

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION POSITIONS
For the Election Set For
May 16, 2017

Candidates for Board of Education positions must present petitions with signatures and addresses of at least 25 qualified voters of the school district. Petitions must be presented to the District Clerk no later than 30 days prior to the election scheduled for Tuesday, May 16, 2017. The deadline date for this year's nominating petitions is **Monday, April 17, 2017**.

New York State Education Law §1716 prohibits the use of school district resources to urge, directly or indirectly, the electorate to support a particular position. Therefore, Board of Education candidates can not post and/or distribute flyers in the school buildings.

New York State Education Law §2031-a prohibits "Electioneering" within 100 feet of the polling place in school district elections. This includes a prohibition against distribution or display of a candidate's election campaign materials. The law pertains to both school board elections and voting on propositions.

In addition, Chapter 359 of the Laws of 1978 requires all candidates for election to a Board of Education to file sworn statements of campaign expenditures with the District Clerk. If a candidate spends less than \$500, he or she needs to file a sworn statement to that effect. However, if a candidate spends \$500 or more, he or she must provide a sworn statement itemizing his or her expenditures and contributions received. **Statements must be filed at three points: 30 days before the election, five days before and 20 days after the election.** Special rules apply if candidates receive a contribution in excess of \$1,000 after the close of a reporting period. **Candidates must attest to the truth of the contents of the expenditure and contribution statements in front of a notary public.**

Mary M. Grant
Executive Secretary & District Clerk
Berlin Central
School District

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