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Letter to the Editor

Submitted by Westchester Putnam School Boards Association

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It was disappointing to note the lack of coverage of Westchester and Putnam school board elections in the Journal News/ lohud.com, our “regional” newspaper. School board members are locally elected officials who run in non-partisan elections and serve as unpaid volunteers. While your coverage of local school board elections has slowly eroded over time, this year it was virtually non-existent. No pre-election candidate information and no post-election results (sensationalist reporting notwithstanding). Given the current focus on grassroots advocacy and local governance, and the increase in contested school board elections this year, we would have expected you to celebrate those who choose to run for local public office and serve their local community. Why post the budget vote data and ignore the very people who will have fiduciary responsibility for the school district? Our local communities care who is on the board of education and, as our regional newspaper, the Journal News/ lohud.com should feel a responsibility to inform the voters.