

CHATHAM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

CHATHAM, NEW YORK 12037

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Budget Hearing of the School District will be held by the Board of Education on May 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Chatham High School, Chatham, New York, at which Hearing, the proposed 2021-2022 School District budget will be presented to the voters of the District.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting and Election of the Chatham Central School District, Chatham, Columbia County, New York, will be held at the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School gymnasium, Chatham, New York on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., at which time, the election of members of the Board of Education and the vote upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures of the School District for the 2021-2022 school year, and the vote upon any and all Propositions involving the expenditure of money or authorizing the levy of taxes will take place.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the election and budget vote shall be by machine or absentee ballot. The hours during which the polls shall be kept open shall be from 9:00 am. to 9:00 p.m. prevailing time or for as long thereafter as necessary to enable qualified voters who are in the polling place at 9:00 p.m. to cast their ballots.

A copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required for the ensuing year for school purposes may be obtained by any resident of the District during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the aforesaid Annual Meeting and Election (other than a Saturday, Sunday or Holiday) at which the budget vote will occur. District residents may obtain this information at the office of the District Clerk at the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School, Chatham, New York, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., *or* at any of the following school houses in said District: Chatham High School, Chatham Middle School, and during normal business hours at the Public Library.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Petitions nominating candidates for the office of Member of the Board of Education are available between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. in the Office of the District Clerk at the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School, Chatham, New York. Petitions must be filed not later than 5:00 p.m. Monday, April 19, 2021 in the Office of the District Clerk at the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School, Chatham, New York. Each nominating Petition must be directed to the Clerk of the District, shall be signed by at least **twenty-five (25) qualified voters** of the District, and shall state the name and the residence of the candidate and each signer.

The following seats are to be filled on the Board of Education:

- 1 3-year term commencing July 1, 2021 – expiring June 30, 2024
(only one full term due to reduction of board seats)
- 1 1-year term commencing May 19, 2021 – expiring June 30, 2022
(current incumbent Ted Miner for the expiring term of Meghan Charron)

The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will fill the one 3-year term.

The candidate receiving the second highest number of votes will fill the one 1-year term.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that personal registration of voters is required either pursuant to the Education Law or pursuant to Article 5 of the Election Law. If a voter has heretofore registered pursuant to the Education Law and has voted at an annual or special district meeting within the last four (4) calendar years, he or she is eligible to vote at this election; if a voter is registered and eligible to vote under Article 5 of the Election Law, he or she is also eligible to vote at this election. All other persons who wish to vote must register. The Board of Registration of said School District shall meet on the following days during the hours indicated, for the purpose of preparing a register of voters:

On Wednesday, April 21, 2021 between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School lobby

On Wednesday, May 12, 2021 between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. in the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School lobby

The register so prepared will be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the said District and will be open for inspection by any resident of the District between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and by appointment from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Saturday on each of the five days prior to and the day of the said meeting, except Sunday.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots may be applied for at the Office of the School District Clerk. Applications for absentee ballots can be requested no earlier than April 22, 2021 and must be received by the School District Clerk by or prior to 4:00 p.m., (EDST) on May 11, 2021 if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter; or prior to 4:00 p.m. (EDST), May 17, 2021 if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter.

A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available for inspection on each of the five (5) days prior to the day of the election (except Saturday and Sunday) and on the day of the election in the Office of the School District Clerk, during regular office hours between 8:00am and 3:00pm. Any qualified voter may challenge the acceptance of the absentee voter's ballot of any person on such list, by making his challenge and the reasons therefor known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls.

The Education Law also makes special provisions for absentee voting for “military” voters of the District. Specifically, the law provides a unique procedure for “military ballots” in school district votes. Whereas absentee ballot applications and absentee ballots must be received by the voter by mail, a military voter may elect to receive his/her absentee ballot application and absentee ballot by mail, email or facsimile. The military voter must, however, return his/her original military ballot application and military ballot by mail or in person. The Clerk of the Board shall transmit the military voter’s military ballot in accord with the military voter’s preferred method of transmission not later than 25 days before the vote. The Clerk of the Board must then receive the military voter’s military ballot by mail or in person not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the vote.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that pursuant to a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Education, the proposition set forth below shall be submitted to the voters of the District at the said Annual Meeting:

Proposition II
Student Representative on Chatham Central School Board of Education

PROPOSITION II : STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE
Shall a student be allowed to serve as an “Ex Officio” non-voting member on the Chatham Central School District’s Board of Education, pursuant to the provisions of Section 1702(3-a) of the Education Law?

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to a rule adopted by the Board of Education in accordance with §2035 and 2008 of the Education law, any referenda or propositions to amend the budget, or otherwise to be submitted for voting at said election, must be filed with the Board of Education at the District Office, 50 Woodbridge Avenue, Chatham, NY, on or before April 19, 2021, at 5:00 PM prevailing time; must be typed or printed in the English language; must be directed to the Clerk of the School District; must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District; and must state the name and residence of each signer. However, the School board will not entertain any petition to place before the power of the voters to determine, or any proposition which fails to include a specific appropriation where the expenditures of monies is required by the proposition.

Deborah Pottenburgh
DISTRICT CLERK
CHATHAM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 2021