

Danville Election Commission made the decision to purchase the BRIGHTBOARDS to use in each precinct as an aid to the judges instructing new voters how to vote an optical scan ballot. We also planned to use them between elections outside the office and around town with registration information. One unit is permanently parked at the Public Library.

Danville Election Commission received its BRIGHTBOARDS well in advance of the 2008 Presidential Election and I created a presentation describing the process of voting an Optical Scan Ballot. I included pictures taken in the office with my own digital camera to show each step for the voters.

As Director, I have the questionable job of introducing new equipment to the Election Judges without scaring off the older ones. With an average age of around 70, that sometimes is very difficult. They can be quite resistive to change. As the judges came into the training room and prepared for the session, my "How to Vote" program was running. The first question from each class was always "How can we have one of those in our precinct?" It was the easiest introduction of new equipment I have ever been a party to.

The units were placed at the far end and behind the judges table so that voters in line would be able to view the instructions while they waited to vote. When a voter was asked if he/she needed a demonstration on how to vote the ballot, most responded that they understood perfectly from the presentation on the BRIGHTBOARD. The Commission has received many favorable comments from voters and the general public about how modern and up-to-date we are.

The second election in which the BRIGHTBOARDS were used saw an improved presentation as I make them more eye-catching. The Commissioners and I love the possibilities that having these units create for us. We have even loaned them out to the City of Danville offices for special events, as long as they also have one unit with our voter registration information on hand. Everyone who sees them enjoys them and envisions what can be done with them.

I constantly find new ways to use them between elections!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara L. Dreher".

Barbara L. Dreher
Executive Director
Danville Election Commission







