

**VOTER GUIDE – NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION**  
**BRANDON SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Tuesday, November 6, 2018**  
**POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA**

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**6 Candidates for School District Board Member for THREE 4-year terms**

<p><b>CANDIDATES for</b>  <b><u>SCHOOL BOARD</u></b></p> <p><b>THREE 4-year terms</b>  <i>Vote for no more than THREE</i></p>	<p><b>Question 1 (150 Words or less):</b>  <b>Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for School Board and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position that you are running for.</b></p>	<p><b>Question 2 (150 Words or less):</b>  <b>What are the top three (3) Priority Issues facing your school district and what actions would you take to address them if elected to the school board?</b></p>
<p><b>SARAH ALLEN</b>  691 Nelson William Dr.  Ortonville, MI 48462</p>	<p>I have two students that attend Brandon Schools and I believe I can bring fresh energy and ideas as well as the level of dedication the district deserves. I work as a bookkeeper and farmer with a Bachelor in Business Administration. I have worked in Brandon School District as a Substitute Teacher and as a Paraprofessional. I believe Brandon School District would benefit from having a parent with children attending the schools, someone who has worked for the schools, and someone that has new ideas to improve the district and bring the community together. I helped lead in the Oakwood playground expansion in 2016 and have volunteered for the schools for many years. I pride myself in being organized, creative, respectful, and open-minded. Above all, Brandon is about families and that is my number one goal and focus.</p>	<p>Three priorities I believe the district needs to focus on are unifying the community by utilizing public relation techniques, compensating teachers with competitive benefits, and over testing students. The last few years have been divisive in our district and it is time to bring families back together with the district to show how the town can rally in support of one another. A strong public relations campaign will show the strength of our small town which centers on families supporting families. Teachers need to have competitive salary and benefits if we want to compete with neighboring districts for quality teachers. Teachers are our number one asset for student success. We need to look at how much of the student’s education is spent on testing, is the testing adding any benefit, how much class time is being taken due to testing preparation, and why are we testing the students.</p>

**BRANDON SCHOOL DISTRICT (Continued)**

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<p><b>MELISSA CLARK</b> 381 N. Ridgewood Dr. Ortonville, MI 48462</p>	<p>I am passionate about the quality of education our children are receiving. I want to make sure that parents are having their issues and concerns addressed as well as being informed. I bring qualities like organization, dedication, communication and compassion to the table. I have a business mindset and can clearly understand and evaluate both sides of a subject fairly.</p>	<p>Security, Teachers and Resources for our district. I want parents and staff to feel our schools are safe. I would ask that continued training for safety is addressed. Giving back to our teachers and making sure the resources are there for them to effectively execute their teaching is something also important to me whether elected to the board or not. As a parent, that is a subject that always should be at the top of the list. Having resources for trades education is key to preparing our students for life after graduation.</p>
<p><b>BOB EISIMINGER</b> 2411 S. Ortonville Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462</p>	<p><b>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</b></p>	
<p><b>SARAH LEONI</b> 3205 Auten Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462</p>	<p>As the mother of two elementary school children, I am running for School Board because I feel it is the way in which I can have the most positive impact on their academic careers. I have two years experience substitute teaching at a K-8 private school I also have a degree in Physics which will help guide my decisions regarding curriculum. On a more personal level, my current job as a yoga instructor helps to keep me patient, calm and reasonable when making decisions.</p>	<p>It is time for the School Board to make more of an effort to connect with parents and the community at large. I feel this could be accomplished easily via email, newsletters, and social media outreach on behalf of the board.</p> <p>I also feel it is time for us to take a hard look at our academic testing and common core. It is time to evaluate whether or not these strategies are working for our children and what if anything can be done to better prepare our children for bright futures.</p> <p>Lastly, I am looking forward to learning what strategies our district can use to become fiscally healthy. I have a good head for numbers and I look forward to digging into this aspect of the job of being a school board member.</p>
<p><b>DIANE SALTER</b> 2682 Echo Ln. Ortonville, MI 48462</p>	<p><b>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</b></p>	

## BRANDON SCHOOL DISTRICT (Continued)

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<b>SUSAN TOWER</b> 1655 N. Hadley Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462	I am a married, mother of 3 boys ages 14,12, and 10 years old. I have a financial background and currently support a Private Wealth Financial Advisor. I am running for Brandon Twp. School Board, as I am dissatisfied with the way the Board has voted on past issues. In addition, the negative atmosphere at the meetings is disheartening and I would like to change that. I want to believe that every member of the board wants to same things as me, quality education, safety and security in every school, and a balanced budget.	Priorities for the School Board is 1. Increasing our enrollment in every grade level. The lack of starter homes impedes our ability to attract families. I think meeting/working together with the township boards to spearhead new, affordable home construction is a start. 2. Infrastructure issues with existing buildings, age of buildings vs. repair. 3. Expand the curriculum. The narrowness of electives being offered is sad. I would like to open up more options for the students.

### THERE IS 1 SCHOOL PROPOSAL ON THE BALLOT.

<b>OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL</b>	This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance and renews millage that will expire with the 2018 tax levy.  Shall the currently authorized millage rate limitation of 17.8706 mills (\$17.8706 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Brandon School District in the Counties of Oakland and Lapeer, Oakland and Lapeer Counties, Michigan, be renewed for a period of 6 years, 2019 to 2024, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2019 is approximately \$2,700,000 (this is a renewal of millage that will expire with the 2018 tax levy)?
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