

CITY OF CRANSTON
CANVASSING AUTHORITY
Ballot Lottery of July 20, 2022 – OFFICIAL MINUTES

The Cranston Canvassing Authority staff conducted a ballot placement lottery for Cranston School Committee Primary and General Election candidates on July 20, 2022. The lottery was advertised in accordance with the Rhode Island Open Meetings Act on July 12, 2022, and written notice was mailed to all candidates. The lottery was called to order by the Registrar, Nicholas Lima, at 3:00 p.m. It was held in the Canvassing Authority Office, Room 100, at Cranston City Hall.

STAFF PRESENT: Nicholas Lima (Registrar / Director of Elections), Theresa Bucci (Canvassing Aide), Emerson Brito (Bilingual Elections Specialist)

PUBLIC PRESENT: Kristen Haroian (Ward 2 School Committee Candidate); Kimberly Lettieri, Tera Norberg, and Arthur Scavitti, Sr. (Ward 5 School Committee Candidates); Anthony Melillo and Dylan Zelazo (Ward 6 School Committee Candidates) and other members of the public who chose not to sign in for the record.

AGENDA

A LOTTERY FOR CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE CANDIDATE BALLOT PLACEMENT ORDER FOR THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2022 STATEWIDE PRIMARY AND THE NOVEMBER 8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD IN THE CANVASSING AUTHORITY OFFICE, CRANSTON CITY HALL, ROOM 100, ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2022 AT 3 P.M. THE BALLOT PLACEMENT LOTTERY IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Mr. Lima noted for the record who was present in attendance and explained the procedure for drawing names for ballot placement. He said there is a local ballot lottery per the City Charter when there is more than one qualified candidate for the November General Election, or more than two qualified candidates for the Statewide Primary. If there are fewer than three candidates, those candidates do not have a primary and automatically move on to the general.

Ms. Bucci said that over 15 years ago a separate School Committee primary was held in October, but the Board and staff worked to change the law to line that up with the statewide September Primary. Mr. Scavitti asked why there was a School Committee primary this year. Mr. Lima and Ms. Bucci each explained that because this is a non-partisan contest, per the City Charter it operates as its own primary and voters can request a non-partisan only ballot, although the contest will also appear on the Democrat and Republican ballots. Ms. Bucci displayed the two pieces of paper containing the names of the School Committee candidates qualified for each contest, folded them, and placed each piece of paper into the empty box.

Mr. Brito and Ms. Bucci pulled the names one at a time after shaking up the covered box for each race, individually for each contest. The Ward 5 September Primary School Committee ballot was determined first, followed by the contested November General Election races in Wards 1, 3, 2, and 6 in that order.

Ms. Bucci announced the ballot order for each contest based upon the order of names drawn from the box. That will be the order listed on the November 8, 2022 School Committee General Election ballot as well as the September 13, 2022 Ward 5 School Committee Primary ballot. A separate lottery will tentatively be held on September 15, following the Statewide Primary, to determine the ballot order for Ward 5 in the General Election.

The results of the July 20 lottery were as follows:

Ward 5 Primary:

Arthur Scavitti, Sr. (1)

Kimberly Lettieri (2)

Tera Norberg (3)

Ward 1:

Keith Catone (1)

Jeffrey Gale (2)

Ward 3:

Paul Archetto (1)

Domenic Fusco, Jr. (2)

Ward 2:

Kristen Haroian (1)

Christopher Maxwell (2)

Ward 6:

Anthony Melillo (1)

Dylan Zelazo (2)

There was only one declared candidate for School Committee Ward 4 and School Committee – City Wide, and as such, no lottery drawing was necessary in either of those two contests.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lima announced the lottery had concluded. He asked that anyone who wished to be recorded as present for the record to write their name on the attendance sheet. The time of adjournment was noted as 3:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicholas J. Lima
Registrar / Director of Elections
Cranston Board of Canvassers