# 231023 (Recorded) 231024 (Airs)

# Donna Usavage

Definitely Hold Candidate forums / discussions!! -Up The Middle -Yergz Radio -Both Sides Now

Blog -  $\rightarrow$  BoyertownForward.com

Planetarium Empty!

Large Study halls : No teachers

No "Home Ec" in Mid School!

Advanced classes in HS -Must have full class

Three regions

3 NHUF Matt & Brad

2 Dougs Borough 2 Lisa & Joe

Region 1 Borough Becht Bally Cole Wash Earl Michelle & Chris

All are parents w/ kids in school

Backgrounds in different areas of education

4 dems, 2 GOP All candidates won on Dem

Boyertown Area Expression Today Tuesday Previously on "B Inspired"

Boyertown Forward Facebook Page Links to candidates BoyertownForward.com

## No Pornography Parents always had rights Public, unnecessary distrust of faculty and administration

### From Donna Usavage:

#### Key voting information

Election Date: Tuesday, November 7th, 2023, 7am-8pm

#### What's on my ballot?

Odd-year elections include county and municipal level positions such as county Commissioners, judges, township supervisors and **school board directors**. It's so important to vote in these elections because these people make decisions that directly impact your lives locally. It can be argued that these positions are more impactful to your day-to-day life than state and national positions.

#### Who's on my ballot?

The people on your ballot in November were determined by the primary election held in May. You can consult your county voter services website for more information. Closer to the election, they will post sample ballots so you plan before heading to the polls.

Montgomery County Voter Services: https://www.montgomerycountypa.gov/753/Voter-Services Berks County Election Services: https://www.countyofberks.com/departments/election-services

#### How do I register to vote?

- ... Am I registered to vote?
- ... How do I change my voter registration?
- ... Where do I vote?

... How do I vote in person?

... How do I vote by mail?

You can quickly register to vote, check/change your voter registration, and find out where you vote and get information about voting at <u>www.vote.pa.gov</u>

#### What School Board voting region am I in?

**REGION 1:** Borough of Bally, Borough of Bechtelsville, Colebrookdale Township, Earl Township, Washington Township, and Borough of Boyertown (precinct 1\*).

**REGION 2:** Douglass Township (Montco), Douglass Township (Berks), Borough of Boyertown (precinct 2\*)

**REGION 3:** New Hanover Township, Upper Frederick Township

\*Boyertown precinct 1 votes at Keystone Fire Co.; Boyertown precinct 2 votes at Boyertown Borough Hall

#### What's at stake right now? Why the urgency to vote?

#### 2 big reasons:

Historically, there has always been a tug of war between keeping taxes low and providing the school district with the resources they need to succeed. School districts are funded primarily by state revenue and property taxes. The state's share of funding continues to dwindle from the 50% pledged long ago to the 30% it is today, placing more and more burden on the local taxpayers. Public school budgeting is difficult to say the least.

That said, the current Board majority has been penny-wise and pound foolish. Over the past several years, they have spent 1-2 hours each year discussing the \$139M BASD budget and they have focused only on the current year with no consideration to a longer range plan. And Board members who have asked for more information have been stonewalled.

# The Boyertown Forward candidates understand the value of transparent communications and long-range strategic planning and they have the skills to do it.

• A more pressing and recent concern is the national push to put politics in our local Board rooms. Extremists like Moms4Liberty are being groomed to run for Boards. This organization pushes the national narrative that our schools are indoctrinating our children and there are so many examples of the chaos caused by boards dominated by Moms4Liberty members. In fact, we don't have to look far... just research what is happening in Central Bucks and Pennridge school districts.

In our district, our opponents in Regions 1 (two incumbents) and 3 (two newcomers) are publicly supported by Moms4Liberty and they spout the language of the organization like "mama bears" and "parents rights". In fact, at the July Board meeting, one of the Region 1 incumbents up for reelection voted against renewing the long-standing Pottstown Health and Wellness Grant (i.e. free money!), which funds a PE teacher, because the grant used the word "equity". Both of these Region 1 incumbents cast the sole votes against the teachers' contract in August. Listen for yourself – Board meetings are recorded and available on the BASD website.

The Boyertown Forward candidates are focused on Boyertown Area School District's needs rather than national political agendas. They know what is going on in our schools because collectively, they have 13 children, including 4 recent graduates, 1 preschooler and 8 current BASD students attending 6 of our 9 schools. They have experience in teaching, special education, STEM, social work and sports coaching. They understand that students arrive at school with a great variety of special learning needs. They respect the expertise of our district staff and they see first-hand the collaboration between schools and families that maximizes each student's chance of success in school.

Who voted for School Board in May?

- ... 2 of every 5 people over 55
- ... 1 of every 5 people age 26-55 and
- ... 1 of every 8 people age 18-25.