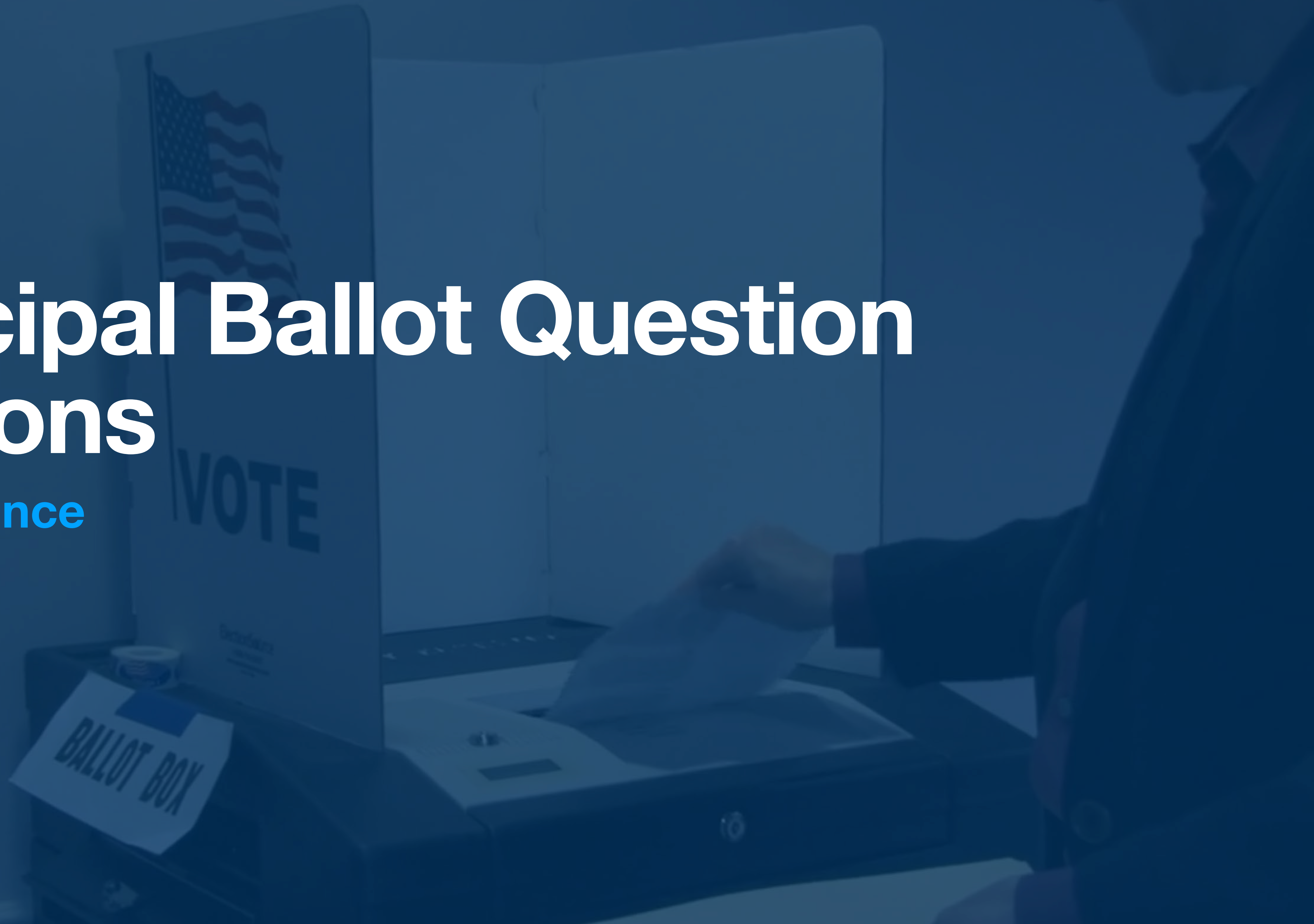


Municipal Ballot Question Elections

OCPF guidance

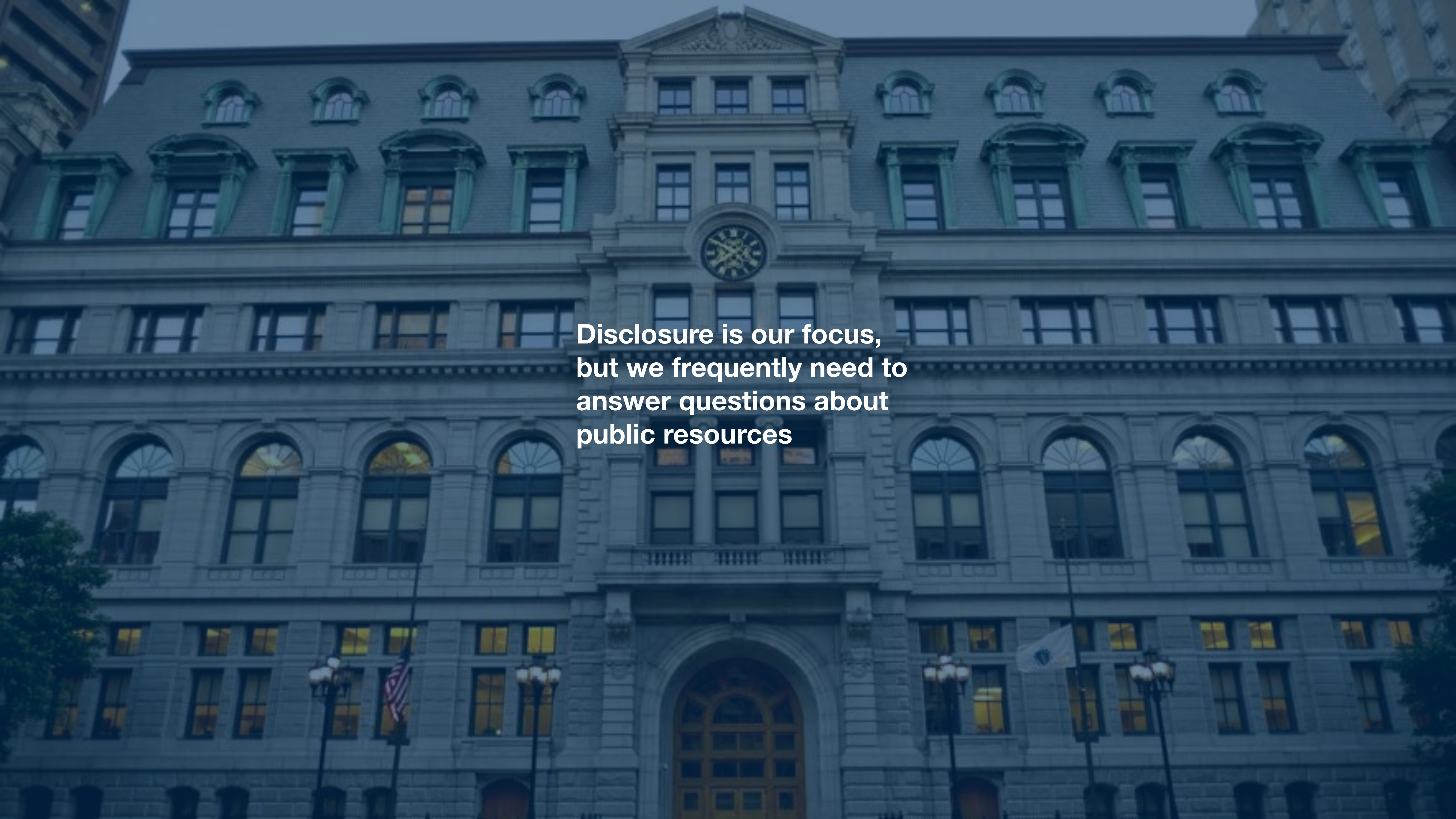


OCPF: typical day

**Educate people on the
campaign finance law**

Assist with filing reports

Assist with fixing errors



**Disclosure is our focus,
but we frequently need to
answer questions about
public resources**

Public Resources

Anything paid for by the taxpayers cannot be used for campaign purposes ...

Prohibited issues usually involve the distribution of information ...

**A school administrator makes
flyers to give to students,
asking parents to “VOTE YES”
on the new middle school building
project**



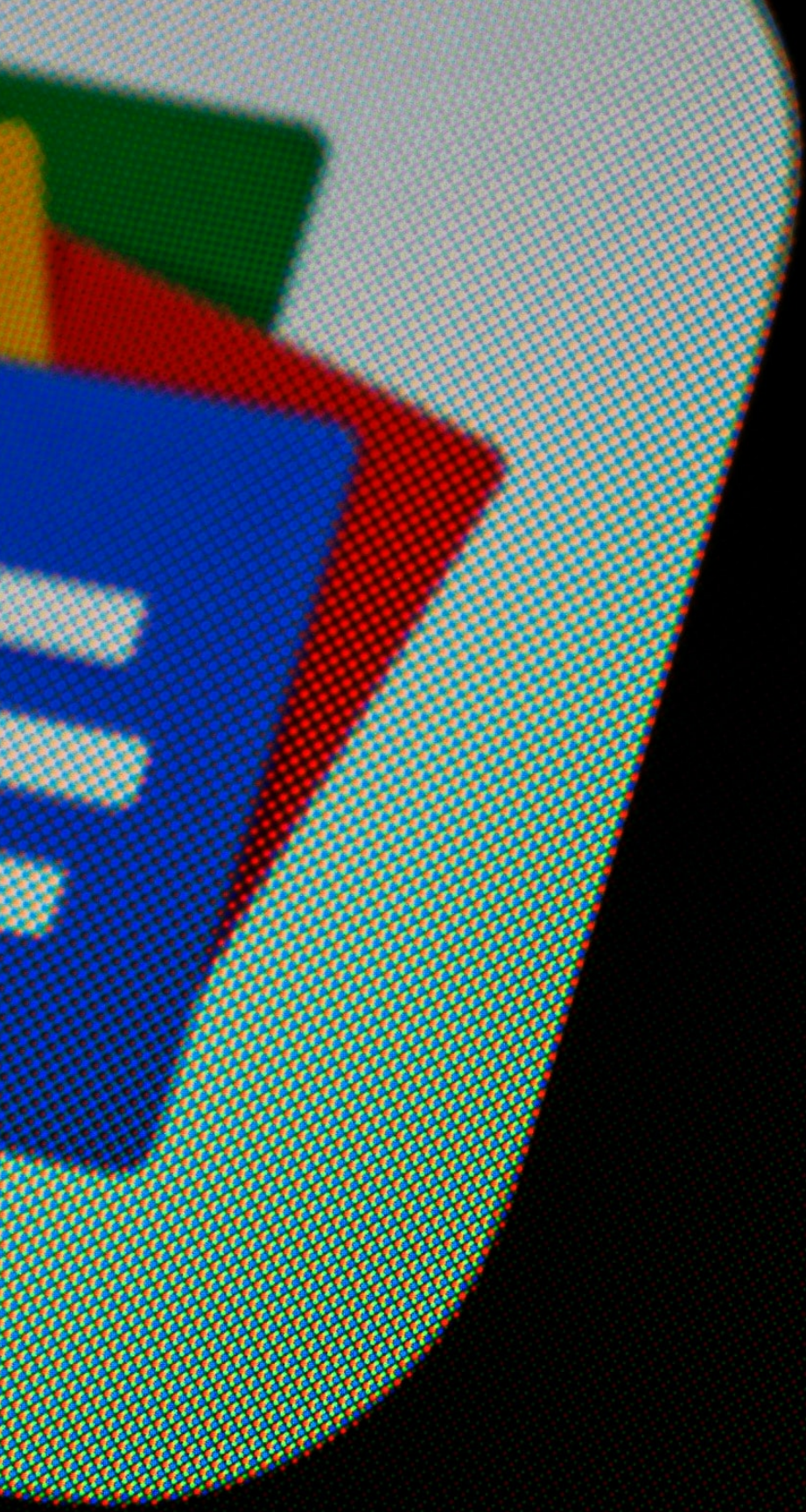
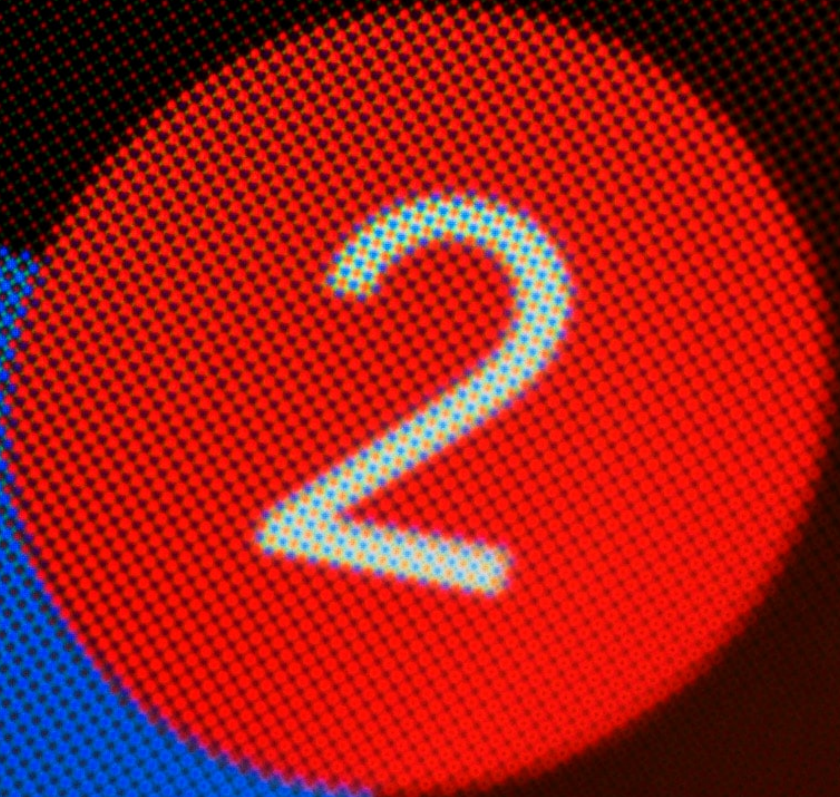


A school superintendent uses the school's postage machine to mail letters to parents, asking them to approve the budget override ballot question



A school principal sends an e-mail to parents, informing them why a new school is needed and urging them to approve the project during the election

The school newsletter that is e-mailed to parents and students may not contain information about the ballot question election



ews

Mail




The use of the school
robocall system
is prohibited



OCPF-IB-92-02

Revised: February 25, 2015

Page 2

whether it is on the statewide ballot or placed before voters in a single city or town.² See OCPF Interpretive Bulletin IB-91-01 and advisory opinions cited therein for more specific guidance on activities that fall under this prohibition.  In addition, public resources may not be used to distribute even admittedly objective information regarding a ballot question unless expressly authorized by state law. See IB-91-01.

THE 192ND GENERAL COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

[Bills & Laws](#)

[Budget](#)

[Legislators](#)

[Hearings & Events](#)

[General Laws](#) » [Part I](#) » [Title VIII](#) » [Chapter 53](#) »

SECTION 18B



Other Public Resources



Public Employee Time



Government Office Space



Municipal Vehicles



Town Meeting

If you're dealing with an issue of **timing** between **town meeting** and the **election**, contact OCPF in writing for guidance

OCPF@cpf.state.ma.us



*Office of Campaign
and Political Finance*

Permitted Activities



A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a document, possibly a ballot or a form. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text is centered and reads:

Public employees and public officials may contribute to ballot question committees

Public employees may hold signs on their own time

**VOTE
YES**

**VOTE
NO**

**VOTE
NO**

**VOTE
YES**

**VOTE
YES**

**Public officials and employees
may take a position on a ballot
question**

YES

NO

A young girl with long brown hair, wearing a pink backpack with a princess illustration, is holding hands with an adult wearing a watch and jeans. The scene is set outdoors at what appears to be a school pick-up. The image has a blue overlay.

Permitted: Discussion with a parent at student pick-up

**Public employees and officials
may use their personal social media
accounts to support or oppose a ballot
question (but no fundraising)**

What was your position at Midwest Air Group? X

1 Pending Item

Intro

Describe Who You Are

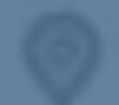
Lives in Boston, Massachusetts

Status Photo / Video Life Event X



AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, THE VOTE FOR THE NEW SCHOOL IS THIS TUESDAY. PLEASE VOTE YES. TRUST ME. WE NEED IT.

— 😊 looking forward to the day.



Boston X



Friends ▾

Post

Analyze the impact of a ballot question (Scope of responsibility)

Structure and
STRATEGY:

- BUILD
- MAINTAIN
- DEVELOP
- ???
- PROFIT



$$N = \frac{-\log(1 - RFV/PMT)}{\log(1 + R)}$$
$$r = \left[\left(1 + \frac{r}{n} \right)^n - 1 \right] \cdot m$$

Provide copies of an agency's analysis on a ballot question to people attending public meetings of a governmental entity

With Steak and Travel
Police Building
Case to Arrest
Movie Mogul

Speak with the media (Scope of responsibility)



Wilmington Middle School

STEAM MAGNET



- Home
- About Us
- Academics
- Magnet
- Students
- Parents
- Community

Click here for information about the March 25 Ballot question election

Departments

Academic Departments	Classes	Staff
English-Language Arts Department	0	20
History-Social Science	0	19
Mathematics	0	18
Physical Education Department	0	7
Science	0	19
Special Education	0	14
VAPA	0	3

Post information on the school or municipal website

Educational Support	Staff
Administration	1
Attendance Office	2
Cafeteria	8



Departments

REMEMBER TO VOTE YES ON THE MARCH 25 OVERRIDE! Click here for information.

Academic Departments	Classes	Staff
English-Language Arts Department	0	20
History-Social Science	0	19
Mathematics	0	18
Physical Education Department	0	7
Science	0	19
Special Education	0	14
VAPA	0	3



Educational Support	Staff
Administration	1
Attendance Office	2
Cafeteria	8



An official may appear on cable television, even during the workday (Scope of responsibility)

EQUAL ACCESS



Ballot Questions

Town Clerk's
Office





Form CPF M 102: Campaign Finance Report Municipal Form

Office of Campaign and Political Finance

Commonwealth
of Massachusetts

File with: City or Town Clerk or Election Commission

Fill in Reporting Period dates: Beginning Date: 1/1/2022 Ending Date: 5/6/2022

Type of Report: (Check one)

- 8th day preceding preliminary
- 8th day preceding election
- 30 day after election
- year-end report
- dissolution

BALLOT QUESTION COMMITTEE

Committee Name (if applicable) _____

Office Sought and District _____

Residential Address _____

E-mail: _____

Phone # (optional): _____

VOTE YES ON THE NEW SCHOOL BQ COMMITTEE

Committee Name

JOHN TAVNER

Name of Committee Treasurer

112233 Main St., ANYTOWN MA

Committee Mailing Address

E-mail: VOTEYES@GMAIL.COM

Phone # (optional): 1234567891