have a seat at the table. I would bring a unique perspective to discussions & decision making & would represent a part of our community that does not always have enough representation.

JOHN HELD. Dresher

Age 45

Education Bachelor of Science, Speech Communication, Millersville University of Pennsylvania

Qualifications Upper Dublin Board of School Directors (January 2024 - present) | Millersville University Foundation Board of Directors (2022 - present) | Cub Scout Pack 405 Leader (2021 - present) Millersville University Alumni Association (2009 - 2023)

Questions:

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

A: We are seeing growing needs in a number of areas, including Special Education. It's critical that we have experienced staff in place to provide these students with all the support they need to learn, grow and thrive. Early identification and individualized approaches are key. We also have work to do in math. I'm optimistic we can make strides here, especially with the introduction of a new math curriculum that is more engaging and interactive, helping students develop critical thinking skills.

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

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 last two years 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 buildings (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 planning 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.

WENDY BAILEY – see entry under Democratic.

KENYA N **LOWE** – see entry under Democratic.

JOHN HELD – see entry under Democratic.

• UPPER DUBLIN SCHOOL DIRECTOR— 2 YEAR TERM •

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: 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 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

MICHAEL E KLEIN. Maple Glen

Education Temple Law School & Temple School of Business Administration

Qualifications Tax Collector 8 years and Attorney (specialing in Real Estate & Taxation)

Web Site www.uddems.org

Ouestions:

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

A: I have had the honor of serving as Upper Dublin Tax Collector for the past 8 years, maintaining excellent working relationships with all taxing authorities. My end-of-year reviews and audits have consistently been exemplary. My professional background as an attorney specializing in real estate and taxation has been invaluable in this role. While I cannot provide legal advice, I am able to guide taxpayers through complex questions about their properties and direct them toward the right resources.

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

A: My top priority is to continue modernizing and improving the tax collection process to make it as efficient, accurate and user-friendly as possible. Since taking office in 2018, I have implemented significant improvements, including online payment options, the ability to order tax certifications electronically and email and mailed reminders that have saved taxpayers substantial money by helping them avoid penalties. Returning to the Township Building will allow us to service taxpayers better.

REPUBLICAN

GINNY CAIRO-VITELLA

No response received by print deadline.















This Voters Guide is copyright © 2025 by the League of Women Voters Abington-Cheltenham-Jenkintown Area, and LWVPA CEF. Editor: Mary Felley, PO Box 125, Jenkintown, PA 19046. For additional copies, call (215) 886-1604.

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 APPLICATIONS League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania- If you have a Pennsylvania driver's license or find your polling place. Any disabled voter with as submitted to Vote411. Candidates were invited tration, or apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot. to participate in the Vote411.org online voters guide via email or mail. 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 FOR ELECTION INFORMATION is available at vote411.org. This site also has Contact Montgomery County Voter Services at useful links to online voter registration and other (610) election information. The League of Women voterservices, or visit vote.pa.gov. Voters of PA homepage is at palwv.org.

ONLINE REGISTRATION AND BALLOT PROCEDURES AT THE POLLS

Citizen Education Fund. This material may not be PennDOT-issued ID card, you can register to vote questions regarding the accessibility of a polling altered or reprinted without the permission of the online in PA. Go to vote.pa.gov to register. League. Each candidate's reply has been printed check your registration status, update your registrons.

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, or at the polling place, the Judge of Elections at the mail in an application. Completed applications polling place should telephone the Montgomery for civilian absentee ballots or mail-in ballots County Board of Elections at (610) 278-3275. (postmarks do NOT apply). You can also drop determine if your vote was counted. off vour own ballot at a ballot box: 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 Oct. 28, you can request an Emergency Absentee Ballot. deadline to submit your Emergency Absentee Ballot Application to the County Office of Voter Services is 8 PM on Election Day.

278-3280, montgomerycountypa.gov/

Visit montgomerycountypa.gov/voterservices to place should contact the county Board of Elec-

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 must be received by the County Board of Elec- The problem could be resolved by phone if your tions by 5 PM, Tues., Oct. 28, 2025 (postmarks name appears on the County records, or you may do NOT apply). Completed absentee or mail-in ask for and vote by provisional ballot. If it is later ballots must be received at the Board of Elections determined that you were eligible to vote, your by 8 PM on Election Day, Nov. 4, 2025 ballot will be counted. You will be told how to

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

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.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
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Steven M. Zelitch, Attorney at Law

The Pavilion, Suite 526, 261 Old York Rd. Jenkintown, PA 19046 215-887-2990

Reuniting Family Bail Fund

A nonprofit committed to ending the practice of cash bail and pretrial incarceration and to the reform of the criminal legal system in Montgomery County, PA

www.bailfundmontco.org



a human good community

1515 The Fairway, Jenkintown, PA 19046 humangood.org/rydal-park-and-waters 215-885-6800

E. Matthew Steinberg

Oppenheimer & Co., Inc.

165 Township Line Rd., Suite 2300 Jenkintown, PA 19046 215-576-3015

matthew.steinberg@opco.com



Jenkintown Chiropractic Center, Inc.

435 Johnson St. Jenkintown, PA 19046 215-885-8730 jenkintownchiro.net



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