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Board of Elections Certifies Candidates and Issues for General Election Also Sets In-Person Absentee Voting Hours

The Franklin County Board of Elections certified candidates and issues for the Nov. 5 general election ballot today and approved hours to vote absentee in- person.

Petitions for 219 candidates-93 percent of those who filed- were certified while 16 other candidates failed to make the ballot due to a lack of valid signatures or other problems with their petitions.

There are no countywide candidates or issues on the ballot in November. Local ballots will show candidates for school board and council plus bond issues, levies, liquor options and other questions.

Columbus voters will have four bond issues for public works. School funding questions will be on the ballot in the Columbus and Upper Arlington school districts. Columbus school district voters will also decide whether to create an independent auditor for the district. Bexley and Worthington will have library levies. Municipal tax increases will be before voters in Gahanna and Reynoldsburg. Fire levies, zoning and energy purchasing questions will be on ballots in a number of villages and townships.

The board approved hours for in- person absentee voting for the general election as 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays from Tuesday, Oct. 1 to Friday, Nov. 1 and on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Early voting will be held at the board's offices, located at 280 East Broad Street, Columbus.

The board also voted to remain open on two holidays for other county employees- Columbus Day, Oct. 14 and Veterans Day, Nov. 11- to deal with election issues.

The complete list of candidates and issues certified for the general election is posted on the Web at <u>http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov</u>. Voters must be registered by Oct. 7 to be eligible for the general election.

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