

## ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING AND ELECTION

The Bethlehem Central School District (the District) shall hold an annual meeting and election at which the District's authorized voters will elect members of the Board of Education (the Board) and vote on the District budget for the coming school year. The annual District meeting and election will be held on the third Tuesday in May, unless this date conflicts with religious observances on that day, in which case the annual meeting and election will be held on the second Tuesday in May.

The District clerk shall publish a notice of the time and place of the annual meeting and election at least four times within the seven weeks prior to the meeting, in two newspapers having general circulation within the District. The first publication of the notice shall be at least forty-five days prior to the meeting. The notice shall also contain notice of any other matter required by law.

Copies of the budget to be voted upon at the annual meeting election will be available in each District school building for District residents upon request, at the time of the annual meeting and election, and fourteen days (other than Saturday, Sunday, and holidays) prior to the meeting.

The Board will appoint assistant clerks and election inspectors necessary for the annual meeting and election at a Board meeting held before the annual meeting and election.

### Propositions

The Board has the authority, under Education Law, to adopt reasonable rules and regulations concerning the submission of petitions to the Board to place propositions on the ballot that may amend the budget. Pursuant to those provisions, the Board establishes the following guidelines:

1. Unless otherwise provided by Education Law, petitions for the submission of a proposition must contain a minimum of twenty-five signatures of qualified voters of the District, or 5 percent of the eligible voters who voted in the previous annual election of the members of the Board of Education, whichever is greater.
2. Petitions must be filed with the District clerk at least thirty days prior to the annual meeting, except for petitions relating to a proposition that must be included in the notice of the annual meeting (e.g., changing the number of Board members). Such petitions must be submitted sixty days in advance of the annual meeting to facilitate the preparation and printing of the ballots.
3. Propositions must include the specific appropriations necessary for the purposes listed.
4. Wording of a petition must comply with legal requirements. If the wording does not comply, it may be changed or altered by the Board, or the Board may reject a petition for failure to comply.

Propositions received in accordance with these specifications will be placed on the ballot as amendments and will be voted upon by the voters in the same manner as the proposed budget, except that the Board shall not be required to place any proposition on the ballot that is within the exclusive province of the Board, or otherwise forbidden by law. No proposition involving the budget may be submitted to the voters more than twice.

The Board may also, on its own motion, submit propositions.

Ref:

Education Law §§416(3); 1608(2); 1716(2) 1804(4); 1906(1); 2002(1); 2003(1)(2); 2004(1)-(7);  
2009; 2021;2022(1), (4)-(5); 2035(2); 2601-a(2)

General Construction Law §60

*Matter of Hebel*, 34 EDR 319 (1994)

*Matter of Martin*, 32 EDR 567 (1993)

*Matter of Como*, 30 EDR 214 (1990)

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