

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION POSITIONS  
For the Election Set For  
May 17, 2011

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 17, 2011. The deadline date for this year's nominating petitions is Monday, April 18, 2011.

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. There is no specific format for the campaign expenditure statement. A candidate who spends \$500 or less is only required to file a sworn statement indicating this to be the case. However, an itemization is necessary if expenditures exceed \$500. Campaign expenditures statements must be filed by June 1.

Mary M. Grant  
District Clerk  
Berlin Central School District  
P. O. Box 259  
53 School Street  
Berlin, NY 12022