

Voting guidelines for Candia for September and November 2020

I'm sorry that I have waited so long to post the voting guidelines; however, there is still new information coming in from the Secretary of State and Attorney General's office. In fact there are more meetings this coming week. The next two elections will call for a great deal of flexibility and cooperation. That being said here are the guidelines as of 08.30.2020.

- 1) All qualified voters will be able to vote, it just won't look or feel the same
- 2) Masks will be required in the building and in the candidates electioneering standing area directly outside the front door. We will have masks available for you. It's a small ask, for a short period of time
- 3) If you are physically unable to wear a mask, ask for the Moderator when you arrive
- 4) Social distancing will be required
- 5) If you choose you will be able to secure an absentee ballot at the front door, complete it in the parking lot and then drop it off without having to enter the building
- 6) There will be an absentee vote drop box at the polls for those who have secured their ballots previously, but are afraid that the USPS will not get the ballot to the clerk on time
- 7) We won't be able to have the bake sale or presentations by the Historical Society, Scouts, Conservation Committee, etc.
- 8) No chatting or congregating inside the building. These last two points pain me as I have worked hard to make voting a more social and community event. This year I have to ask you to vote and then exit the location
- 9) The bathrooms will be closed

These guidelines have been approved by your Election Committee, our Emergency Management Director, our Board of Selectmen, our Town Council and meet or exceed the guidelines provided by the Secretary of State's office and the Attorney General's office

Here are a few of the steps we will be taking to protect you from Covid19

- 1) All forms of PPE will be available for anyone who feels safer using them while voting. This includes masks, gloves, surgical gowns, face shields
- 2) Each voter will be asked to use hand sanitizer as you enter the polling location
- 3) We will be following social distance rules inside the building
- 4) You will notice that both the same day registration and the ballot check in area are spread out to observe social distancing
- 5) Each voter will get their own pen to make the ballot with. Please keep the pen
- 6) Each ballot will come in a folder so that the ballot does not touch the table or voting booth surface. After you cast the ballot, you will dispose of the ballot folder and the folders will be recycled.
- 7) As you exit the voting area there will be hand sanitizer available and as you exit the building a trash can to dispose of your mask unless you wish to keep it.
- 8) All door handles, voting surfaces, table tops etc. will be sanitized every two hours.
- 9) The CYAA turf field and floors will be cleaned the night before the election

10) To the best of our ability, doors will be open and fans running to create a constant ventilation

These precautionary measures exceed the States Epidemiologist suggestions for safe polling.

There is so much more I could say however I will end with a quote from a school superintendent who had to cancel school last year...***"In the end it will be impossible to know if we overreacted and did too much, but will be quite apparent if we did too little."***

Clark

Clark Thyng , Candia Town and School District Moderator.